

# ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

125 Washington Avenue Albany, NY 12210  
T: (518) 463-4478; F: (518) 462-1522  
[www.albanyinstitute.org](http://www.albanyinstitute.org)

## NEWS

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CONTACT:  
Steve Ricci, PR & Marketing Manager  
(518) 463-4478, ext. 467; [riccis@albanyinstitute.org](mailto:riccis@albanyinstitute.org)

Courtney Troeger, PR & Marketing Coordinator  
(518) 463-4478, ext. 420; [troegerc@albanyinstitute.org](mailto:troegerc@albanyinstitute.org)

## DANCE TO HIGHLIGHT SECOND FOLKLORE EVENT AT ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

ALBANY, NY—On **Sunday, January 31, from 1:00 to 4:00 pm**, the Albany Institute of History & Art and the New York Folklore Society will present, *Steppin' Along the Hudson*, the second of a four-part series, **Hudson River Folklore**, tracing the history and traditions of life along the Hudson River. The event will be held at the Albany Institute, 125 Washington Ave.

In *Steppin' Along the Hudson*, audiences will meet three high-energy dance troupes representing African-American step dancing, Irish step dancing, and Latin America dance. Each performance will demonstrate how traditional forms of ethnic dance have influenced cultural development in the Hudson Valley. This is the second of **Hudson River Folklore's** four presentations showcasing regional folklore, including music, dance, crafts, and storytelling. The presentations are free with paid museum admission.

Upcoming presentations include:

### ***Hudson Handiwork*—Sunday, February 7, 1:00–4:00 pm**

Take a first-hand look at traditional crafts inspired by the river. Expert craftsmen who will demonstrate their skills include an Iroquois lacrosse-stick maker, a woodcarver who specializes in sculpting birds, and a bluestone carver.

### ***Tell Me a Story*—Sunday, February 21, 1:00–4:00 pm**

*Tell Me a Story* gives voice to the Hudson through various cultural forms of traditional storytelling, including music, dance, and song. Presenters will include a Congolese mbira player, dancers from a Hindu temple, and a Senegalese griot (a storyteller who uses a traditional spiked harp instrument). Also, Native American educator and storyteller Kay Olan will tell stories that provide insight into the beauty of Iroquois culture and tradition.

The **Hudson River Folklore** program is made possible by a grant from the New York State Council on the Arts' Folk Arts Program. For more information, visit [www.albanyinstitute.org](http://www.albanyinstitute.org) or [www.nyfolklore.org](http://www.nyfolklore.org). **Media inquiries:** Steve Ricci, public relations and marketing manager, at (518) 463-4478, ext. 467, [riccis@albanyinstitute.org](mailto:riccis@albanyinstitute.org).

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