



# Sacramento Hmong New Year, Inc.

*Celebrating the Richness of the Hmong Culture*

2023-2024 Hmong Dance Competition  
Dates: Friday 11/24/2023 to Sunday 11/26/2023

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Deadline for application: 11/11/2023  
Sign, Scan and/or Email Pages 6-10 back to:

Entertainment Chair

Kathy Xiong 916-685-0088

[kathyxiong@sacramentonewyear.com](mailto:kathyxiong@sacramentonewyear.com)

Program Coordinator:

Wendy Lee ([dernalysalee@gmail.com](mailto:dernalysalee@gmail.com)) 209-313-3606

Texting is permitted.

Dear Contestant(s),

We are pleased to inform you that the Sacramento Hmong New Year 2023-2024 **Hmong Dance Competition** will be held on Saturday, November 25, 2023, until Sunday, November 26, 2023, at Cal Expo. We will announce first, second, and third place winners on Sunday, November 26, 2023.

Sacramento Hmong New Year dance competition is a competitive dance event during the Hmong New Year celebration that provides performers with opportunities to showcase the artistry and technique of various dance for media exposure and championship titles. The most captivating dance routines contain a variety of dance styles, original moves, showmanship and engaging music.

For the Hmong Dance Competition to take place, there is a required minimum of 5 teams total. If there is a shortage of teams registered by the deadline, the Hmong Dance Competition will be cancelled.

Our mission is to create an atmosphere that is professional, educational, and positive while incorporating fun to all participants and spectators alike. At the SHNY we strive to achieve the most out of each individual competing in your performances and expect professionalism and collaboration always.

Our goal is to be able to offer more than just a dancing competition by preserving a rich tradition for many more generations to come. In this packet, you will find all the general information and answers to many frequently asked questions.

Sincerely,  
SHNY Committee

# WHAT CONTESTANTS NEED TO KNOW

## 1. Entry Criteria

Anyone who wishes to compete in the Dance Competition must be with a team of at least four or more people. The team will need to designate someone to be the Team Leader. It is his/her responsibility to read, understand & sign all the necessary forms for the team to be accepted into the dance competition. He/she will also serve as the team representative to check in/out every day of competition.

*Note: Age is not limited*

- Applications may be accepted by mail, email, or handed to the Program Coordinator **Wendy Lee (lee.wendy1030@gmail.com)** If you wish to mail the packet, please email for further instructions.
- There is no registration fee. However, the New Year Policy requires that all contestants pay the parking and entrance fee to enter the Sacramento Hmong New Year

## 2. Performance Requirements

- Must have a different dance style and song for each round of competition
  - II. Round One: A Traditional Hmong Dance
  - II. Round Two: A free style of the group's choice (open to all cultural ideas, but excludes Hip hop and Break Dance, as SHNY has a separate competition for these)
- Must wear different wardrobes/ outfits per round
- Performance must be no less than 3 minutes and no more than 6 minutes

## 3. Music Requirements

The Team Leaders are responsible for submitting a CD soundtrack to the Program Coordinator when checking in:

- Only one song per CD (Per Music DJ's preference, to help play the accurate performance song per round)
- One CD per day
- Must have back up in another CD or accessible MP3

The New Year Committee's sound technician will not adjust the speed of the music or make edits in the music. \*\*\*Please collect all music immediately after the competition, daily. SHNY is not responsible for any music, or equipment, left behind after the event.

CD cases must be clearly labeled with the following:

- Team Name
- Team Leader Name

## 4. Judging and Scores

There will be a panel of judges who are well versed in all categories. The judges will evaluate each performance in the areas of technique, execution, choreography, musicality and overall appearance. All judges' decisions are final.

*Note: If any team shall request to see their own score sheets, it will be available to view after announcing the top 3 teams. If you require for a copy of your team's score sheet, it will be available after 3 business days of competition. ONLY the Team Leader has the right to*

*request to view their team individual scores at the end of the competition with the Program Coordinators: Wendy Lee.*

## **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

### **1. Props**

General props accepted; however, it must be freestanding. Scenery or backdrops requiring the use of theater fly bars may not be used. No dangerous or oversized props. No air horns or similar devices are allowed. Special fog or smoke is not permitted unless specifically approved by SHNY Committee. Fire, swords and knives on stage are prohibited. Simulated weapons with dull, safe edges are acceptable with approval of The SHNY Committee Staff and Stage Managers. No liquid, gel, aerosol, glitter, or similar substance that would affect the dancing surface is allowed unless specifically approved by The SHNY Committee. Performers must leave the stage as it was when they started their entry without any “litter”. If the stage is “littered” during a routine, please be prepared to clean it up immediately after the routine is finished with the broom provided. Safety is always our main priority. Where there is a safety concern, please speak to a SHNY Committee Staff when submitting your application. SHNY Committee reserves the right to disallow the use of any oversized or dangerous props.

### **2. Criticism**

In this competition, as in any other type of competition, criticism is evident and crucial. You agree to remain open minded about any comments, judgments, and criticisms about your physical appearance, choice of costume apparel, choice of music and performance style.

You have the right to share and discuss your opinions, concerns and feelings with us. You are not required to respond to criticism from the other candidates and/or from third-party observers to avoid any conflicts. Moreover, keep in mind that all the criticism and suggestions are made to better your performance as we want you to bring out your best.

### **3. Bribery**

You agree to abstain from bribery in any form, whether monetary, valuable goods or services to anyone in the Hmong community, whether family/clan related. You shall not participate in any bribery to increase your chances of winning the Hmong Dance Competition. You are not restricted from obtaining any support and donation during this competition; however, you cannot engage in any form of monetary/soliciting bribery.

If you are suspected of bribery in any form, the SHNY committee will investigate the issue where you will be required to provide a testimony of the turn of events, and offer additional information, as needed to complete the review of materials. In the completion of the investigation, if any individual within your team participated in the activities with bribery, we reserve the right to terminate your candidacy without your prior knowledge.

#### **4. Competition**

##### **Awards**

First place:

\$3,000

Second place:

\$2,000

Third place:

\$1,000

#### **5. Tie Breaker**

There are three prizes to be awarded to the top three scores of the Dance Competition.

In the event where 2 or more teams have the same score, there will be a tie breaker.

##### **Some of the scenarios that could happen during a tie:**

###### **A. In the event of a tie between two or more teams for First place**

- The teams will be required to perform a 3rd song at your group's choice
- The team with the highest score for tie breaker round will receive the 1st place title, and the following teams will receive their title according to their scores

###### **B. In the event of a tie between two or more teams for Second place**

- The teams will be required to perform a 3rd song at your group's choice
- The team with the highest score for tie breaker round will receive the 2nd place title, and the following teams will receive their title according to their scores

###### **C. In the event of a tie between two or more teams for Third place**

- The teams will be required to perform a 3rd song at your group's choice
- The team with the highest score for tie breaker round will receive the 3rd place title, and the following teams will not receive any title on top three

#### **6. Photo Release**

For Valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, you hereby agree as follows: you hereby give and forever grant to Sacramento Hmong New Year, licensees and producers or publishers of its promotional material and their successors and assigns, the right to use, publish and copyright your picture, portrait and likeness, in whole or part, including alteration, modifications, derivations and composites, in advertising and promotion of Sacramento Hmong New Year committee throughout the world. This right shall include the right to combine your likeness with others and to alter your likeness, by digital means or otherwise, for the purposes set forth herein. This right shall include any photography and all video recording of you to keep for SHNY.

#### **7. Contest Rules**

- Only registered contestants may participate in the competition; any unregistered replacements are not allowed.
- Contestants who violate the contest policies and rules will automatically be deemed as non-compliance, deeming automatic disqualification and/or expulsion of the individual/group from the competitions and/or the Sacramento Hmong New Year. Due to the seriousness of the offense (i.e. involving criminal behavior), additional fees may apply. The issue may also be reported with local authorities according to the city of Sacramento.
- Contestants are also automatically disqualified from the rest of the competition if they have missed the contest schedule.

- Any contestant(s) involved in any form of fighting or physical dispute, regardless of the cause, shall result in an automatic suspension for the remainder of the competition; additionally, he/she may be asked to leave the Sacramento Hmong New Year site and be barred from participating in future competitions.
- SHNY has the right to change or cancel any competition at its sole discretion.
- SHNY is not responsible for any lost or stolen item and will not be liable for any accident or injury occurred before, during, and after your competition.
- SHNY reserves the right to use any media materials such as audio, videotapes, pictures, and any recorded materials during the event for advertising or other promotion purposes.
- SHNY Program Managers/Coordinators reserves the right to terminate any contestants from competition at any time without any cause of the above.
- SHNY requires all teams to wear appropriate uniforms and may require identification of all competitors at any given time.

**AGREEMENT**

By signing this competition agreement, I have read and fully understand the rules and regulations of the competition. I also understand the decisions of the judges are final and this competition is offered to me without any agreement. Therefore, I agree to have no judgment against Sacramento Hmong New Year. If I disobey this agreement; the New Year Committee or program manager have the right to terminate me from the contest, and future events, without notice.

Team Name:			
Team Leader Legal Name (Print):			
Team Leader Signature:		Date:	
Phone Number:			
Email:			

## **THE RESPONSIBILITY OF A TEAM LEADER**

Team Leaders are the administrative interface between team and the Program Coordinator of New Year Committee. As such they are required to perform the tasks outlined below:

### **A. Handling all the necessary paperwork**

The team leader must read, understand and share with the team all the following forms, rules, and regulations as a competitor for the event:

1. General Rules and Regulation
2. Application
3. Team Roster Form

### **B. Communication**

It is the team leader's responsibility to pass on all information that is presented in this package to the team. The team leader is also responsible for updating team if any new information does arise.

### **C. Maintain all team information current**

If your team name or contact information **changes**, please let us know right away. Last day to change any member info or team name: November 11, 2023.

### **D. Assign as the team leader during the dance competition**

The team leader will serve as team captain during all days of the dance competition and will be the point of contact with the Program Coordinator.

### **E. Pick up all trash after performance**

The team leader needs to make sure his/her team is being responsible for leaving the competition stage and the backstage area clean, by picking up all trash (including tape, water bottles, wrappers, etc.). Failure to do so may result in disciplinary actions in future competition with SHNY.

### **F. Be a good example**

The team leader needs to reinforce a positive attitude on and off the stage. The atmosphere you create, your members will follow. You have a lot of control of your team this way.

### **G. Know the rules**

The team leader is responsible and held responsible to learn and know the SHNY's Rules and Regulations. This includes the Dance Competition Rules, Registration procedures, and Disciplinary and Rules Committee Operating Procedures and Sanctioning Guideline

### **H. Team Roster**

Along with this application, each contestant will be provided a Team Roster list for registration with the application. Once we accept your application & notify your team leader, if any changes are needed, please notify the Program Coordinator immediately. As listed on **THE RESPONSIBILITY OF A TEAM LEADER, Section C.**, changes are to be made by November 11, 2023.

### **I. Being a Team Leader is a privilege, not a right.**

The Program Coordinator & New Year Committee reserves the right to accept, reject, or terminate any performer, in the opinion of the board, if the contestant does not support the Sacramento Hmong New Year's mission or does not meet our expectations as listed herein.

*Note: A Team Leader can be a coach, instructor, parents or any member from the team.*

I have read the Responsibility of Team Leader agreement; I understand and agree to all policies.

Team Name:	
Team Leader Legal Name (Print):	
Team Leader Signature:	Date:
Phone Number:	
Email:	



SHNY DANCE COMPETITION APPLICATION

**Team Name:**

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**Team Leader:**

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**1. TEAM MEMBERS**

*\*Parent/Guardian is required to sign this form if member is under 18 years of age. \*Member 18 years of age or older can sign on their own.*

#	CONTESTANT NAME(S)	AGE	DATE OF BIRTH	GENDER	PARENT SIGNATURE (under 18 years of age)
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
7.					
8.					
9.					
10.					
11.					
12.					
13.					
14.					
15.					
16.					
17.					
18.					
19.					

**2. AGREEMENT & PERMISSION**

By signing this contract, we as Team Leader, Team Members & Parents:

- Authorize our sons/daughters/ to participate in the dance competition.
- All the names, ages, genders are correct.
- Only registered contestants may participate in this competition; any unregistered replacements are not allowed.
- Sacramento Hmong New Year has the right to terminate any contestant who violates the contest policy
- Contestant is automatically terminated from the rest of the competition if contestant(s) missed the first contest schedule.
- Any violation of these terms and conditions by any contestants or members of a group will result in appropriate actions being taken against the individual/group including but not limited to; disqualification and/or expulsion of the individual/group from the competitions and/or the Sacramento Hmong New Year.
- Any contestant involved in any form of fighting or physical dispute, regardless of the cause, shall result in an automatic suspension for the remainder of the competition; additionally, he/she may be asked to leave the Sacramento Hmong New Year site and be barred from participating in future competitions.
- SHNY has the right to change or cancel any competition at its sole discretion.
- SHNY is not responsible for any lost or stolen item and will not liable for any accident or injury that occurs before, during, and/or after the competition.
- SHNY reserves the right to use any media materials such as audio, videotapes, pictures, and any recorded materials during the event for advertising or other promotion purposes.
- SHNY Program Coordinator reserves the right to terminate any contestants from competition at any time without any cause of the above.
- SHNY requires all teams to wear appropriate uniforms and may require identification of all competitors at any given time.

Team Name \_\_\_\_\_

Team Leader Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Leader Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_