

# GREEK FEST 2009

## Feature Dance Groups and Zorba Show



Proudly representing the Hellenic community of Ottawa, **The Odyssey Dance Troupe's** mandate is to cultivate knowledge of Hellenic folkloric traditions, and promote the appreciation and understanding of Hellenic heritage among its members and beyond. This is achieved through weekly instruction, workshops and seminars, performances, events, and collaborations.

Odyssey has performed throughout the province of Ontario, Western Quebec, and Nova Scotia. Performances consistently focus on a specific region of Greece, while enhancing the authenticity by wearing original, or quality reproductions, of regional costumes.

~~The Politistikos Syllogos Lagada was formed in 1976. This organization, located in the town of Lagada just outside of Thessalonica (Macedonia), provides its members with opportunities to learn and appreciate the rich traditions and heritage of its local culture, and that of various regions of Greece. They also promote Hellenic folklore through various endeavors in theatre, visual arts, and dance performances. The Politistikos Syllogos Lagada has appeared at various festivals and events throughout Greece and Europe. This is their first visit to Canada.~~



GreekFest's world-famous **Zorba Show** is a treat for both young and old. It takes the audience back to a time when Greek men would head to their local tavernas to drown their sorrows away in drink and dance. The term "Zorba" was made famous by the 1960s film *Zorba the Greek*. Since then, the theme music from the movie is recognized worldwide, and is a tune that conjures up images of Greece to all who hear it.

The Zorba Show of GreekFest has entertained for many years, giving the crowds a show full of acrobatics, fire, and of course, plate breaking! Each year the GreekFest organizers find the very best Zorba dancers to perform for our visitors. We also round up talented female dancers of Greek heritage to dance alongside the famous Zorba dancers in this incredible show! A show full of high-energy, passion, and even humour, made complete with the distinctive sound of the bouzouki! It is an experience that can't be missed!

