



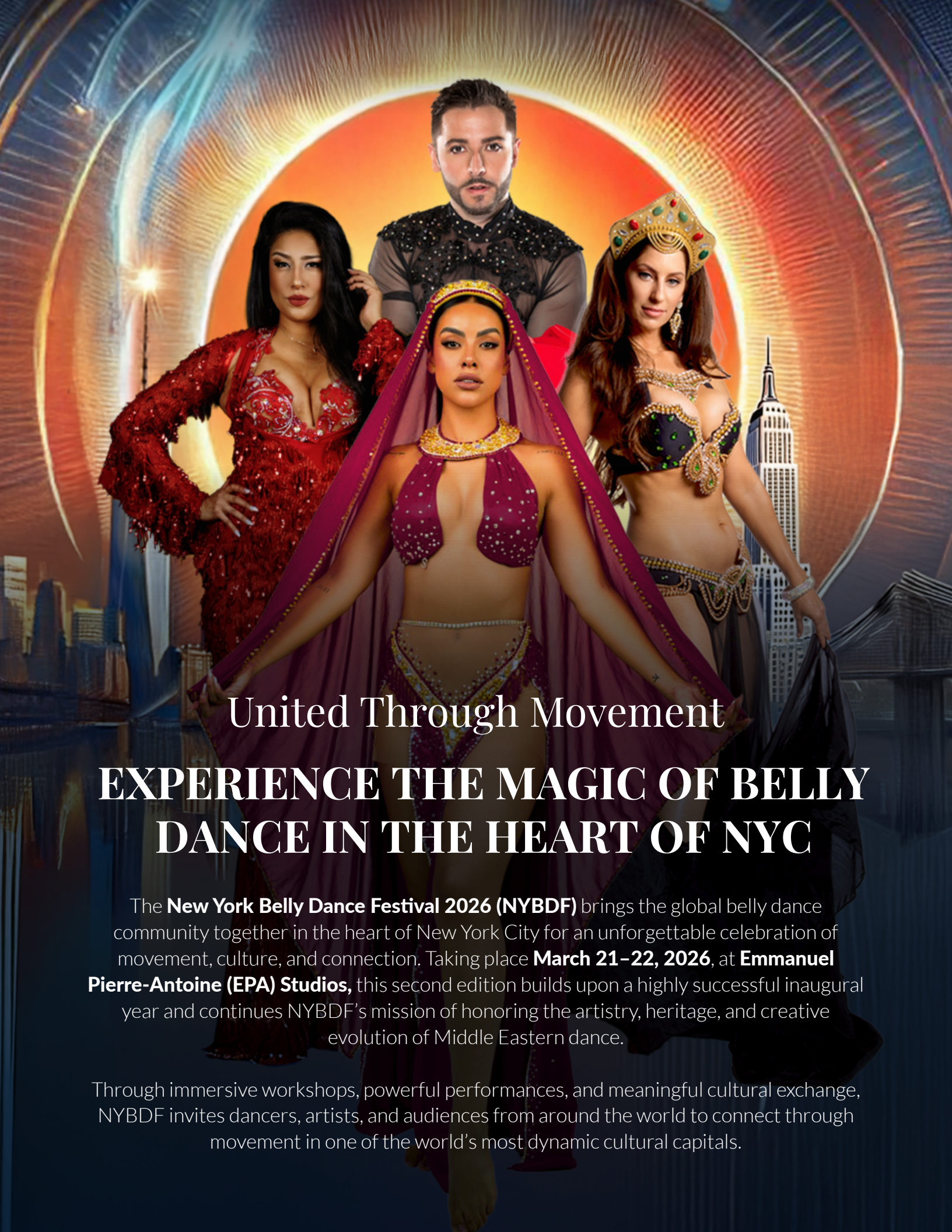
MARCH 20TH TO 23RD, 2026

NEW YORK

BELLY DANCE FESTIVAL

EMMANUEL PIERRE-ANTOINE DANCE STUDIO

320 W 37TH ST 2ND FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10018



United Through Movement

EXPERIENCE THE MAGIC OF BELLY DANCE IN THE HEART OF NYC

The **New York Belly Dance Festival 2026 (NYBDF)** brings the global belly dance community together in the heart of New York City for an unforgettable celebration of movement, culture, and connection. Taking place **March 21–22, 2026**, at **Emmanuel Pierre-Antoine (EPA) Studios**, this second edition builds upon a highly successful inaugural year and continues NYBDF's mission of honoring the artistry, heritage, and creative evolution of Middle Eastern dance.

Through immersive workshops, powerful performances, and meaningful cultural exchange, NYBDF invites dancers, artists, and audiences from around the world to connect through movement in one of the world's most dynamic cultural capitals.

WHY NYBDF MATTERS

NYBDF exists at the intersection of **cultural preservation and contemporary expression**. As a woman-led, artist-driven festival, it creates space for global voices, honors the roots of Middle Eastern dance, and encourages creativity, inclusion, and community. Hosted in New York City — a global crossroads of culture — the festival offers a rare platform where tradition and modern artistry meet.

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

The New York Belly Dance Festival is a **two-day cultural dance experience** bringing together dancers, teachers, and enthusiasts from around the world. The festival blends the rich traditions of belly dance with the vibrant creative energy of New York City, offering:



**Educational workshops
with world-class
instructors**



**Evening gala
performances**



**A curated vendor
bazaar**



**A welcoming, inclusive,
and international
community atmosphere**

NYBDF is a space to celebrate artistry, honor culture, and experience dance as a powerful form of expression and connection.

NYBDF 2026 AT A GLANCE



Dates: March 20th–22, 2026



Opening Gala: Friday, March 20, 2026

Location: The Laurie Beechman Theatre 407 W 42nd Street New York NY 10036



Main & Closing Gala: March 21st & 22nd

Location: EPA Studios, 320 W 37th Street, NYC



Attendance:

Workshops: 100–150 participants

Gala Shows: 400–500 audience members



Audience: Professional dancers, students, creatives, cultural enthusiasts



Website: www.newyorkbellydancefestival.com



Instagram: @newyorkbellydancefestival

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Workshops

Over **12 hours of immersive instruction** led by internationally recognized master teachers, including **Diva Darina, Sadie Marquardt, and Simon (Lebanon)**. Workshops explore styles such as **Oriental, Dabke, Drum Solo**, and more, with a strong focus on technique, musicality, cultural context, and personal expression. Classes are open to dancers of all levels.

Vendor Bazaar

A curated marketplace featuring costumes, jewelry, accessories, and artisan goods from international and local vendors. The bazaar will be open throughout the festival at EPA Studios.

Gala Shows

Friday, March 20, 2026

OPENING GALA

Raqs in the City

**Laurie Beechman
Theatre, Times Square**

An intimate opening night featuring guest artists in a classic NYC cabaret setting.

Saturday, March 21, 2026

EMPIRE RAQS

EPA Studios

Performances by international master instructors, guest artists, and festival participants.

Sunday, March 22, 2026

GOLDEN APPLE (CLOSING GALA)

EPA Studios

A celebratory closing night featuring master instructors, guest artists, and participants, plus raffles and an after-party.

MASTER TEACHERS



Badra

CHILE / EGYPT

📷 @iambadra
(2.3M)



Lebanese Simon

LEBANON / USA

📷 @lebanesesimon
(117K)



Sadie

USA

📷 @sadiesbellydance
(142K)

PAST HIGHLIGHTS & SOCIAL PROOF

- Sold-out Festival and gala shows during the festival's first edition
- International attendance from dancers across multiple countries
- Strong return rate from artists, instructors, and vendors
- Rapid community growth and high engagement across platforms

NYBDF's first year established a strong foundation of trust, quality, and artistic excellence — setting the stage for continued growth in 2026.


ABOUT THE CREATOR



Samantha Diaz

PERU / USA

www.samanthadance.com

 @sammydance
(14.7K)

Samantha Diaz is a director, choreographer, producer, and **resilient leader** with over **20 years of experience** in the dance and entertainment industry. She is the founder of **Dance Soul Entertainment** and the creator of the **New York Belly Dance Festival** and the **Orlando Belly Dance Convention**.

A **burn survivor**, Samantha's journey of healing and resilience through dance informs her artistic vision and leadership. Her work is rooted in cultural respect, creative expression, and community building, creating platforms that empower artists and bring people together through movement.

WHY ATTEND NYBDF

Attendees will have the opportunity to:

- Learn from internationally renowned instructors
- Perform and showcase their artistry on stage
- Connect with a global dance community
- Experience New York City through culture and movement

NYBDF is more than a festival – it is a celebration of art, identity, and shared experience.

EVENT DETAILS

DATES:

March 20th–22nd, 2026
(Opening Gala: Friday, March 20, 2026)

MAIN VENUE:

Emmanuel Pierre-Antoine Studios
320 W 37th Street, New York City

FESTIVAL PACKAGES:

2-DAY

\$399

Full Festival Access

\$299

One-Day Access

\$199

Single Workshop

\$99

Performance Fee

PRESS & MEDIA CONTACT

For media inquiries, interviews, partnerships, or coverage opportunities:

New York Belly Dance Festival

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- 🌐 www.newyorkbellydancefestival.com
- 📷 [@newyorkbellydancefestival](https://www.instagram.com/newyorkbellydancefestival)