

KAZKA UKRAINIAN FOLK ENSEMBLE
Celebrating 20 Years of Song and Dance

Since 1987, the KAZKA Ukrainian Folk Ensemble has been entertaining and educating audiences with their unique blend of traditional and contemporary Ukrainian folk songs and folk music. KAZKA is comprised of the vocal quartet of Paula Holoviak, soprano, Sandra Duda, alto, Joseph Zucofski, tenor and guitar, and Michael Duda, baritone, guitar, percussion, accordion, and mandolin. The ensemble's repertoire includes traditional melodies from the Carpathian Mountains and the Lemko region (Southwestern Ukraine), patriotic songs from WWI, romantic ballads and folk songs of central Ukraine, and modern compositions by 20th century Ukrainian songwriters. KAZKA has produced three folk recordings. Their most recent CD is a collection of Ukrainian Christmas music entitled *God Sees All*, recorded at WVIA studios, engineered by WVIA's George Graham and produced by Holoviak Church Supply.

In addition to the vocal quartet, the ensemble includes a twenty member dance ensemble. Their expansive dance repertoire encompasses choreography from the Hutsul, Boyko, Transcarpathian, Poltava, Polissian, and Bukovynian regions of Ukraine. The group emphasizes technique and authenticity in both regional choreography and costuming. The ensemble currently works with two renowned choreographers, David Woznak of the Kashtan Ukrainian Dance Ensemble in Parma, Ohio and Andrij Dobriansky of the Obrij Ukrainian Dance Ensemble in New York City. The ensemble has received numerous grants including funding from the Pennsylvania Council for the Arts, the Pennsylvania Humanities Council and the Schuylkill County Council for the Arts through the Schuylkill County Commissioners. KAZKA has performed locally, regionally and internationally including a 1992 tour of Ukraine and a 2004 appearance at Disneyworld in Florida. Most recently, KAZKA was awarded a 2006 Pennsylvania Council for the Arts Apprenticeship in Traditional Arts grant administered by the Institute for Cultural Partnerships. The ensemble is working with Master Artist, Andrij Dobriansky to produce two new choreographic works.

For more information on KAZKA, visit our website at www.kazkaensemble.org or email KAZKA at kazka@epix.net.