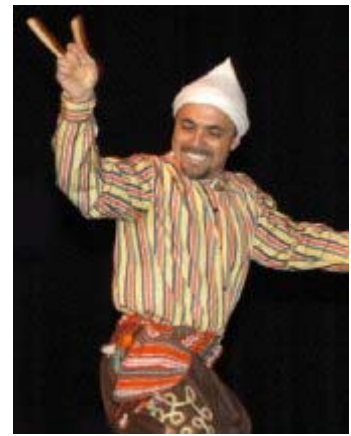


Ahmet Lüleci

Status: Active
Specialty: Turkish
Range: Turkish

Ahmet Lüleci, a native of Turkey, is an accomplished folkdance teacher, performer, choreographer, and musician, as well as a researcher of Anatolian folk culture. Since his arrival in North America in 1985, he has been promoting the Turkish folklore all over the world, to amateur as well as professional groups.



Ahmet has been performing Turkish folk dancing and music since the age of eight. At the age of 15, he became a dance instructor. He taught several ensembles in Ankara, Istanbul, Eskisehir, and Bursa.

He has danced with numerous school ensembles and private associations, many of which won outstanding awards in city-wide and national competitions. Between 1973 and 1985 he participated in international folk dance festivals and competitions throughout western and eastern Europe.

Between 1973 and 1985, he participated in international dance festivals and competitions throughout western and eastern Europe. In addition, he taught ensembles that appeared in more than 60 programs broadcast nationally in Denmark, France, Germany, the Netherlands, and Turkey.

Ahmet also served as Director of Dances for *HOY-TUR*, long considered one of Turkey's leading folk dance associations.

In 1985, Ahmet's research on "The Culture in Southern Anatolia" won the first prize at the national competition held by "Youth Sport and Education Ministry." Since 1985 he has continued his work in the United States and Canada, Asia, Europe, and South America.

In 1988, Ahmet became director of the Boston-based *Kemençe Dance Ensemble*. In 2001, as the Artistic Director of *Collage International Dance Ensemble* (formerly *Kemençe*), Ahmet received the Dance Umbrella Boston Moves 2001 Award, a commission to create a world-premiere work for Boston audiences.

Ahmet choreographed a dance suite for the Brigham Young University *International Folk Dance Ensemble* and had the troupe's costumes specially made and shipped from Turkey. Some of the other notable performing ensembles with which he has worked include the famed *AMAN* Folk Ensemble of Los Angeles (in 1991, Ahmet joined *AMAN*'s artistic staff as resident choreographer), *Mandala* of Boston, Massachusetts, *Komenka* of New Orleans, Louisiana, *Tamzara* of Boston, Massachusetts, *Les Sortilèges* of Montréal, Canada, *Vinok* of Edmonton, Canada, *Omega* of Honolulu, Hawaii, *Tam ti Delam* of Sept-Îles, Canada, and *Kineskamie* of Baie-Commeau, Canada. In his native Turkey, he has choreographed for *Hoy-Tur*, *Tur-Hoy*, and *Gehem* of Ankara, *Anadolu Universitesi* of Eskisehir, *Butfod* of Bursa, and *Folkrur* of Istanbul.

Baglama and *davul* are the folk instruments Ahmet most enjoys playing. Indeed, his college major was music, with specialization in voice. Ahmet's love of folksongs and fascination with folk dance led him to conduct scholarly research into the historical, social, and cultural background of the costumes and spoon dances from Turkey's Mediterranean coast. In 1997, Ahmet completed a second degree in Fine Arts, specializing in Graphic Design.

Ahmet has taught at the major folk dance camps in the United States and Canada, including the San Francisco Kolo Festival and the Stockton Folk Dance Camp in California, and continues to teach workshops throughout the United States from his home-base in Boston, Massachusetts. He has taught workshops and camps in Japan, Holland, and Germany.

Ahmet is co-founder and co-director of the annual World Music & Dance Camp at Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

Among Ahmet's publications are an exhaustive, 400-page folklore study on the folkdances of Turkey for which he was awarded First Place in the 1985 national competition in research on the folk dances by the Turkish Ministry of Youth, Sports, and Education.

Dances Ahmet has taught include Agir Govenk, Agir Halay, Arzu İle Kamber (Silivri) (Garaguna), Başına Dödügüm, Basso, Bablekhan, Canım Leri, Cilveli Oy, Çimençiçek, Delile, Drida, Enzele Reksi, Felek, Galamatia, Goltepe, Güvercin, Hanım Ayşe - Eski Kasap, Hozanki, İspanyol Kasabı, Kara Uzun, Karadeniz, Karşılama, Kelekvan, Kerekes Héjsza, Kina, Kırıkcan, Livan Öy, Mendil, Ordu, Oğuzlu, Papatya, Rakkas, Rapatma, Roman, Samatya, Sevdâ Horonu, Siksara, Şinanarı, Teşi-Düz-Halay, Uzun Kavak, Uzundere (Sahlan)