

New Dance Prices Start on July 1, 2017

Members	\$10
Non-members	\$12
Student and low-income	\$6
Supporter	\$20

If these prices strain your budget, please pay whatever you can. We want to share the joy of music and dance with everyone, regardless of financial circumstances.



The Details

On July 1, 2017, admission prices for all BACDS dances (both weekday and weekend dances) will rise to \$10 for members, \$12 for non-members, \$6 for students and low-income dancers, and \$20 for supporters. Annual membership fees will remain \$25 for individuals, \$40 for families and joint memberships (two adults sharing a mailing address), and \$20 for children and students.

Why are we raising prices?

We last raised prices nearly **16 years ago**. The most important aim of this long-overdue change is to help support the musicians and callers who are so vital to our community. The increase will also help with various other costs that have risen over the years, such as rent for dance halls.

Where does this money go?

At most dances, 60% of admission income goes to our musicians, callers, and sound technicians. They are essential to our dances, which offer not only marvelous live music at such a low cost, but also fellowship, culture, history, exercise, and more!

The rest pays for such exciting things as hall rent, maintenance, insurance, printing and mailing flyers, camp scholarships, reserves to fund future projects and guard us against bad years, and a part-time bookkeeper to help manage our finances. (We love you, Mary!)

How else can I help?

Volunteers plan and run all of our dances, so we always need more volunteers. There are ways to get involved at all levels of time commitment. Just ask! Also, bring friends to dances, and invite us to sponsor a class, demonstration, or dance at your church, school, or business.

Have questions? We're happy to answer them!

- Speak to any member of the BACDS Board at a dance.
- E-mail prices@bacds.org or call 408-377-8832.
- Join us at a Board meeting. (Time and place may vary, so check www.bacds.org to be sure!)

When: Third Thursdays. Doors open at 7:30 PM, and meetings start at 8:00 PM.

Where: Resources for Reading, 130 East Grand Avenue, South San Francisco.

Our mission statement

Promoting, preserving, performing and teaching traditional English and American music and dance.

Article for *The Dancer*: “New Dance Prices Start on July 1, 2017!”

Things were different 16 years ago. Among other things, Enron hadn't filed for bankruptcy yet, Apple hadn't introduced the iPod yet (to say nothing of the now 10-year-old iPhone), Facebook and Twitter didn't exist yet, and I was a fourth-grader in rural Iowa. It was also about 16 years ago that the BACDS most recently increased admission prices for our dances. Since then, prices for a variety of things have risen ever so slightly, so the Board voted at its May meeting to raise prices again. This brings us to a total of two price increases in the past 22 years. At this rate, you won't see another article like this for 11 years. Enjoy it while it lasts!

Our new prices go into effect on July 1, 2017, the beginning of the next quarter. Prices for all dances (both on weekdays and on weekends) will rise to \$10 for members, \$12 for non-members, \$6 for students and low-income dancers, and \$20 for supporters—those who are interested in and able to contribute more financially for the community's benefit. As always, we encourage people to pay whatever they can if these prices strain budgets. We want to share the joy of music and dance with everyone we can, regardless of financial circumstances.

Annual membership fees will remain \$25 for individuals, \$40 for families and joint memberships (two adults sharing a mailing address), and \$20 for children and students.

What good is a price increase? Most important, dance admission prices are how we pay the musicians, callers, and sound technicians who are vital to our community. They receive 60% of the money paid at the door, so this long-overdue change supports them directly. If a dance brings in less than a certain amount, the musicians, caller, and sound person receive a guaranteed minimum amount. The Board may also increase these minimums in the future, but such increases won't be accompanied by another increase in prices.

The other 40% of admission payments go to various things whose costs have risen over the years, such as hall rent, maintenance, insurance, printing and mailing for publicity, and a part-time bookkeeper who helps manage our finances. (We love you, Mary!)

Of course, paying a couple more dollars at a dance isn't the only way—and perhaps not even the most valuable way—to support our community. Our dances are organized and run on the power of volunteerism, so there's always room for more people to lend a hand in any of a number of ways. (I'm not even getting a nickel for typing all of these words!) Just say you'd like to help and we'll find the perfect task for your mix of skills and desired time commitment.