

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE
NORTH AMERICAN FEDERATION
OF
GERMAN FOLK DANCE GROUPS*

The North-American Federation of German Folk Dance Groups was founded in 1994 with the following objectives:

- To practice and cultivate traditional dance forms as found in Germany and among the German minority communities in other European countries.
- To preserve and disseminate related aspects of folklore in their historical and cultural context, including dance, costumes, needle crafts and music. To this end, conduct seminars and workshops on the skills and talents necessary to create, as closely as possible, the costumes, dances, music and folklore of the various regional styles.
- To establish a basic repertoire of dances in their original, as-collected form and in their historical, geographic and cultural context which is shared by all member groups.
- To strive to understand the impact of German minorities on their host community and the host community on their German neighbors.
- To translate source material using a standardized vocabulary to assure consistent and accurate folklore presentations by members.
- To document the cultural and historical background of members.
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The organization is the North-American sector of the 'Gesellschaft für Volkstanz im Bundesgebiet' - 'The Society for Folk Dance in the Federal Republic of Germany' (DGV).

(*) The organization's name was changed to "American Federation of German Folk Dance Groups" in 2009.