



The Valley Music Arabic Music Ensemble

Members of The Valley Music Arabic Music Ensemble, or VAME gather together to study, rehearse and perform music of the Arab world and the Middle East. Our repertoire includes pieces of folk, traditional, contemporary, and classical styles.

Amy Cullen, Violin
Joanne Ehret, Violin
Kasia Gocłowski, Accordion & Percussion
Tom Gajewski, Clarinet
Paul Arslanian, Darbuka
Sharon Arslanian, Nay
Karen Traub, Riq and Frame Drum
Ken Harstine, Nay
Samuel Sjosdedt (VAME Leader), Oud

Mollen

An Evening of Bellydance and live music
from the Valley Arabic Music Ensemble

March 21, 2026



Hadama

Dancing to: Bint al Shalibya

A traditional Melody arranged by the Rahbani Brothers and sung by Fairouz.



Inanna Le Fay

Dancing to: Rompi Rompi

A Turkish song in 9/8 rhythm used in folk dance and belly dance performances. The words Rompi Rompi is like tra-la-la in English.



Sephira

Dancing to: Bir Demet Yasemen

Translates to Bouquet of Jasmine. A traditional Turkish Song of romantic nostalgia.



Namid

Dancing to: Uskadara

Translates to: On the Way to Uskadara. This is a Turkish Folk song found in many countries of the Middle East.



Arafia Pearl - Co-Host

Dancing to: Aziza

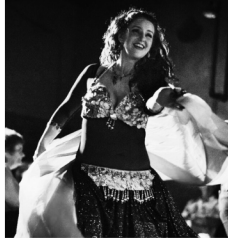
Translates to: Beloved or Precious. This is an instrumental piece composed by Mohammed Abd al-Wahab.



Eshta Amar - Co-Host

Dancing to: Bint al Balad

Translates to: Country Girl. This is an instrumental piece by Mohammed Abd al-Wahab.



Nazira

Dancing to: Nassam Alayna el Helwa

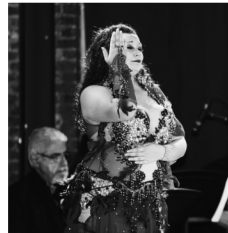
Translates to: We Have a Soft Breeze. Written by the Rahbani Brothers and sung by Fairouz.



Sherine

Dancing to: Leylit Hob

Translates to: Night of Love by Mohammed Abd al-Wahab. A long-form orchestral masterpiece sung by Um Kalthoum, The prelude is often used in dance.



Amity

Dancing to: Samra Ya Samra

Written by composer and singer Karim Mahmoud. The title translates romantic admiration for "Oh Brown Skinned Girl."

This program is supported by:

