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## ***2025 Portuguese American Dancers Annual Report***

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### **Performance Highlights**

The Portuguese American Dancers celebrated an outstanding and productive year, marked by fourteen performances. The group is especially proud of its young adults and children, each of whom invests significant time and effort into celebrating and preserving their cherished cultural traditions, all while balancing their busy personal lives.

### **Community Fundraising Efforts**

To help cover the costs of maintaining the group, the dancers organized a No-Bake Sale. The event received generous community support; the donations collected were crucial to enabling the group to purchase new costumes, shirts, blouses, and chinelas. This support ensures that the group can continue to perform with authenticity and pride.

### **Inclusivity and Membership**

Membership in the Portuguese American Dancers is open to all who are interested in folklore dancing, regardless of Portuguese heritage. The group is proud to include several non-Portuguese dancers who have fully embraced and celebrate Portuguese culture. One notable member is Ellis Erlich, a caller who is not of Portuguese descent, yet makes a significant contribution to the group's dynamic diversity.

### **2025 Performances**

- Petco Park
- PHC Symposium
- Canteiri Crowning
- Correia Crowning
- Festa Rosary Monday
- Chamaritta Event
- Festa Friday
- Festa Saturday
- Festa da Lapa
- Bom Jesus – March 25, September 21
- Sal & Lucille Freitas' 75th Anniversary
- Thursday Club

- St. Agnes Fall Festival
- Holiday Dancing

The group extends heartfelt pride to every dancer and their families, who play a vital role in preserving the cherished tradition of folklore dancing. The year 2025 was hectic, filled with numerous performances, and the group looks forward to what lies ahead.

### **Looking Ahead: 2026 and Beyond**

In 2026, the focus will shift towards fundraising efforts, not only to support costs such as costumes, travel, and post-practice treats like ice cream drumsticks and popsicles, but also to begin preparations and funding for the highly anticipated 2027 tour in Portugal. Planning will commence regarding the destinations and islands to visit, and the group is thrilled at the prospect of returning to their cultural roots.

To support the upcoming tour, the group is organizing a Spaghetti Dinner with an auction in February and rehearsing for an October production. These events will play a significant role in making the 2027 tour a reality. Therese Garces has announced that this will be her final trip to Portugal—the third she has planned alongside her sister, Evelyn Barandiaran—and intends to make it the most memorable. Therese wishes to express profound gratitude to her daughter-in-law, Samantha Garces, for her invaluable support and dedication to ensuring the continuation of folklore dancing for future generations.

### **2026 Performances**

- February, 14<sup>th</sup>- Bom Jesus
- 2026 Festa Rosary
- 2026 Festa Friday & Saturday
- Padre's Heritage Night

### **Acknowledgments and Closing**

The Portuguese American Dancers extend sincere thanks to everyone who has supported them over the years. With a remarkable history spanning seventy-seven years without interruption, the group stands as a testament to enduring leadership, camaraderie, and the unwavering support of sponsors and organizations, including Festa, Bom Jesus, and Allianca. Their dedication and partnership have been instrumental in the group's long-standing success and continued celebration of tradition.

Attached is our 2025 financial report. The dancers are grateful to Rosemarie Silva, who keeps our books in order.

## **Embracing and Empowering the Next Generation**

It is crucial to recognize that the future of our hall and community depends on the involvement of youth and young adults. To ensure continued vitality and longevity, we must welcome their participation, remain open to new ideas, and actively encourage their growth. By focusing on their development as future directors and leaders of this hall, we lay the groundwork for ongoing success. If we neglect to support and include them, the hall's existence itself could be jeopardized. Our willingness to embrace the next generation is not only an investment in their future but also a commitment to preserving our community's legacy for years to come.

Finally, Congratulations to 2025 Festa Presidents Jason & Darlene Byrne and their beautiful daughters, Queen Ava & Junior Queen Olivia, on such a wonderful Festa & their generous donation, one we were not expecting. To 2026 Festa President Pamela Rodrigues, a very successful Festa year.

Respectfully submitted

Therese Garces

Profit and Loss

Portuguese American Dancers

Date Range: 2025-01-01 to 2025-12-31

ACCOUNT ACCOUNTS	Jan 01, 2025 to Dec 31, 2025
Income	
Casino Trip	\$660.00
Donations	\$2,028.00
Holiday Dancing	\$530.00
Interest Income	\$62.68
No Bake Sale	\$4,247.01
Performances	\$2,750.00
Total Income	\$10,277.69
Operating Expenses	
Costumes	\$3,880.03
Gifts & Donations Expense	\$405.00
Ice Cream	\$201.59
Office Supplies	\$155.52
Padres Tickets	\$1,660.00
Postage	\$137.20
Stationary	\$21.53
Total Operating Expenses	\$6,460.87
Net Profit	\$3,816.82