



A three-time Canadian National Dance champion, Karima Essa is Vancouver's very own Bollywood star. An incredibly charismatic and passionate performer, choreographer and instructor, she has used her one-of-a-kind Bollywood talent to entertain diverse audiences at festivals, theatres and in schools across Canada. In 2014, her love for Bollywood took her to the screens in Mumbai, India, as a two-time finalist on Omni TV's reality show, Bollywood Star. With style, grace and a flair for the dramatic, she has been captivating adult and young audiences for decades.

## AWARDS

2016 South Asian Wedding Awards – Best Entertainment  
 2014 Shakti Woman Award – Artistic Achievement  
 2007, 2008, 2009 Canadian National Dance Champion

*Karima  
 Essa.com*

## SHOWS

### BOLLYWOOD STAR

Karima Essa showcases Bollywood dance as a fun cultural art form by opening with an electrifying dance in full regalia. During her interactive and high-energy show suitable for festival, theatre and school audiences, you'll learn about the origins of Bollywood dance along with some traditional and popular dance moves and key words in Hindi from Bollywood cinema. She showcases how you can express different emotions, such as happiness and sadness, through the key elements of Bollywood dance involving intricate hand movements (mudras), neck and head movements, facial expressions and foot movements.



## BOLLYWOOD DANCE WORKSHOPS

Karima leads custom-length Bollywood dance workshops for schools, festivals and corporate events. Audiences learn the basic elements of Bollywood dance, including neck and head movements, facial expressions and foot movements, to a popular Bollywood song. At the end of the workshop, the group will be performance ready!

## BOLLYWOOD, BHANGRA, HIP HOP & ZUMBA DANCE WORKSHOPS

Karima also leads interactive dance workshops incorporating popular dance moves from popular Bollywood films with Bhangra, hip hop and Zumba choreography.

SHOW FORMAT: adapted for schools, festivals, theatre audiences

SHOW LENGTHS: 20-60 minutes

AGES: all ages

## NOTABLE SHOWS

500 + shows since 2008

2018-2019

60+ schools across B.C. through ArtStarts showcase

Burnaby Village Canada Day  
Centennial Theatre, North  
Vancouver

Delta Canada Day

Diwali Fest

White Rock Canada Day

Coquitlam Canada Day

Surrey International Children's  
Festival

Abbotsford Agrifair

Diwali in Kits, Vancouver

Queensborough Children's  
Festival, New Westminster

Dunbar Harvest Festival,  
Vancouver

Arbutus Club

Live & Local Lynn Valley, North  
Vancouver

**"Karima had the students fully engaged in her performance. She was charismatic and funny and her show had just the right amount of watch-and-learn and follow-me! The students and staff were entertained and learned about the magic of communicating through music."**

*—Celidh Deichmann, Acting Vice-Principal & Grade One Teacher,  
Lakewood Elementary School*

**"Many families celebrating Diwali (the Festival of Lights) enjoy Bollywood dancing, and Karima's workshop engaged families unfamiliar with the festival to get involved. She translated language into dance using corresponding expression and movement when teaching our younger guests, which resulted in amazing participation from everyone. We were thrilled with our audience turnout this year and plan to invite her again."**

*—Mital Gorman, Diwali in Kits Event Organizer*

**"As a performer, Karima is the best combination: highly skilled and not-intimidating. Watching her perform inspires people from toddler to senior to join in, and Karima's praise, levity and pure love keeps people dancing – and coming back for more."**

*—Jennifer Taylor, Kitsilano Community Centre Community  
Engagement Coordinator*



## BOOKING AGENT

Kim Thé

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