



## Dakota War Dances and Love Songs

Bryan

Akipa

Bryan Akipa has developed a 60 to 90 minute program based on elements of the Dakota culture, such as traditional games, eagle dance, war dance, social dances and flute songs. Using the framework of the growth of a Dakota child, Akipa starts with children's traditional games, with audience members asked to help demonstrate the games. During this stage, values of the tiyospaye are already being instilled. As a youth, games of agility, competition, teamwork and accuracy are stressed, as qualities of self-esteem and bonding are developed. The eagle dance and its symbolism demonstrate values of the young adult, along with the testing of courage, with the war dance shown as a symbol of accomplishments. Finally, the proven adult is allowed to compose and play in public the flute love songs. The program concludes with the round dance, with the audience again asked to take part. A flute only program is offered for special occasions.

### Technical

**requirements:** PA system and 20' diameter dance space.

**Fee structure:** Performance \$550,  
flute program only \$350,

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