

# Thai Buddhism Sunday School of Wat Nawamintararachutis



## About us..

The Thai Buddhist Sunday School of Wat Nawamintararachutis utilizes the current trends and most up to date techniques in teaching Thai Language and Culture, Thai Classical Dancing and Classical Thai instruments and music, as well as continuing to use formal teaching techniques and assessments. The Sunday school has been in operation since 2005 to present day, in Boston, United States of America. We offer classes for anyone who is interested in learning about Thai language, culture, music and dance. Our students' ages range from 4 years old to adulthood.

The Thai Buddhist Sunday School of Wat Nawamintararachutis works with Chulalongkorn University in Thailand to recruit volunteer teachers to come to the United States to teach the language, culture, dance and music to our students. Each teacher has completed a degree program majoring in their respective subjects.

Our teachers come to us from Thailand bringing a wealth of experience of the Thai cultural education systems. All teachers can speak Thai and have a high level of fluency in their principal language of instruction. They are expected to have a mastery of the proper vocabulary used in instructing, Thai language and culture, Thai Music and Thai classical dance from Chulalongkorn University and Buditpattanasilp Institute. The volunteer teachers live in the United states for 1 year.

The Thai Buddhist Sunday School of Wat Nawamintararachutis is located at 382 South street East, Raynham, Massachusetts USA Tel. [508]5779083



## Thai dance

**Serng pong larng** : Serng pong larng is the folk dance in the Northeastern of Thailand. This dance is performed during traditional celebrations. Usually the word "serng" is added to the name of the domestic object used on stage by the dancers. This folk dance is generally performed at traditional festivals. The choreography is entrusted to the dancers who wear brightly colored costumes, and expresses all the joy of the celebration.

**Seng kra tob mai** : "Kratobmai" is the word for tapping bamboos. The dance illustrates the activities of a group of villagers from the southern part of the region, known as Isan. The dancers hold two sticks, with which they execute complex choreographic movements, shaking them, tapping them lightly. This dance is often accompanied by the sound of the pong larng, a kind of upright xylophone, made of strips of wood arranged according to the musical scale. The movements was choreographed by Miss Kaweetida or Thai dancing teacher.

### **Cow bell dance ฟ้อนกระดิ่งฮ้องขวัญ**

"Fon is a type of dance in northern and northeastern Thailand. It is performed in groups and has very slow, graceful, and almost meditative movements. Cow bell is the cow necklace, Hand made by the local. The dancers wear Thai long sleeve shirt and long skirt with sweet colors. This dance was composed and choreographed by Miss Kaweetida or Thai dancing teacher."

## Thai Classical Music

Traditional Thai musical instruments are the musical instruments used in the traditional and classical music of Thailand. They comprise a wide range of wind, string, and percussion instruments played by both the Thai majority as well as the nation's ethnic minorities. In the traditional Thai system of organology, they are classified into four categories, by the action used in playing:

Plucking (plucked string instruments; เครื่องดีด)      Bowing (bowed string instruments; เครื่องสี)

Striking (percussion instruments and hammered dulcimer; เครื่องตี)

Blowing (wind instruments; เครื่องเป่า)

And this show for that day is Long drums show or Glong yao [กลองยาว]

We played long drums with the hands. The Klong Yao came to Thailand from Myanmar during wartime. Rice paste and charcoal are added to the head of the drum to change the tone, and the body is wrapped in traditional cloth. It is essentially a wartime drum, played during periods of truce. the neck of the drum is long and slender with a trumpet-like base. This drum is seldom seen in performances around southern Thailand (Bangkok) but can be seen in the northern areas around Chiang Mai. It is more of a festive folk drum than an accompanying drum as the drums mentioned above.

