

ARIZONA

# DANCE



statewide listing of performances  
master classes | auditions | articles  
tips | news | and more

DECEMBER 2015

HOLIDAY  
PERFORMANCES

COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
& UNIVERSITY  
DANCE SHOWCASES

SAVAGE BEAUTY  
HALO MOVEMENT  
COLLECTIVE / PHOENIX

ZUZI! SOLSTICE DANCE  
THE LIGHT KEEPER'S BOX  
TUCSON

PERFORMANCES  
SOCIAL DANCES  
JOBS, TIPS & MORE...

CALLIE DUFF  
BALLET ETUDES  
THE NUTCRACKER

PHOTO BY KELLAN MEKO





# Arizona Dance e-Star

a publication of the *Arizona Dance Coalition*

Volume 5, Issue 11

December 2015

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Dear readers,

The end of the year is fast approaching, but there is so much to do before that happens. Just go through the events in this issue and imagine the rehearsals, costuming, decorating, commuting and performing. And it's cold too! In last year's issue I started out writing it was 80 degrees in Tucson! Bah ... Humbug!

Well, **Derek Hough** did it again and won the 21st season's **Dancing With The Stars** Mirror Ball with 17-year-old Australian conservationist **Mindi Irwin**. Wow! Excellent energy, enthusiasm and choreography. She was having the time of her life and you could tell. And December 3rd **America's Got Talent** comes to Phoenix. Are you auditioning?

In this issue is Part I of an article I'm writing on Tucson's Salsa dance scene (pgs 26-31). I've been interviewing a lot of people for a few months now and I hope you will find it interesting. I also hope you'll be inspired to go out and dance for "pleasure" this holiday season. There will be plenty of opportunities. Just check out the workshops and social dance sections inside. You'll find Salsa, Rueda de Casino, Lindy Hop, Argentine Tango, Contra, Ballroom and more!

The other article (pgs 21-23) is somewhat depressing and is written by the **ArtsJournal** staff. "Is Dance A Lesser Art Form?" Bah ...Humbug! Counter it by feasting your eyes on all the beautiful pictures in this issue and the last page of "treats."

Be safe. Be wise. Be healthy. And be HAPPY!

enJOY! Krystyna Parafinczuk, Editor

Happy Holidays from the ADC Board of Directors!



The **Arizona Dance Coalition** is a membership-based, statewide 501(c)(3) nonprofit dance organization creating connections and communication between the general public and the dance community. ADC membership is available to individuals and organizations interested in the art of dance. You may join online at [AzDanceCoalition.org](http://AzDanceCoalition.org). All questions about membership and sponsorship can be sent to [Lisa@AzDanceCoalition.org](mailto:Lisa@AzDanceCoalition.org). Calendar of Events are posted online by ADC members. Article submissions, news, letters to the editor and advertising sales can be sent to [Krystyna@AzDanceCoalition.org](mailto:Krystyna@AzDanceCoalition.org). Additional ADC contact information is on the last page. **Past e-newsletters available at [azdancecoalition.org/newsletters/](http://azdancecoalition.org/newsletters/).**



listed in the **Regional Section**. Send news to: [Krystyna@AzDanceCoalition.org](mailto:Krystyna@AzDanceCoalition.org). [AzDanceCoalition.org](http://AzDanceCoalition.org)

Event listings are posted by ADC members on the ADC website. Events are restricted to 501(c)(3) organizations with the exception of charitable and free events, educational workshops and masterclasses. All submissions are monitored. Content may be edited. Non-member news and events are



**Ballet Etudes** presents the 29th anniversary of their **Nutcracker** at two different locations.

**November 27-December 6** at Chandler Center for the Arts, 250 N Arizona Ave, Chandler.

Tickets: \$25, \$29. Order at [chandlercenter.org](http://chandlercenter.org) or by calling 480.782.2680

**December 11-13** at Mesa Arts Center, One E Main St, Mesa.

Tickets: \$25, \$29. Order at [mesaartscenter.com](http://mesaartscenter.com) or by calling 480.644.6500

Experience what the Arizona Republic called "a royally entertaining show" as **Ballet Etudes** presents its 29th Anniversary production of **The Nutcracker** with brand new sets! Let Clara's magical journey surround you as she encounters life-size mice, swirling snowflakes, dancing confections and the Sugar Plum Fairy. A feast for the eyes and ears with colorful and imaginative costumes paired with Tchaikovsky's original score, Ballet Etudes' The Nutcracker is the perfect way to celebrate the holiday season with the entire family. Backstage tours are offered following most performances. A 20% discount is given to groups of 10+. For tickets and additional performance information, visit [www.balletetudes.net](http://www.balletetudes.net).

**December 4-5, Friday-Saturday, 8 pm.** Scottsdale Community College Performing Arts Center, 9000 E Chaparral Rd, Scottsdale.

The award-winning **Scottsdale Community College Dance Program** presents **Images in Motion**, a dance concert featuring SCC's three performing companies. The works of ten choreographers will demonstrate the artistry and physicality of SCC dancers in this all-ages performance. Come join us for this exciting biannual SCC Dance tradition! Tickets are free and will be available at the door. Donations are graciously accepted. 480-423-6600.

<http://www.scottsdalecc.edu/dance>



Dec 4th & 5th 2015  
8pm Free Admission  
(donations graciously accepted)

SCC Performing Arts Center  
9000 E Chaparral Rd.  
Scottsdale, AZ 85256

Photo by Jenny Gerena



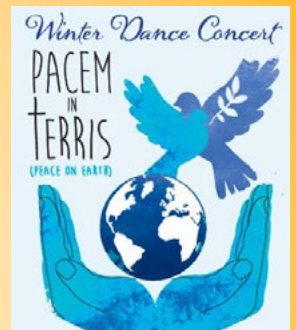


**December 4-6, Friday-Saturday 7:30 pm, Sunday 2 pm.** Glendale Community College, 6000 W Olive Ave, Glendale. Featuring VERVE Dance Company, GCC Resident Dance Company. The **GCC Dance Program** is proud to present **SPARK!** Featuring choreographic works by Rebecca Rabideau, Artistic Director of VERVE Dance Company; Quita Love-Cheramie, Shauna Meredith, and Tricia Rodgers, GCC Dance Faculty; and Guest Artists Amy Morrow and Andy Noble. SPARK! will showcase choreography by graduating GCC Dance Majors Quan Davis, Mayra Garcia, Crystal Mora, Clarissa Pitre and Kierra La'Don Williams. Rebecca Rabideau,

Artistic Director, Rebecca.rabideau@gccaz.edu, 623-845-4905. **FREE.**

**December 4-5, Friday-Saturday, 7:30 pm.** Grand Canyon University, Ethington Theatre, Phoenix. **GCU Dance** presents **Pacem in Terris: Winter Dance Concert**. GCU faculty and guest choreographers collaborate to produce stunning work from a range of styles as they investigate themes of finding peace and giving voice. \$12 adults, \$5 children and seniors. GCU Students (with student ID) **FREE**. Box Office: 602-639-8880.

**Student Matinees December 3-4, 9:30 am. FREE.** Teachers, sign up your K-12 students and GCU will support transportation costs! RSVP [here](#).



**December 4-6, Friday-Saturday 7 pm, Sunday 3 pm.** Estrella Mountain Community College Performing Arts Center, 3000 N Dysart Rd, Avondale. **Gifts of Gratitude** is **DancEstrella's** premier performance at EMCC's new Performing Arts Center. Under the artistic direction of residential dance faculty Janaea Lyn McAlee, this collaboratively created production pays tribute to people, places and qualities for which we are thankful. Highlights include Resilience, choreographed by McAlee to an original score by composer/musician David Anderson who will perform live; and Steppin' Time, commissioned for the EMCC-City of Avondale's Veteran's Day Celebration. **FREE.**

**December 4-5, Friday-Saturday, 7:30 pm.** Paradise Valley Community College CPA, 18401 N 32nd St, Phoenix. **PVCC Dance** presents **"In Motion"** - a collection of dances celebrating the freedom to move and express ideas, emotions, and stories through pure movement. "In Motion" will feature Contemporary Dance, Jazz, Hip Hop, Belly Dance, and more. Invited Guest "AXE Capoeira" will present their Afro-Brazilian dance Capoeira, Maculele, and Afro-Dance. Join us for an exciting evening! Photo by Sonia Valle, dancer Miranda Yost. **FREE.** 602-787-6808. <http://www.pvc.maricopa.edu/cpa>, [boxoffice@paradisevalley.edu](mailto:boxoffice@paradisevalley.edu)





**December 5, Saturday, 10:30 am.** ZUZI! Theater in the Historic Y, 738 N 5th Ave, (corner of E. University Blvd), Tucson. **ZUZI! Student Showcase.** Performance is a vital part of the creative process, integrating learned skills into something more powerful and meaningful - performance gives a dance a life of its own! The Student Showcase is an opportunity for ZUZI! students to share what they've learned and explored this session in a relaxed, informal performance atmosphere. Not only do the students enjoy this chance to let their talents shine, but family and friends in the audience get the treat of seeing a wide variety of pieces from performers of all ages, skills, and backgrounds. \$7 at the door.



**December 5-6, 12-13, 19-20, Saturdays 2 & 7 pm, Sundays 2 & 5 pm.** Herberger Theater Center, 222 E Monroe, Phoenix. **Center Dance Ensemble** presents **Frances Smith Cohen's "Snow Queen."** The 25th year of our popular holiday production that has become a "don't miss" Valley tradition for the whole family. The classic story by Hans Christian Andersen set to music by Sergei Prokofiev. Three weekends in December. Cost: \$28 for adults, \$23 for seniors, \$14 for students

**Lunch Time Dance Theater Performances** on **Fridays, December 11 & 18, 12:10 pm.** \$6; bring or buy lunch in Stage West at the Herberger. Tickets: 602-252-8497 or [www.herbergertheater.org](http://www.herbergertheater.org). Additional fees may apply when ordering online. For more information, visit <http://centerdance.com> or email [centerdance@att.net](mailto:centerdance@att.net)

**December 6, Sunday, 11:30 am.** Phoenix Country Club Ballroom, 2901 N 7th St, Phoenix.

The 6th annual **Nutcracker Sweets Tea** hosted by **Scottsdale Ballet Foundation.**

Join us for this festive event held in the Ballroom of the Phoenix Country Club! Enjoy a traditional three course plated tea service, grand march of characters, photo opportunities with performers, a mini performance by the talented students of The Scottsdale School of Ballet, shop the holiday boutique and much, much more! Perfect for all ages! Tickets are \$40 Child, \$55 Adult. 602-316-3275, <http://scottsdaleballetfoundation.org>

*Nutcracker Sweets Tea*  
Presented by The Scottsdale Ballet Foundation  
Sunday, December 6, 2015 at 11:30 am  
The Ballroom at Phoenix Country Club  
Child 40.00 Adult 55.00

Three Course Plated Tea Service  
Grand March of Characters  
Photo Opportunities with Nutcracker Suite Characters\*  
Short Performance  
Children's Crafts  
Holiday Boutique

\*Those in attendance are responsible for their own photo opportunities. A photographer will not be provided.

Table sponsors and event sponsors available.

For more information call 602-316-3275  
[www.scottsdaleballetfoundation.org](http://www.scottsdaleballetfoundation.org)



**December 11-12, Friday-Saturday, 8 pm.** Chandler-Gilbert Community College, Arnette Scott Ward Performing Arts Center, 2626 E Pecos Rd, Chandler. **IN MOTION CGCC Student Dance Showcase** featuring the students' own choreographic work. \$5-\$7.

480-732-7136, cheri.mcdowell@cgc.edu

**December 12, Saturday, 7:30 & 9:30 pm.** Phoenix Theatre's Hardes Theatre, 100 E McDowell Rd, Phoenix. **Halo Movement Collective** presents **SAVAGE BEAUTY**. An evening of Dance Art and Fashion. \$20. Angel Castro, 480-335-2985, <http://halomovement.wix.com/danceartfashion#!lifestyle/c14ak>



**December 11-12, Friday-Saturday, 7:30 pm, 11 am Saturday.** Coconino High School Main Auditorium, 2801 N Izabel St, Flagstaff. The 12th annual **"Nutcracker Suite In Modern Bare Feet"** presented by **Canyon Movement Company** has truly become a Flagstaff Family tradition with a cast of over 70. Please help us celebrate the holidays with our modern take on the classical favorite! Tickets available on [www.BrownPaperTickets.com](http://www.BrownPaperTickets.com) (reference number 2420250) and at the door. \$12 student, \$17 adult. For additional information please write us or call 928-774-3937.

*"Invitation only" dress rehearsal for disadvantaged youth and adults.*

**December 12, Saturday, 1 and 6 pm.** Paradise Valley Performing Arts Center, 18401 N 32nd St, Phoenix. **Winter Festival with Solstice** sponsored by the **Scottsdale Ballet Foundation**. The Winter Festival features the beloved Nutcracker Suite performed by the **Scottsdale School of Ballet** as well as "Solstice," choreographed by Donald Dadey. Fun for the whole family! Adult~\$20. Student~\$15. 480-826-0575. <http://www.scottsdaleballetfoundation.org/>



*Consider becoming an ADC member, being a part of a statewide dance community and enjoying the member benefits and discounts offered by our members and more than 20 Merchants throughout Arizona ~ graphic designers, photographers, dancewear stores, dance studios, printers, costume designers, venues, etc.  
Review the benefits towards the back of this magazine.*





**December 19-21, Saturday 2 pm, Sunday-Monday, 7:30 pm.** ZUZI! Theater in the Historic Y, 738 N 5th Ave, (corner of E. University Blvd), Tucson. **"The Light Keeper's Box" 18th annual ZUZI! Solstice Dance Concert.** Directed by Nanette Robinson, choreographed by Nanette Robinson and Karyn Reim. Adapted for stage by Eugenia Woods. Narrated by Alida Wilson-Gunn. Special musical guests: Sally Withers, Elena Martin, and Threshold Choir. Featuring dancers: *Monica Boccio & Jennifer Coughlin, Greg Colburn, Sabrina Geoffrion,*

*Aleena Glinksj, Bethanne Griffin, Josie Jamarta, Jasmine Roth, Raine Ugstad, Cynthia Wasco, and the Solstice Community Dancers.*

*This ancient tale is inspired by the Warao tribe of Venezuela who make their home on the Orinoca River delta. In this story of offerings, the Warao preserve a remnant of their ancient "gift culture" in which the giving away rather than selling of parts of the selves of plants, animals, and people is the bloodlike circulation that forms community. Gift Cultures moisten all beings with generosity and cooperation. Warao still worship the life in every being on earth and to this end they work with other native peoples to build into Venezuela's constitution, civil rights for themselves as separate cultures.*

If you'd like to donate something to the raffle, please email [zuzisphere@gmail.com](mailto:zuzisphere@gmail.com). The word Solstice literally means "standing still sun." The winter solstice is the shortest day of the year; it marks the turning from the cold, dark days of winter to the warmer, lighter days of spring and summer. Traditionally, this season was used as a time of reflection, renewal, and community celebration. \$20 General Admission, \$15 Student/Senior/Military  
TICKETS: <http://bit.ly/1SiiBRv>; 520-629-0237; <http://zuzimoveit.org>  
<http://zuzimoveit.org/dancecompany/schedule.html>  
Invite your friends on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/events/1639927786269627/](http://www.facebook.com/events/1639927786269627/)

**December 31, Thursday, 7:15 pm.** First United Methodist Church, 915 E 4th St, Tucson. **NYE Contra Dance** presented by the **Tucson Friends of Traditional Music.**

Contra dancing is a great way to ring in the New Year, reconnect with old friends and make some new ones. The event features live music by Tucson NYE Contra Dance Orchestra, a Cavalcade of Callers, a finger-food potluck, and a non-alcoholic champagne toast at midnight.

Lesson 6:30 pm, 7 pm dance. Donation suggested: \$10 adults/\$5 under 25 yrs old, \$5 gets you a membership button. Show your button and get \$1 off general admission. *All ages and beginners welcome, no partner required.* 520-906-3011, [www.tftm.org](http://www.tftm.org)



## WORKSHOPS

**December 8, Tuesday, 12 pm. Wall-2-Wall Dance Center, 617 S McClintock Dr, Suite 3, Tempe. \$30.**

**Master Tap Class with Sarah Reich** – Int/Advanced Level

Sarah Reich (*Performer, Choreographer, Instructor*) has emerged as one of the new leaders in the Art Form of Tap Dance. At the young age of 15, this Los Angeles native was featured in Dance Spirit Magazine's article, "20 Hot Tappers Under 20" and was named one of the "25 To Watch" in the 2009 Dance Magazine article. Ever since, Sarah has been sought after to perform, choreograph, and teach in over fifteen countries outside of the United States including France, Spain, China, Brazil, Costa Rica, Argentina, Honduras, Belgium, Canada, Sweden, Croatia, Taiwan, Italy, Mexico, and Australia.

Sarah is currently on tour with Scott Bradlee's Postmodern Jukebox as the featured tap dancer. Previously she was seen on FOX's So You Think You Can Dance with Chloe Arnold's Syncopated Ladies. With her own company, Tap Music Project, she has choreographed and performed at the Ford Amphitheatre, UCLA's JazzReggae Festival, Blue Whale, and the LA County Holiday Celebration.

In addition to her vast international travels and countless television appearances, Sarah has had the honor to perform at some of the most prestigious venues back home in Los Angeles such as The Hollywood Bowl, the Ford Amphitheatre, the Greek Theater with Mexican Pop-Star, Cristian Castro and the Kodak Theater with the great Herbie Hancock.

Sarah is developing new exciting works with her company, Tap Music Project and Sole Sisters – a collaboration with Melinda Sullivan. Sarah produces a weekly class/tap jam for the Los Angeles tap community, Monday Night Tap Experience.

**Tappers who are not an intermediate level may observe this class for \$10.**



**TUCSON WORKSHOP ~ December 3**, Artifact Dance Project, 17 E Toole, Tucson & **December 4-7**, Animas Center, 5575 E River Rd, Ste 121, Tucson. Weekend workshops of dance and choreography with **Matthew Westerby**. Intermediate level of ballet and/or modern required. [karenne@evolvedance.org](mailto:karenne@evolvedance.org), donations gratefully accepted. [Matthew Westerby](#), Artistic Director trained at Laban, London and graduated with a B.A. (Hons) in Dance Theatre. Since re-locating to New York in 2005, he has performed with Nai-Ni Chen, Risa Jaroslow, Dusan Tynek, Tze Chun, Peter Kyle, Bronwen MacArthur, Sue Hogan, Jessica Gaynor and Marla Hirowkawa. His freelance choreographic credits include work for the Hudson Guild Theatre Company, Brass City Ballet, the Dance Dept. of Naugatuck Valley Community College, Covenant Ballet Theatre, the Dancewave Companies and Evolve Dance Inc.



# MOVEMENT EXCHANGE

move to change

**December 4, Friday, 7-8:30 pm.** Arizona State University PEBE 190, Physical Education Building East, Tempe. Movement Exchange (ASU Club) is hosting a **FREE Lindy Hop** workshop with National Jitterbug Champions **Dabney and Karen Hopkins**, the only nationally recognized professional swing dance couple in Arizona, and the hosts of the Kats Korner, the longest running swing dance venue in Phoenix! They'll be teaching the Lindy Hop, an American dance that originates in the Harlem Jazz age.

*Dabney's* passion lies in the dance styles from the Swing Era, and he has dedicated over a decade of his life to spreading his love for Lindy Hop. Having studied under and been inspired by the legendary Frankie Manning, Dabney has also tried to garnish some dance knowledge from anyone around him. Having competed successfully early in his dance career, he focused more on teaching, and helping others discover their true dance potential.

Dabney discovered dancing when, after serving a two year mission in Brasil for his church, his friends dragged him out to a jazz club. He immediately fell in love with the music, the culture, and the connections through vernacular jazz and swing. The rest is history.

Dabney has over 14 years of experience dancing, teaching, competing in, and performing the dances from the Swing Era. Dabney has served as the secretary of the Arizona Classic Jazz Society, a 501c3 non-profit group dedicated to the preservation of classic jazz. Dabney is a national competitor and has performed with the Hollywood Hotshots, a performance troupe out of Los Angeles, has taught workshops on Carnival Cruise Lines, and in California, Florida, Utah, Nevada, Mexico, Colorado, New Mexico, Montana, and Arizona. He has made several television appearances and performs regularly with the 52nd St. Jazz Band at jazz festivals across the country.

*Karen (Vizzard)* first became \*enamored\* with Lindy Hop in 2003, when she was introduced to the dance at a Big Bad Voodoo Daddy concert in Santa Monica. Since then, she has dedicated herself to become an exceptional follow, as well as a versatile dancer with experience in Balboa, Collegiate Shag, and Solo and Partnered Charleston. While attending school in Utah, Karen was a Lindy Hop instructor at Utah State and the University of Utah, and coached the Swing Team at Brigham Young University. Her other credits include performing with the Hollywood Hotshots, as well as being cast as a dancer in Katy Perry's music video "Thinking of You" and being cast as a principal dancer for the episode "Static" on the TV show "Cold Case."



Clips are available for viewing on their YouTube Channel: The Lindy Hopkins:  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZGJ3jxbIX0sv6u2w6TIMYA>





**January 5-10, 2016**

**Riverdance** at UA Centennial Hall,  
Tucson. Tickets: \$15-\$100



**February 14, 2016, 4 & 8 pm**

**DWTS live!** at Comerica Theatre,  
Phoenix. Tickets: \$28-\$63

## Tucson Tango Festival



**April 7-10, 2016** ▶ Tucson Marriott University Park

2016 Instructors:

Homer & Cristina Ladas, Jay Abling, Ney Melo & Jennifer Bratt,  
Santiago Castro & Fernanda Valdovinos, Carrie Field,  
Brian Nguyen & Yuliana Basmajian



DJs:

Paul Akmajian, Jay Abling, Derrick Del Pilar, John Hess, Ashvin Iyer,  
Jo Canalli, Homer Ladas, Fernanda Valdovinos, Momo Smitt

**More classes, more floor space and more seating!**  
**Same great venue and same friendly festival!**

**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**  
<http://tucsontangofestival.com>

*Early-Bird prices expire at midnight December 6, 2015.*  
<https://tucsontangofestival.com/festival-registration/>

**JANUARY ISSUE  
SUBMISSION  
DEADLINE**

*Arizona Dance e-Star*  
**December 20\*\***

**Send news to:**

[Krystyna@AzDanceCoalition.org](mailto:Krystyna@AzDanceCoalition.org)

### Attention Non-ADC Members

Your performances, workshops, and master classes are mentioned in the **Regional Section** of the **Arizona Dance e-Star**. We welcome your **announcements**: job postings, auditions, scholarships, awards & recognitions, new positions, reorganizations, and invitations to participate in FlashMobs & Festivals. Keep Arizonans informed!





### Photo of the Month

*Ballet Tucson's Snowflakes from The Nutcracker*

Photo by *Ed Flores*



Some pretty cool news from **STEVE CONRAD / AZ Lindy Hop Society**:  
*I will be working with **America's Got Talent** to try to find some lindy hop performers from around the Country to audition in Phoenix on **December 3rd**. You do not need to be from Phoenix to audition and I have front of line (avoid cattle call) passes. If you want to compete on the show as a couple or team, please let me know.*  
<https://www.facebook.com/steveconrad29>



## ADC MEMBER AUDITIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Grand Canyon University (GCU) Dance Auditions** ~ For acceptance into the Bachelor of Arts programs in the College of Fine Arts and Production, prospective students must first apply to GCU and declare the BA Dance or BA Dance Education degree major. Second, they will submit a digital audition video URL or DVD along with other digital

materials. After the 15th of each month, they will be informed of their acceptance, and many will be invited to audition for dance performance scholarships at our live campus auditions. Live Scholarship Audition Dates in 2016 are Saturdays, (1/9, 2/20, 4/9) at 10 am-3 pm. Register online at [www.gcu.edu/auditions](http://www.gcu.edu/auditions) and find a link to more details!

**GCU ELEMENTARY DANCE TOUR "Color Me Happy" ~ School Shows K-4** ~ a multimedia production and student touring company that brings an exceptional arts experience to up to eight local public and private schools each spring semester. Interested teachers in grades K-4, please visit our website and complete the brief application: [www.gcu.edu/dancetour](http://www.gcu.edu/dancetour)

**GCU Dance Invitationals** invite high school and private studio dance educators to bring their junior and senior students to spend a day with GCU Dance in the College of Fine Arts and Production. Students will learn about our program, campus life, and have the opportunity to take a class with GCU dance faculty, meet current dance majors, and take a campus tour! Teachers, register online at [www.gcu.edu/danceinvitationals](http://www.gcu.edu/danceinvitationals).

**Cidade Productions LLC** is creating a new dance festival featuring salsa, bachata and kizomba in Tempe, **June 17-19, 2016 – Arizona Dance Addition**. There will be four specialty bootcamps, 40+ workshops, 60+ confirmed performers, and lots of social dancing after each performance. Discounted passes are available NOW. [www.arizonadanceaddiction.com](http://www.arizonadanceaddiction.com).



**January 22, Friday, 9 am–3 pm.** Youngker High School, 3000 S Apache Rd, Buckeye. **AzDEO's 12th Annual Pink Tutu Flu.** A great day of sharing curriculum ideas and methods from fellow educators including information from the NDEO annual conference last October. All are welcome- K-12 teachers, college students, studio teachers, Post-Secondary teachers. Continental Breakfast and lunch included. To register email Lynn Monson at [Imonson@cox.net](mailto:Imonson@cox.net). Send registration fee to: AZDEO, PO Box 60152, Phoenix, AZ 85082. AzDEO members free, non-members \$20. Certificate of hours awarded.





**February 27, 2016, Saturday, 8 am-4 pm.** Cortez High School, 8828 N 31st Ave, Phoenix AZ 85051

**Arizona Dance Education Organization (AzDEO) 31st Annual High School Dance Festival**

Registration is now open!

<https://azdeo.org/events/azdeo-31st-high-school-dance-festival/>

➡ **REGISTRATION FEES** ~ *Due to increased expenses, a price increase has been instituted.*  
Early Payment Postmarked by 2/5/2016: \$175 for AzDEO/NDEO Members; \$250 for non-members.

Regular Payment 2/6 - 2/11: \$225 for AzDEO/NDEO members; \$300 non-members.

Late Registration 2/12 - 2/26: Same fee as regular, but no option to perform or to purchase t-shirts.

ADJUDICATION: \$20 for AzDEO/NDEO members, \$25 for non-members

VIDEO: \$20 for AzDEO/NDEO members, \$30 for non-members

**PAYMENT:** All checks and Purchase Orders should be made out to AzDEO. Schools must be an institutional member to qualify for member registration cost. **MAIL PAYMENTS TO:** Arizona Dance Education Organization, State Dance Festival, PO BOX 60152, Phoenix, AZ 85982-0152

Fill out your purchase orders NOW! Registration and class availability is on a first come, first served basis, so please register online at [www.azdeo.org](http://www.azdeo.org), under event, and mail your registration fee ASAP. Once fees (check or P.O.) have been received, you will be officially registered for classes.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Each school is limited to bring no more than 20 students. This will keep classes at a manageable size, providing a better experience for your students.

**T-SHIRTS:** Festival T-shirts will be available for pre-sale (\$10) and the day of the festival (\$15). If you would like to pre-order, please fill out the t-shirt section of the registration form and include payment with your other registration fees or bring money to the festival.

**PERFORMANCE & TECH SHEETS:** Each school may bring one dance to perform. However, it is not mandatory. Please complete the Performance Tech Sheet with the registration. Tech sheets and all performance information are due by February 10th for the Program Book. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. If you have questions, contact:

Lynn Monson, [lmonson@cox.net](mailto:lmonson@cox.net), <https://azdeo.org/events>



## REGIONAL NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS &amp; EVENTS

## Northern Arizona ANNOUNCEMENTS &amp; EVENTS .....

**Sedona Chamber Ballet & Phoenix Ballet** present **The Nutcracker** on **Saturday, December 5, 2 & 7 pm**, and **Sunday, December 6, 2 pm**, at the Sedona Performing Arts Center, Sedona Red Rock High School, Sedona. \$30/\$40. Lap children ages 0-2 FREE.

<https://tickets.shovation.com/ordertickets.asp?p=690>

## Central Arizona ANNOUNCEMENTS &amp; EVENTS .....

**December 2, 1-2:30 pm. WORKSHOP- MESA COMMUNITY COLLEGE**, 1833 W Southern Ave, West Gymnasium, Mesa. **FREE Master Jazz Dance Class with Nan Giordano**. All levels welcome ages 13+. Tina Rangel, [tina.rangel@mesacc.edu](mailto:tina.rangel@mesacc.edu), 480-7597.

**December 5, Saturday, 7:30 pm.** Herberger Theater Center, 222 E Monroe, Phoenix. **Shahrazad Dance Company** presents **Explore Egypt** starring Maryam Raks. Winner of Ahlan Wa Sahlan Competition in Cairo, Egypt 2015! Maryam has won competitions all over the world with her elegant, controlled and charming interpretation of Oriental Dance! Workshops will be held at AZ Sun Dance Studio, 1451 N Marshall Way, Scottsdale. 10 am Classic Egyptian, 2 pm Modern Egyptian. Gala show at 7:30 pm. Herberger Box Office 602-252-8497.

**December 11-27, times vary. Ballet Arizona with the Phoenix Symphony at Symphony Hall present The Nutcracker.** The magic of The Nutcracker illuminates the stage with more than 150 performers, hundreds of costumes, and the beauty and athleticism of Ballet Arizona's nationally recognized dancers. A timeless holiday tradition for all ages. Box Office: 602-381-1096, Monday–Friday, 9 am–5:30 pm, 2835 E Washington St, Phoenix.

**December 11, Friday, 7 pm.** Mountain View High School, 2700 E Brown Rd, Mesa. **Wagner Studio of Dance & Music** presents **The Grinch**. <https://web.tututix.com/tickets>

**December 12-13, 19-20, Saturdays 2 & 7 pm, Sundays 2 pm.** Chandler Center for the Arts, Chandler. **Tempe Dance Academy** presents **Spirit of Christmas**. \$30. [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)

**December 19-20, Saturday 2:30 & 7 pm, Sunday 2:30 pm.** Mesa Community College Performing Arts Center, 1833 W Southern Ave, Mesa. **Arizona Youth Ballet** presents **The Nutcracker**, \$15-\$20, <https://web.tututix.com/tickets>.

**December 19, Saturday, 2 & 6 pm.** Deer Valley High School, 18424 N 51st Ave, Glendale. **Jataba Dance Troupe** (Spisak Dance Academy) presents **The Nutcracker**. [www.tututix.com/jatabadancetroupe](http://www.tututix.com/jatabadancetroupe)

**Eastern Arizona ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS .....**

**December 19, Saturday, 12:30 pm, 3 pm, and 6 pm.** Eastern Arizona College of Fine Arts, 615 N Stadium Ave, Thatcher. **Safford Dance Academy** presents **Hometown Christmas**. \$5-\$7. <https://web.tututix.com/tickets>

**Southern Arizona ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS .....**

**Tucson ~ DANCE STUDIO FOR SALE: The DanceLoft**, 2351 N Alvernon Way, #202, Tucson. Cute 2nd floor space – 1000 sq ft: entry, lobby with cubicles, main studio sprung laminate flooring, private studio space). \$550/month rent. 520-250-4664, reness@thedanceloft.com, <http://www.thedanceloft.com/>

**December 3-6, Thursday-Sunday, 1:30 pm & 7:30 pm. UA Dance** presents **Here & Now – Student Spotlight**. Let our students lift your spirits as we present an evening of choreography by the best and brightest of our 150 undergraduate and graduates. Adult \$25; Senior, Military, UA Employee \$23; Student \$12

**December 6, Sunday, 7 pm.** UA Centennial Hall, 1020 E University Blvd, Tucson. **December 12, Sunday, 4 & 7:30 pm.** DesertView Performing Arts Center, SaddleBrooke. **Tucson Dance Academy** presents the **Spirit of Christmas**. [www.tucsondanceacademy.com](http://www.tucsondanceacademy.com)

**December 4-5, Friday-Saturday, 7 pm.** Berger Performing Arts Center, 1200 W Speedway Blvd, Tucson. **Centre State Dance Studio** presents **Believe ~ A Dance Rendition of the Polar Express**. \$10, \$15 at the door (if available). <https://web.tututix.com/tickets>

**December 6, Sunday, 11 am & 3 pm.** Marriott University Park, 880 E Second St, Tucson. **Ballet Tucson's 15th Annual Sugar Plum Tea** ~ a benefit for Ballet Tucson. Musical and dance performances will feature The Tucson Arizona Boy's Chorus, harpist Christine Vivona and opera star Grayson Hirst. Mr. Hirst will also narrate a special live reading of the Nutcracker story. Ballerina Jenna Johnson and her partner Isaiah Sumler will lead the cast with Grand Pas de Deux and other charming excerpts from the Nutcracker ballet. \$75/person. 520-903-1445, <http://ballettucson.org/sugarplum>

**December 11-13, Friday 7:30 pm, Saturday 1 pm & 5 pm, Sunday 2 pm.** UA Centennial Hall, 1020 E University Blvd, Tucson. **Ballet Tucson** presents **The Nutcracker**. \$19-\$58, Students/Military/Seniors \$26-\$40, Groups \$19-\$31. Fees not included. 520-621-3341, [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)

**December 12, Saturday, 7 pm.** TCC Leo Rich Theater, Tucson. **Grace! Ballet Academy of Dance** (Sahuarita) presents a **Christmas Story**. \$10-\$17 [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com), TCC Box Office 520-791-4101.



**YUMA ~ December 11-13, Friday 7 pm, Saturday 2 & 7 pm, Sunday 2 pm.** Snider Auditorium, 400 S 6th Ave, Yuma. **Ballet Yuma's Nutcracker.** In celebrating its 21st season, Ballet Yuma is bringing back alumni favorite as one of their guest artists - Crystal Brothers, a Yuma native and BY graduate, performing the Sugar Plum Fairy role. Rafael Ferreras will be her Cavalier. Both dancers hail from Ballet Memphis. Geoffrey Gonzalez comes from City Ballet of San Diego and will perform the Snow King. Tickets are available online by going to Ballet Yuma's website, [www.BalletYuma.org](http://www.BalletYuma.org), and selecting "Buy Tickets." After December 11th, tickets will be available only at the door an hour prior to each performance. Should you experience any issues or require additional assistance, please contact Jenn Coleman, Ballet Yuma Ticket Chair Jenn Coleman, at 928-446-6770. [www.tututixs.com/balletyuma](http://www.tututixs.com/balletyuma)

**December 11-12, Friday-Saturday 7:30 pm, Saturday 2 pm.** Pima Community College CPA, Proscenium Theater, 2202 W Anklam, Tucson. **PCC Dance** presents **Signature Selections.** The dynamic and innovative concert features dance faculty and student choreographed pieces highlighting diverse choreographic elements, including hip-hop, jazz, modern/contemporary and ballet styles. \$10 with discounts for students/seniors/military/PCC employees and groups. 520-206-2986.

**December 12, Saturday, 2 & 6:30 pm.** Sahuarita District Auditorium, Sahuarita. **Sahuarita Dance Center** presents **The Nutcracker.** Michele@sahuaritadance.com, 520-232-3752.

**December 12-13, Saturday-Sunday, 2 pm and 7:30 pm Saturday.** TCC Music Hall, Tucson. **Tucson Regional Ballet** presents **A Southwest Nutcracker** featuring the Tucson Symphony Orchestra. \$29-\$35. [www.tucsonregionalballet.org](http://www.tucsonregionalballet.org)

**TUCSON WORKSHOP ~ December 17-18, Friday-Saturday, 6-9:15 pm.** Belly Dance Tucson is hosting a workshop featuring Sadie Marquardt. All skill levels welcome. For details, contact [www.bellydancetucson.com](http://www.bellydancetucson.com)

**December 18-19, 7 pm, plus 2 pm on Sunday.** Vail Theatre of the Arts, 10701 E Mary Ann Cleveland Way, Vail. **Ballet Rincon** presents their 14th annual production of **The Nutcracker.** \$16 adults, \$14 seniors and children. \$12 adults mezzanine, \$10 seniors/children. For more information call Ballet Rincon at 574-2804 Studio Website: <http://www.ballet-rincon.com/> <https://web.tututix.com/client/balletrincon/>

**December 19-20, Saturday 10 am, Sunday 2 pm.** Pima Community College Center for the Arts Proscenium Theatre, West Campus, 2202 W Anklam, Tucson. **Creative Dance Arts** presents **The Nutcracker Ballet.**

## SOCIAL DANCE NEWS

**Flagstaff Latin Dance Collective** meets every Sunday (not Dec 27) with a dance lesson from 7-8 pm, followed by open dancing until 10 pm. Tranzend Studio, 417 W Santa Fe Ave, Flagstaff. \$10/\$8 students. [www.latindancecollective.com](http://www.latindancecollective.com).

**Tucson ~ December 5, Saturday, Sasha & The Latin Dance Revolution present Sexy Salsa Saturday**, 5 Palms Restaurant, 3500 E Sunrise Dr, Tucson. All ages welcome. 9 pm dance class and dancing until 2 pm. \$10 cover with \$5 bar credit.

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**Ballroom Dance Camp & Ball with Dancing with the Stars Sasha Farber!**

**December 5-6**, two locations. **December 5, Saturday, 6:30 pm**. Old Pueblo Dance Center, 613 E Delano St, Tucson. Ballroom Dance School presents **Dance Among the Stars**. Dress Code: Blue, White, Black and Silver. **Dance Camp** coincides with ball on Saturday and Sunday. Passes available for the weekend, daily, ball and individual classes. Get details at <http://theballroomdanceschool.com/ball-2015/> or call 520-261-5237.

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**December 18, Friday, 7:50 pm – midnight**. Creative Dance Center, 3131 N Cherry Ave, Tucson. **TucSon Casineros** presents **Azucar Night!** Come and learn Rueda de Casino – beginner and intermediate class from 7:50-9 pm. Social dance includes Timba, Bachata and Kizomba until midnight. *All proceeds go to the groups' San Francisco Salsa Rueda Festival travel fund. TucSon Casineros will be making their debut performance at the Festival.* We are requesting items for our raffle. \$10 class & social, \$7 social. [www.tucsoncasineros.org](http://www.tucsoncasineros.org)

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**December 19, Saturday, 8 pm – midnight**. Tucson Dance Academy, 2850 W Ina Rd, #100, Tucson. **Learn-to-Tango** hosts **Fire and Ice Holiday Milonga** with DJ Greg Gee of San Diego. Door prizes, giveaways and an abundance of holiday spirit and cheer. \$25 per person in advance, \$30 at the door if space is available. Exquisite hors d'oeuvres and desserts.



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**December 20, Sunday, 5 pm**. Shall We Dance, 4101 E Grant, Tucson. Tucson's longest **Sunday Salsa Social** with hosts *Gerardo & Lupita Armendariz* will be holding a special holiday dance with live music provided by **Combo Unico**. This is the *first live music performance* at the new location and all are invited. 5 pm lesson for beginners, intermediate, and advanced (3 studios). Social dance begins at 6:30 pm-9 pm. Family-oriented environment. \$10 includes lesson and social. You welcome to bring a snack. <http://www.tucsonsalsa.com/sundaysocial>





## SOCIAL DANCE NEWS


**Mesa ~ December 5, 12, 19, Saturdays, 7-11 pm.** The Kats Corner (entrance in the back), 446 E Broadway Rd, Mesa. **The Kats Korner Swing Dance** with a beginner's East Coast Swing lesson at 7:15 pm. \$8, \$6 with student ID). [www.thekatskorner.com](http://www.thekatskorner.com)

**Phoenix ~ Phoenix Traditional Music and Dance** sponsors **Community Contra Dances** twice a month in two different locations. All dances are taught and then prompted by an expert caller, and there is always a live band. All ages are welcome; no partner is required. Come early for a 30-minute introductory lesson. \$10 door, \$5 for 25 and younger. <http://www.phxtmd.org/> or email [webmaster@phxtmd.org](mailto:webmaster@phxtmd.org) or call 480-893-3328.

**December 4, Friday, 7 pm,** Mesa Active Adult Center, 247 N MacDonald, Mesa. Special dance features live music by Audacious, Larry Unger and Audrey Knuth from New England. \$15, \$5 youth.

**December 31, Wednesday, 8 pm.** New Year's Eve Gala at the Irish Cultural Center features the Flagstaff-based band, Updraft, and local caller, Michael Barraclough.

**January 8-9,** Winter Frolic with the Stringrays and Adina Gordon at the Mesa Active Adult Center, 247 N. Macdonald, Mesa.

 **December 22, Tuesday, 7:30-11 pm.** FatCat Ballroom, Phoenix. **Swing Holiday Party** and **20 year Danciversary for Steve Conrad!** Juke Joint All-Stars playing the music of Wynonie Harris plus special guests! 7:30 pm East Coast Swing Dance lesson with Steve and Bernadette. Open dancing until 11 pm. \$12 in advance, \$14 door. All ages welcome. Gift exchange - bring a wrapped gift and receive a wrapped gift from someone else through a fun dance game!  
<http://www.azlindy.com/events/>

 **December 31, Thursday, 8 pm-12:30 am.** Take the Floor Dance Studio, 3153 E Lincoln Dr, Phoenix. **Roaring New Year's Eve Dance Party.** Come dance the night away into the new year as we party like it's 1929! This elegant evening of dance will be filled with a dance lesson, great swing music all night long, a champagne (or sparkling cider) toast, cash bar beer and wine (for 21+), complimentary hors d'oeuvres, and much more! This will be an ALL SWING DANCE NYE and we hope you can join us! 8-9 pm dance lesson. \$35 includes lesson, dance, champagne toast and hors d'oeuvres. Beer and wine available for guests 21 and over.  
<http://www.azlindy.com/events/>



## NORTHERN Arizona

**FlagstaffDance.com**

*for the most up-to-date schedule*

**Wednesdays**, The Peaks ~ Alpine Room, 3150 N Winding Brook Rd, Flagstaff (on Hwy 180, North Fort Valley Rd). Group Dance Lessons FREE. Gary Millam 928-853-6284 or Bill Pranke 928-814-0157.

**1st & 3rd Thursdays**, Museum Club, 3404 E Route 66, Flagstaff. 6-7 pm line dance lesson; 7-8 pm Nightclub 2-Step; open dancing. \$3 non-members/ \$4 for both classes

**Wednesdays**, Ctr Indigenous Music & Culture, 213 S San Francisco, Flagstaff. Latin Dance Collective 6-7 pm. \$8-12, Kati Pantsosnik, 928-814-2650, latindancecollective@gmail.com.

**Saturdays**, Galaxy Diner, W Route 66, Flagstaff. Swing lesson & dancing with Tom Scheel 7:30-9 pm.

**Sundays**, Canyon Dance Academy, 2812 N Izabel St, Flagstaff (across from Coconino HS) 5-7 pm ballroom technique practice, open dancing with instructor *Paul Jack*. \$8, \$7 USA Dance Members, \$5 students. 928-213-0239

**Fri/Sundays**, Tranzend Studio, 417 W Santa Fe Ave, Flagstaff. Flagstaff Latin Dance Collective 7-10 pm, \$5-8, Kati Pantsosnik, 928-814-2650, latindancecollective@gmail.com; **Fridays** \$3-5, 7:30-10 pm. Salsa Rueda & Latin, Paul & Nadine Geissler, nadinegeissler@hotmail.com

**ADULT CENTER OF PRESCOTT**, 1280 E Rosser St, Prescott. 928-778-3000. adultcenter.org.

**Tuesdays**, Country & Contemporary Line Dance Classes, \$5 / *No charge Silver Sneakers* 5:30 pm Beginners; 6:30 pm Intermediate **Fridays**, Dance lessons with *Andy Smith and Marilyn Schey*, Rumba, 6-6:45 pm beginners; 6:45-7:30 Beyond Beginners. \$6 one or both lessons. 7:30-10 pm Open Dance \$5.

**The COTTONWOOD CIVIC CENTER**, 805 Main St, Old Town Cottonwood. AZ We Dance - Contra Dance. 6:30 pre-dance lesson, 7-10 pm dancing. \$7, \$5 students \$4 16 yrs and under. 928-634-0486, azwedance@gmail.com.

## CENTRAL Arizona

The **Arizona Lindy Hop Society** has an extensive calendar.

**AZSalsa.net** covers Phoenix, Scottsdale & Tempe

### Sock Hop at 5 & Diner

*First Friday*, 220 N 16th St, Phoenix.

*Third Friday*, 9069 E Indian Bend Rd, Scottsdale. 7 pm FREE Swing dance lesson; 6-9 pm Live Rockabilly/Swing music, wood dance floor, diner food and vintage cars. Come in a car older than 1972 and eat for 50% off!

# SOCIAL DANCE \*\* verify schedules in advance \*\*

## SOUTHERN Arizona

**TucsonDanceCalendar.com**

*for the most up-to-date schedule*

**December 20, Sunday, 5-9 pm Tucson Sunday Salsa Social** hosted by Gerardo & Lupita. Beg/Int/Adv lesson/open. \$10/live band Combo Unica. Shall We Dance, 4101 E Grant Rd, Tucson. tucsonsalsa.com **NEW LOCATION**

**Mondays ~ Lindy Under the Stars FREE** Swing Social Dance. Dance on the U of A Mall stage! Lesson 7-8 pm, open dance 8-10 pm. No partner or experience required.

**Tuesdays ~ Desert Moon Blues Dance**, Movement Culture, 435 E 9th St, Tucson. \$5, 8 pm intermediate lesson, 8-12 am dance.

**2nd Friday ~ Tucson Stomps!** 7 pm lesson; 7:30-10 pm open dancing. 1st United Methodist Church, 915 E 4th St, Tucson. \$5

**Saturdays ~ Armory Park Recreation Center**, 22 S 5th St, Tucson  
2nd Saturday *SW Soul Circuit* FREE 6-10 pm. Live music, dancing, food, fun!

3rd Saturday *USA Dance So Arizona Chapter* presents their Dance, 7-10:30 pm.

4th Saturday *TucsonLindyHop.org* Live music for Lindy Hop & Swing dancers. 7-8 pm beginners lesson, 8-11 pm open dance. \$10 with discounts for students. \$15/if big band.

**Events may change due to the holidays. Inquire first before attending.**



**Tucson Tango Festival April 7-10, 2015**  
**Tucson Marriott University Park**

**ATTENTION "SOCIAL DANCE" COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT ARIZONA**

*If you host a "community" event (not private studio), you are welcome to submit your information to: [Krystyna@AzDanceCoalition.org](mailto:Krystyna@AzDanceCoalition.org) by the 25th of each month.*



## Call for Dancers / Instructors / Choreographers

Call for Lindy Hop Dancers / Will Train for "Performances"



*Jump & Jive*

CALL FOR  
*Lindy Hoppers &  
Tap Dancers 18+ yrs*

**Tucson ✦ Phoenix**

Perform with a *Live Big Band*

charitable benefits, concerts, school shows **520-743-1349**

Image courtesy of Gayl & Howard Zhao  
Tucson Instructors / Performers

The **Arizona Dance Coalition** is organizing a "Swing Era" musical production featuring a live Big Band, Lindy Hop dancers, and Tap dancers. The mission is to establish performing opportunities for dancers with big bands, and generate awareness about **Alzheimer's Disease** through:

- **performances in Tucson, retirement communities, Phoenix, and beyond**
- **benefit productions** for the **Alzheimer's Association** and those suffering from Alzheimer's (Tucson, Phoenix, and possibly Las Vegas), and
- **community involvement** at the high school level & up ~ including school shows on the topic of jazz music history

Lindy Hop teachers will be working with dancers and choreographing specific pieces to be performed with a live Big Band. Organizational meeting is being planned. **PLEASE CONTACT** organizer [Krystyna@AzDanceCoalition.org](mailto:Krystyna@AzDanceCoalition.org), 520-743-1349, to get on the list.

## THE DANCE PROBLEM

### Is Dance a Lesser Art Form?

By Jack Miles & Douglas McLennan

Of all the major arts, dance seems to have the toughest time attracting audiences. Theatre companies, museums, symphony orchestras and opera companies have lean years, even lean decades, but for dance, lean seems to be a way of life.

Even the world's largest, most-established dance companies continually flirt with financial ruin:

- The storied **Bolshoi Ballet's** theatre is crumbling, its artistic reputation has been battered [The Times], and its subsidies from the Russian government have fallen off in the past few years. Last fall things got so bad, the president of Russia

replaced the company's top management.

- **Canada's National Ballet** has been laboring under a series of million-dollar annual deficits for so long that when it only fell behind \$165,000 last season, the company put out a celebratory press release [National Post].
- After squabbling over how the company should be run [Washington Post] and who owns the rights to its founder's choreography, the pioneering **Martha Graham Dance Company** went out of business last fall. Despite attempts to revive it in some form, hope is fading.
- **Australia Ballet** warned it would have to cut back its programs if it didn't get more government support; then after it did [The Age], a number of prominent dancers quit the company [The Age].
- The **English National Ballet** is so strapped for cash, it says it can't stage the

*...the average corps dancer makes less than a waitress in a busy coffee shop.*

kinds of ballets [The Times] that could sustain its artistic mission. Derek Deane, the company's artistic director, recently announced he is quitting in frustration. He's the third artistic director of a major English company [The Telegraph] to leave in the past year.

A recent study "*Dancing with Dollars in the Millennium*," written by Dance/USA's John Munger, says the 1990s were a lousy decade for dance [Plain Dealer] 'Funding dropped. Audiences decreased. *The Nutcracker* lost its magical appeal. Major ballets went deeply into debt. Modern dance ensembles struggled, too.'

In recent years **American Ballet Theatre** has battled major debt. **Dance Theatre of Harlem** has teetered. The **Joffrey Ballet** fled its home and a pile of bills in New York and relocated to Chicago. And **Cleveland/San Jose Ballet**

closed its doors [Plain Dealer] in Cleveland.

**Boston Ballet's** management squabbles, played out in public, [Boston Globe] have crippled it artistically, Boston choreographers say there's no support [Boston Globe] for their work. **Connecticut Ballet** decided to take a year off [Hartford Courant] to ponder whether it can still survive. And 32-year-old **Ohio Ballet** is on the brink of failing [Plain Dealer].

Then there's Los Angeles, which has tried numerous times to put together a viable ballet company, only to see its efforts fall apart. More generally, choreographers report that virtually an entire generation left the field in the '90s as dance companies pulled back from commissioning new work.

Dancers' salaries are low; the average corps dancer makes less than a waitress in a busy coffee shop. And careers are short and



## THE DANCE PROBLEM ~ Is Dance a Lesser Art Form?

precarious. A University of Washington study reported that dancers suffer a rate of injury higher than professional football players [Arts Patron] and athletes in other contact sports.

This is only a sampling of a long and depressing list of dance world woes. But then, everyone knows dance is a tough sell.

### WHY?

The question is: why? Certainly many of the tales of woe are the result of poor management (Martha Graham), changing economies (the Bolshoi) or perhaps outsized expectations (Joffrey). And certainly there are success stories 'the **Mark Morris Company**, **David Parsons** [Boston Globe], **Pilobolus**, **Alvin Ailey** [NYMagazine], **Paul Taylor**'

But compared to other art forms, dance as an institution is the consumptive beauty. Almost every major city in America has a symphony orchestra, a museum or two, and a few theaters. Few have successful dance companies. Move down to second- and third-tier cities, and dance almost doesn't exist.

Nor is there much writing about dance. Of all the arts ArtsJournal monitors daily, stories about dance are the most difficult to find. The quality of writing about dance doesn't compare to that about other art forms, either. Over the past year, we have collected one-tenth as many stories for dance as we have for music or visual art. And not for lack of trying. Correspondingly, Arts Journal's Dance pages see the lightest traffic on the site.

*...dance gets only 'cursory' coverage in the American press and is rarely covered by a full-time critic.*

A study last year by the National Arts Journalism Program at Columbia University reported that dance gets only 'cursory' coverage [NAJP] in the American press and is rarely covered by a full-time critic.

Classical music critics point to audience estrangement from atonal music in the second half of the 20th Century as a reason for classical music's decline with the public. No such claim can be made for dance. Contemporary dance has continued to evolve and produce stars. Small modern companies do some of the most exciting work in all of contemporary arts, and the field is vibrant with new ideas. More traditional companies never stopped offering plenty of classic fare.

'And yet, even the top companies are a difficult sell when they tour [SJ Mercury News] outside the largest cities. In any performance art, touring is a way of building

and cementing reputations, of contributing to the evolution of the art. But touring for large companies is becoming less and less possible. Smaller companies can survive only by touring. But that too is becoming problematic as the venues for presenting dance dwindle.

Is it because dance is too expensive? Not compared to opera, which is thriving and costs even more to mount. Is it because of lack of commitment from funders? Through the '70s and '80s dance was heavily supported by the National Endowment for the Arts dance touring program. And there have been other major funders. European and Australian governments pour large sums into supporting their national companies.

But ballet and modern dance struggle. Even the beloved story ballets, which once could be counted on to draw audiences, seem to have lost their wide appeal. 'Nutcracker,' the

## THE DANCE PROBLEM ~ Is Dance a Lesser Art Form?

perennial cash cow for many American dance companies, has ceased to pack them in [Plain Dealer] as it once did.

The obvious place for blame is the lack of education about dance. It's not that dance is a 'lesser' art or harder to understand or more difficult. Dance outside the traditional ballet/modern companies is doing well, 'RiverDance' and its clones pack in the audiences [Sunday Times] and PBS viewers. As does **Stomp**. As does **Broadway** [St. Louis Post-Dispatch] and shows like **Lion King** and **Bring in Da Noise**. *Ballroom dancing* thrives [Christian Science Monitor]. *Swing is in*, even with the young, or especially with the young. As a participatory activity, street and club dancing are popular.

It's that the specialized sophisticated vocabulary of ballet and modern dance isn't taught in any widespread way in public schools. There are dance schools in almost every larger community, but dance is almost non-existent in the public schools, even scarcer than music or art instruction.

*Dance as an artform has intrinsic appeal.* Though ballet is a fairly recent development, dance as a means of expression is one of the earliest artforms. One archaeologist says that dancing as self-expression probably developed early [NYTimes] in our cultural evolution, 'perhaps as early as speech and language and almost certainly by the time people were painting on cave walls, making clay figurines and decorating their bodies with ornaments.' That dates dance back 5000-9000 years ago.

*Education that fails to provide it (basic vocabulary) for dance virtually ensures that a general audience for it will never be developed.*

Is it possible that because movement is so instinctive, so basic, it is passed over for instruction in favor of artistic skills that seem to come less naturally? Anyone can move, so the argument would seem to go, but it takes training to act or play an instrument or make a painting.

But responding instinctively to movement or music is one thing. Acquiring a basic vocabulary in which to hear and speak critical appreciation is another. Without that basic vocabulary, any artform is difficult to appreciate. Education that fails to provide it (basic vocabulary) for dance virtually ensures that a general audience for it will never be developed.

*About the authors:*

*Arts Journal's editor-in-chief is Douglas McLennan, formerly an arts columnist and arts reporter with the Seattle Post-Intelligencer and the Seattle Weekly.*

*In March, 2001, Jack Miles, currently senior advisor to the president at the J. Paul Getty Trust, formerly book editor at the Los Angeles Times, and the Pulitzer-Prize-winning author of God: A Biography, joined ArtsJournal as senior editor.*

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*Posted on [ArtsJournal EXTRA/ Arts Watch](#)  
Letters, opinions, reactions, suggestions? Send  
your e-mail to [mclennan@artsjournal.com](mailto:mclennan@artsjournal.com)*



## BIZ TALK

**BIZ Talk** is a new section where YOU can have something to say - exactly the way you want to say it. *But it will cost you.* If you are interested, please email [Krystyna@AzDanceCoalition.org](mailto:Krystyna@AzDanceCoalition.org) or call 520-743-1349 for rates and sizes.

*ADC members receive discounted rates.*



**MICHAEL SIMON  
PHOTOGRAPHY**

**M@4SIMON.COM**

**502-710-3003**

**FOURSIMON.COM**

## JOB POSTINGS

Arizona Commission on the Arts jobs page:  
<http://www.azarts.gov/news-resources/jobs/>

Americans for the Arts JOB BANK  
<http://jobbank.artsusa.org/>

Mesa: [Sequoia Star Academy](#) for the Performing Arts, PT Dance Instructor / middle & high school. \$10-\$12/hr

Mesa: [Mesa Arts Academy, Musical Theatre Dance Instructor](#) / 6-8th grade elective. Dustin Loehr, Director of Arts and Special Events, (480) 844-3965  
[dustin.loehr@clubzona.org](mailto:dustin.loehr@clubzona.org)

Phoenix: Urban & Hip Hop Adjunct, [Grand Canyon University](#), PT. MA, MFA preferred, BA, BFA considered.

Phoenix: Dance Instructors, [N\\*Step Dance School](#) expanding. Pre-ballet, ballet, jazz, hip hop, creative mvmt, musical theater, cheerleading. Teach ages 3-10 yrs old. \$25/hr

Tempe: [ASU Assistant Prof-DANCE](#), contemporary modern dance, contemporary ballet, and/or urban movement practices and creative practices. Terminal degree.

Tucson: [TUSD](#), many dance positions open at Cholla HS, Pueblo HS, Tucson HS, Ochoa ES

Tucson: [After-School Middle School Instructor for Catalina Foothills School District's Community School Program](#) / 6-8th grades / Orange Grove or Esperero Canyon Middle Schools. Dance, 2:45-4:15 pm, one or more days per week for 8 weeks. \$325 stipend per quarter. Classes start in January. Teacher cert not required.

## AUDITIONS

### NATIONWIDE DANCE AUDITION LINKS

Dance.net ~ <http://www.dance.net/danceauditions.html>  
DancePlug.com ~ <http://www.danceplug.com/insidertips/auditions>  
StageDoorAccess.com ~ <http://www.stagedooraccess.com/>  
DanceNYC ~ <http://www.dancenyc.org/resources/auditions.php>  
BackStageDance.com ~ <http://www.backstage.com/bsc/dance/index.jsp>  
SeeDance.com ~ <http://www.seedance.com>

### TAP 27.7 Auditions December 12, Saturday Bender Performing Arts, 3141 E Beardsley Rd, Phoenix

12:30-1:30 pm ages 16+ pro auditions for multiple local & national performances  
 1:30-3:30 pm May Tap Show auditions for serious tap students inter. level and up

Ages 8-11 and 12 & up  
 \$30. [tapzen247@gmail.com](mailto:tapzen247@gmail.com)

December 3, Thursday ~ **America's Got Talent Auditions**  
 Phoenix Convention Center  
 Register at [www.agtauditions.com](http://www.agtauditions.com)

**Lincoln Center at the Movies: Great American Dance** presentations are filmed in HD by the multi-Emmy Award-winning team responsible for Live From Lincoln Center broadcasts on PBS, Andrew C. Wilk, Executive Producer. Each screening will include extra features such as interviews with the companies' principal dancers, and informative segments that will provide an inside look at the productions. Lincoln Center at the Movies will bring the best of the performing arts to national audiences through Fathom's extensive network of movie theaters and will focus on the different art forms on Lincoln Center's campus. For more information visit

[www.LincolnCenterattheMovies.org](http://www.LincolnCenterattheMovies.org).

**New York City Ballet George Balanchine's The Nutcracker (December 5, 12:55 pm)**

*Celebrate dance not just today but every day – or as Rumi would say:  
 "Dance, when you're broken open. Dance, if you've torn the bandage off.  
 Dance in the middle of the fighting. Dance in your blood.  
 Dance when you're perfectly free."*





## The Rhythm Is Gonna Get YOU

No way, you can fight it every day  
But no matter what you say  
**You know it**

**The rhythm is gonna get'cha**

Lyrics by Enrique "Kiki" Garcia & Gloria Estefan  
(May 1987 Miami Sound Machine)

The rhythms of Salsa music infected Tucsonans for more than 25 years. Much of that could be attributed to the live music of **Descarga**, a band that started up in 1991. In 1993 they grew and became Tucson's first professional Salsa band, boasting more than 125 charts, arrangements, and original compositions by director and multi-instrumentalist **Luis Torres** and **Amilcar Guevera**, keyboardist and composer. With lead vocalist **Rafael Moreno**, the band had its first steady gig at the **4th Avenue Social Club** (now **Surly Wench**), then went on to perform for 14 years (1998-2012) on Friday nights at **El Parador Restaurant**— "**Palacia del Salsa**." For the 23 years that Descarga existed, they performed every weekend for 20 uninterrupted years! Lots of people came out to dance to live music, and in the tropical splendor of El Parador, a significant dance community was being formed. Some would want to call it a dance "family" as the bond was strong.

The **Tucson Jazz Society** actually got a jump on the fun and started producing **Some Like It Hot** in 1986—a Latin-inspired event with live music, dancing, a salsa dance contest, salsa-tasting and cook-off at St. Philip's Plaza. TJS even financed a CD in '98 jointly recorded by Descarga and the **Tucson Latin Jazz Orchestra** called **Rumba Del Sol**. It was produced by **Luis Torres** and featured guest



Photos B Josh Young  
Tucson Jazz Society  
Some Like It Hot / St. Philip's Plaza







*El Parador closed its doors in 2013 after 40 years in business*



artists [Poncho Sanchez](#), [Paul Horn](#), [Rene Camacho](#), [Tony Malaby](#) and [Luis Torres](#).

You can still find the CD on [Amazon](#) for \$23 + shipping! The legendary percussionist and Grammy winner [Poncho Sanchez](#) (featured on the CD) will be

returning to Tucson for a performance at the [Fox Tucson Theatre](#) on Thursday, January 21, 2016, 7 pm, as part of the [Tucson Jazz Festival](#).

### Dance to Impress!

While Salsa dancing comes naturally to some, many opted for lessons to learn patterns, combinations and styling to *impress* on the dance floor. Tucson had lots of experts to show us the "moves." [Jeannie Tucker](#) taught Salsa on Friday nights at El Parador. A well-traveled, all around dancer, instructor, actress, and choreographer, she was inducted into the **World Swing Dance Hall of Fame** at the **U.S. Open Swing Dance Championships** in 2013.

[Bruce Montoya](#) (now Marine veteran) taught his L.A. style Salsa at the University of Arizona informally and eventually formed a "social dance" club at UofA in 1996—[Ritmos Latinos](#). Shortly after, Bruce created an off-campus instructional group—[Salsa Souleros](#), and the team continues to teach in Tucson and around the country.

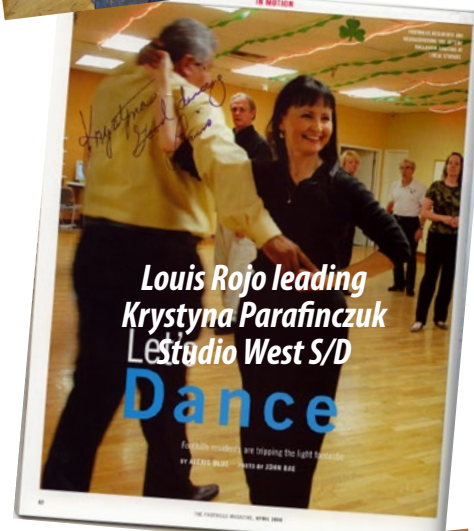
[Louis Rojo](#), a Cuban ballroom instructor and co-owner of [Studio West School of Dance](#), had an ongoing Wednesday night Salsa class (\$5) with loyal students and a constant stream of new ones from his ad on the back cover of the **Tucson Weekly**. That's what drew me in and the "rhythm got me" in 2004. Dance was my business for decades, but this was my first "social dance" class for *pleasure*. *What took me so long?* Now I never want to stop—*dancing for pleasure*.



**Jeannie Tucker at El Parador**



**Lupita & Gerardo Armendariz Sunday Salsa Social at ABC**



**Louis Rojo leading Krystyna Parafinczuk at Studio West S/D**



**UofA Ritmos Latinos Club**

*Dancing is pleasure and "pleasure" is a basic human need!*



## Dancing Became Popular ... AGAIN!

Gap's *Jump, Jive & Wail* TV commercial in '98 had us all Lindy Hopping for a few years! Then in June of 2005 we had the TV premiere of **Dancing with the Stars** and people flocked to dance studios. Ballroom dancing was fashionable again, and Salsa dancing was *hot*! The U.S. Postal Service launched *Let's Dance/Bailemos* stamps—*Cha Cha, Merengue, Mambo and Salsa*—during National Hispanic Heritage Month in September of 2005 (see below) and the Latin social dance scene grew.

Local media was actually seeking out stories in the community to promote dancing and its *benefits*—of which there are many. Articles appeared in all the newspapers and magazines. TV newscasters visited studios and dance events, and we even formed our own **Dancing with Our Stars** - a charity event to benefit the **Diaper Bank of Southern Arizona**.

The fall of 2005 my enrollment in the **Pima Community College Ballroom/Latin Dance** class (NW Campus) was at an all-time high—55! I was excited. Students were excited. We were having *fun*! And it was "social." Not a typical "for credit" college course. In 2008, the NW Campus Dean of Instruction, Patricia Houston, convinced me to add **Salsa/Latin Dance** and it was a hit. Some students enrolled in both Ballroom and Salsa to spend four hours with me on Saturday evenings.

Within all this dance "excitement" emerged Tucson's "positive light," as his wife describes him. **Gerardo Armendariz** became a teacher, mentor, and friend to many, myself included. And he's the reason the Tucson Salsa dance community feels like a close knit "family." I first saw him and then fiancé, **Lupita**, win the **Tucson Jazz Society's Some Like It Hot Salsa Contest** at St. Philip's Plaza in 2002. *[Wish I had a picture that captured that win. Video would be nice too. I did search. Truly.]* Gerardo went on to create **www.TucsonSalsa.com**, weekly **Sunday Salsa Socials**, and the performing group **Salsón**.



June 2005 was the premiere of *Dancing with the Stars*.  
September 2005 the U.S. Postal Service launched *Let's Dance/Bailemos* stamps (left).  
In 2011 the U.S. Postal Service honored five musicians and performers of the Latin Sound.



Originally from Magdalena, Sonora, Mexico, Gerardo moved to Yuma at a young age, attended Arizona Western College, then moved to Tucson in 1999. He received his B.A. from the University of Arizona, and later Masters from the University of Phoenix. Gerardo is a software developer for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. He married his dance student, *Lupita Carrasco*, on June 28, 2003. It's a real "dance" love story. After Lupita's second salsa lesson (*first was January 28, 2001*), they were inseparable. The dynamic dancing duo went on to win more dance contests, became judges, and performed by invitation. Here's a YouTube link of their performance to *La Blusa Azul* at the **2010 AZ Salsa Festival** in Scottsdale: <https://youtu.be/MJQcFM494IU>



In keeping with the title of this article, *the "rhythm method" worked!* Son, Gael was born May 9, 2008, and daughter, Gali was born October 22, 2012. And the dancing continued. They welcomed people from all backgrounds and ages to learn and dance Salsa, as well as other Latin dance styles.

Gerardo used his knowledge of software and the web to create [www.TucsonSalsa.com](http://www.TucsonSalsa.com) (2004). The website was *step one* toward building visibility in the larger community and generating and stimulating "information/event news" traffic. Then he created the *Sunday Salsa Socials* (2005), *step two*, which offered beginning Salsa lessons and open dancing weekly (\$5) at the **ABC (Arizona Ballroom Company/a.k.a. Sonoran Ballroom Company - now closed)**. The Socials have continued the first and second Sunday of the month at *Shall We Dance*. The socials produced many "family" photo opportunities and regularly presented *live music*—a treat for dancers and musicians.



PHOTO: left,  
from 2009 at ABC,  
just one of many  
"family" photos  
taken at the  
Sunday Salsa Socials.





The natural progression, *step three*, was to hold *progressive* classes through *Salsón*, Gerardo's and Lupita's performing company, established in 2002, and umbrella for Tucson master classes with guests from around the country.

### In the Beginning

By now you may find yourself asking, "How did Gerardo acquire his knowledge and skills?" *Ernesto Cardenas*, a Cuban dance expert (originally from San Francisco) and regular at El Parador, approached Gerardo. "Note que marcas bien," he said. ("I noticed you mark well.") And there you have it! Right place, right time. Ernesto invited Gerardo to participate in an upcoming gig opening for the band *Cubanismo* at the *Rialto Theatre* (March 15, 2000). Gerardo learned to Salsa, Rumba and Casino—a Cuban invention using the same triple step as Salsa.

With the departures of Ernesto and Bruce (Montoya / deployed), Gerardo and Lupita found themselves teaching *Rueda de Casino*—*Casino is danced in a circle, similar to Contra dancing with a "caller"*—to the *Ritmos Latinos Club*. With Ernesto's training and some help from the Salsa Lovers Instructional Videos, Gerardo and Lupita created a structured, multi-leveled program that has become one of the largest and most successful Latin dance training programs in Southern Arizona. Club memberships are regularly exceeding 150 (*and it started with 3-4 couples!*). The effective "sales pitch" to UofA students and the community is that what you learned in a circle (*without needing a partner*) would transfer to partner dancing, giving you the confidence and steps you need to be a good "leader/follower" and to be relaxed enough to be "social" and make friends. The program also created a path for students to become Ritmos Latinos instructors. See names below.



Some instructors pictured above.

### Ritmos Latinos Instructors

Mike Araiza | Lupita & Gerardo Armendariz | Dale Bloom | Peter Chipello | Brittany Ciancarelli | Angelee Connors  
 Virna Fratt | Art & Heather Garcia | Yoga Korgaonkar | Tim Malan | Nina Marvcesim | James & Sonia Megis  
 Jessica Nosedá | Mohankumar Ns | Lara Pfaff | Mike Siakotos | Sara Titchenor | Ron White | Matt Georgia Williams



### More Contributors to Tucson's Cultural Scene

"When the Rialto opened in 1995, the main emphasis was to promote the best of American and World music," states Jeb Schoonover, then co-owner with Paul Bear. "While we had promoters bring in some of the biggest names in Pop, Rock, Comedy, R&B, and just about every genre you can imagine," Schoonover continues, "I'm most proud of what we produced in house—some of the most amazing Latin, African and Caribbean bands." Here's a list of the Salsa/Cuban/Latin bands that appeared at the Rialto:

9/30/98 THE AFRO-CUBAN ALLSTARS |  
 12/31/98 ORQUESTRA PAN AMERICANA | 3/25/99 CUBANISMO |  
 10/9/99 THE CARIBBEAN MUSIC FESTIVAL | 3/15/00 CUBANISMO |  
 5/1/00 LOS VAN VAN | 6/9/00 BAMBOLEO  
 3/29/03 ARTURO SANDOVAL | 5/25/03 VALLE SON |  
 10/15/03 VALLE SON | 11/20/03 CESARIA EVORA

Descarga, Salsarengue and other Latin bands can no longer find gigs and have disbanded. El Parador, bankrupt, closed its doors after 40 years (July 2013) and Tucson lost the best venue, complete with tropical plants, for late night dancing. ABC closed its doors and the Sunday Salsa Social went from weekly to twice a month, now at Shall We Dance. Studio West recently discontinued their Wednesday night Salsa class. And the Tucson Jazz Society hasn't produced Some Like It Hot for quite a few years!

While it sounds like doom and gloom, that "positive light" continues to shine (you know who I mean), and some exciting things are happening. Look for *The Rhythm Is Gonna Get YOU - Part II* in the January 2016 *Arizona Dance e-Star* to learn what has been motivating dancers in Tucson these past few years. And I'll introduce you to some of the other "cast of characters" that have been teaching us the moves! The pictures below will give you a clue.

Krystyna Parafinczuk, Editor & Dance-a-holic



Thank you to those I've interviewed and who have made contributions to this story. It needs to be told and I welcome comments and contributions to Part II. Just send me an email:

Krystyna@AzDanceCoalition.org  
 or call  
 520-743-1349.

### Upcoming Latin Dance EVENTS

Go to the **Social Dance Section**, pg 17, for details.



## Arizona Dance Coalition Member Benefits & Perks

The ADC offers *four* types of memberships:

**Individual \$20 ♦ Organization \$50  
Venue/Presenter \$100 ♦ Sponsor \$100 plus**

Membership and dues renew annually and ADC organizes an Annual Member Meeting in January to discuss the state of dance in Arizona featuring guest speakers. See the last page for details on joining. Membership entitles you to ~

- **ADC Membership Directory** ~ inclusion and online access, plus a PDF document with live links
- Posting events on the **ADC website Calendar of Events\*** which are then prominently featured in the *Arizona Dance e-Star\** with a photo & live links
- *Arizona Dance e-Star* monthly e-newsletter received *in advance* of subscribers
- **Member Spotlight opportunity** in the *e-Star*
- **Performance opportunity** in the **ADC Member Showcase** (*when production funds are available*)

- Posting classes on the ADC website **Class Page\***
- Board Member Nominations (December) & Annual Membership Meeting Voting Privileges (January)
- **ADC Lifetime Achievement Award** Nominations (March)
- **Merchant Discounts** and periodic member-to-member discounts
- **Affordable Venue General Liability Insurance** for 1-2 day performances. *We have renewed our policy to continue this benefit for our members because we know the cost of insurance (\$400-\$500) would prohibit most individuals and small companies from producing in a professional theatre. Current fee is \$75/1 day; \$150/2 days.*
- **NEW** ~ Discounted *Arizona Dance e-Star* Advertising Rates. Inquire for details.

\* All postings of events and classes are restricted to 501(c)(3) organizations with the exception of charitable and free events, community festivals, educational conferences and master classes.

### ***"Join the community and feel welcome."***

This is just one quote from many in this wonderful, must-see, video clip. It is the best promo I have ever seen to promote all dance styles. Thank you to Gerardo Armendariz for finding and posting it on facebook. ***It would be great to film something similar in Arizona as well as an "I Charleston" piece to show off our landscape.*** Watch "Why I dance" ... *over and over and over ...* and share it! (*click on the link below*)

### **Why I dance... Pourquoi je danse...**

This video was created to support the goals of Ontario Dances. Ontario Dances is a program of the Ontario Arts Council (OAC). In 2013, the Ontario Arts Council will celebrate 50 years of support to the hundreds of artists and arts organizations across the province. Among these are the dance organizations, dancers and choreographers who produce and create in Ontario. OAC support helps ensure that dance lovers throughout the province have access to their work.

## Holiday Party Treats & Decorating TIPS

by Krystyna Parafinczuk

Feast your eyes! No words or explanations are necessary! You can even ZOOM IN!



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Become an Arizona Dance Coalition Member ~ online (PayPal) or snail mail / click on the icon to download application

**Board Members are needed** with expertise in organization & event planning, marketing/graphics, writing and computer/website maintenance.  
*Help us grow and make a difference.*

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