

SATURDAY WORKSHOPS

10:30 - 11:30am 60 min	Foundations Rangos 1 <i>Doors close after 15 mins</i>	Technique and Styles Rangos 2 <i>Doors close after 15 mins</i>	Make It Sing Rangos 3 <i>Doors close after 15 mins</i>	Seminars Activites Room <i>Doors stay Open</i>
	Comfortably Close <i>Jamica + Julie</i>	Green Eggs and Ham <i>Andi</i>	It's Your Thang <i>Kenneth + Katrina</i>	Forgotten Originals <i>Dan</i>
	<p>There are so many ways to connect in close embrace and Jamica & Julie are here to guide you through those options and learn to both physically and verbally negotiate a comfortable connection. Once this happens, it opens up a world of cozy, creative opportunity!</p>	<p>Would you, could you? This playful exploration of Piedmont music and movement is aimed at finding joy and creativity in a style of blues we don't normally get to hear! Get a taste and maybe you'll love it too?</p>	<p>What does it mean to dance your dance? It's something we say a lot in partner dancing, but without actually understanding what it means, your voice is likely to be drowned out or not heard. We will explore how to hear yourself (or what you're trying to convey) and how to maintain your authentic self once you start to connect with a partner.</p>	<p>Sometimes covers of songs become way more famous than the original, and those originals can be lost to time. Let's (re)discover some of these tracks! For each original recording I'll give a very short background, and then we'll enjoy dancing to the music. That's it. Some history and fun dancing.</p>

11:50am - 1:20pm 90 min	Blues Idiom Play Space <i>Andi</i>	Low Key Movement <i>Katrina + Kenneth</i>	Many Rhythms Across a Partnership <i>Dan + Cynthia</i>	Blues clips show & tell <i>Julie + Jamica</i>
	<p>In this class we'll take the seeds of a blues idiom and work through fun exercises to explore how to grow them into fun and dynamic social dances! No prior blues idiom experience required</p>	<p>Black dance elders consistently stress the importance of not "doing too much". Join us as we exercise and explore ways to have dynamic and comfortable Blues dances without overdoing movements, pulses, or connections, finding comfort in simpler dances.</p>	<p>This class challenges dancers to explore specific shapes and layered rhythms within the body that are drawn from the music. Through isolations, we'll practice holding individual expression while still sharing movement.</p>	<p>Join Jamica and Julie as they share some of their favorite media by contextualizing them and explaining why the video clip or audio is so valuable to the blues tradition.</p>

1:20 - 2:30pm LUNCH BREAK

2:30 - 4:00pm 90 min	Partnered Moves in Conversation <i>Dan + Julie</i>	Texas Shuffle <i>Jamica + Kenneth</i>	Balance, Turns, and Power <i>Andi + Katrina</i>	This is Gospel Blues <i>Cynthia</i>
	<p>Learn some partnered moves, with an emphasis on how we groove and dialogue with our partner throughout.</p>	<p>This classic West Coast Blues dance features plenty of feet shuffling and fun partnership leverage and compression. We'll break down the partnership connections that make this dance enjoyable and explore more rotational moves and turns to employ in your dance.</p>	<p>Sick spins, stability, and drive- in this class we'll use practice exercises and games to help you level up your dance stats!</p>	<p>Once condemned by the church as "the Devil's music," Blues music found redemption by artist who decided to 'take up that cross' and blend the genres. This lecture explores the origins of Gospel Blues: a genre born from creative defiance. Drawing from media and film portrayals, including works like Sinners, we'll explore how their stories continue to resonate, both musically and culturally today. Lecture Focus: Blind Willie Johnson and Sister Rosetta Tharpe.</p>

4:15 - 5:00pm BLUES CLINIC

Rangos 1 - 3

SUNDAY WORKSHOPS

	Foundations Rangos 1 <i>Doors close after 15 mins</i>	Technique and Styles Rangos 2 <i>Doors close after 15 mins</i>	Seminars Activites Room <i>Doors stay Open</i>
10:30 - 11:30am 60 min	Blues in Cinema, vol. 1		
	<i>Kenneth</i> Some of Black cinema's earliest pioneers featured the newest releases in Blues and Jazz music, gave opportunities for Black dancers and dance tropes to shine, all while combatting rampant racist caricatures of Black Americans in Hollywood. We'll discuss the often neglected impact of early Black cinema, how entwined and neglected it has been from Hollywood's origins and what Blues stories have been lost to time as a result.		
11:50am - 1:20pm 90 min	Blues as a Folk Dance	It's Fast, Bring Water!	Environmental Justice and the Blues
	<i>Katrina</i> Explore Blues as a living folk tradition shaped by African and European influences. This class blends short lecture and guided movement to uncover how African rhythm, improvisation, and expression transformed European musical and partner dance forms into something uniquely African American. Students will embody the cultural crossroads that gave rise to Blues — where structure meets groove, and history moves through the body.	<i>Andi + Dan</i> Fast blues can be intimidating, but it doesn't have to be! In this class we'll cover techniques, tips, and creative tricks to get you out on the floor, feet a'flyin' to all that fast blues goodness	<i>Jamica</i> Who comes to mind when you think of environmental stewards and activists? Are you familiar with environmental racism? Have you heard of pleasure activism? Through a history and music listening presentation, Jamica will help attendees understand an increasingly pertinent but routinely ignored social justice issue while simultaneously expanding attendees' understanding and appreciation of blues music.
1:20 - 2:30pm LUNCH BREAK			Social hour & Discussion with Julie This social hour will start with some dedicated time for socializing & social dancing to DJed music, and end with some discussion & activities to help us reflect on how we are and how we'd like to be in social dance spaces together.
2:30 - 4:00pm 90 min	Community Choreo	Ballroomin Stuff	What is Mastery
	<i>Cynthia + Andi</i> How can shared movement build community? In this class, we'll create a short Blues choreography and then play with how having shared dance material can create sparks of connection across the room. Come engage with the rest of the class and fire up those creative juices to make a cool community choreography together	<i>Jamica + Julie</i> In this class, we'll start with the basics of line of dance on the social floor—how it works, how to do it. From that base, we'll explore different structures and moves to add challenge and a sense of play & creativity.	<i>Kenneth + Katrina</i> What is Mastery or Excellence from the black lens/culture?
4:15 - 5:00pm BLUES CLINIC Rangos 1 - 3			

What Do These Categories Even Mean?

Foundations:

Focusing on the core aspects of Blues dance, these classes are for those with a year or less of Blues experience, as well as for more experienced dancers looking to revisit and refine their understanding of essential Blues technique.

Technique & Styles:

These classes are for those with a year or less of Blues experience, as well as for more experienced dancers looking to revisit and refine their understanding of essential Blues technique. These classes are intended for intermediate and advanced dancers with experience in Blues, and focus on building vocabulary and refining skills. This track features classes on the physical aspects of technique and partnership, as well as classes about some of the sub-styles of Blues dance that stem from the diversity of Blues music.

Make It Sing!:

These classes are intended for intermediate and advanced dancers with experience in Blues. These classes are about putting cherries on top of your dance with musicality, play, dynamic partnership, and competition concepts.