

Street Swing Partner Dance

Intro to Street Swing
together and apart, 'round and 'round, and away we go

The Play Circle – Why (Purpose), What (Principles), How (Practice)*
Connecting dance and daily life, swing and the street.

Why Purpose

Engage life as play.

Play is defined as **imaginative interaction**.

Play is an attitude rather than an activity.

Emphasize process over performance.

What Principles

Swing In the midst of life filled with multiple options, discover **connections**.

For dance, **incorporate** different styles.

Street In the midst of life defined by change increasing exponentially, look beyond technical solutions to **adaptive** solutions.

For dance, employ **improvisation**.

Partner In the midst of life characterized by changing roles, recognize **interdependence** and influence the interaction.

For dance, engage in greater **mutuality**.

Dance In the midst of life bombarded with competing messages, tune into the rhythms of life and **interpret** accordingly.

For dance, let the music **guide** you on what to do.

How Practice

Arthur Murray meets Contra Folk in the Google Age.

Arthur Murray – Stride and glide through life centered and collected.

Contra Folk – Embrace natural rhythms of life.

Yin and Yang

Circle of existence

Life as a journey

Google Age – Intuitive

Live your life with imagination and improvisation.

Recapture the spirit of Jazz Dance in the Ragtime Era for the Google Age.

*Adaptation of [Simon Sinek - The Golden Circle - TedTalks 2009 - YouTube](#)

Prose Poetry 5

Famous Dave's

[Famous Dave's Music Events | Live Blues Music | Blues](#)

Butt Rockin' Blues and Famous BBQ! Dave spent 25 years perfecting America's favorite styles of barbeque, like our hickory-smoked BBQ ribs and Georgia chopped pork slathered with our own Rich & Sassy BBQ sauce. And if hundreds of national and regional BBQ awards don't convince you – the great taste will. Our menu also features smokin' BBQ sandwiches, mouthwatering burgers, garden fresh salads and home style desserts all served up in a casual, down-home atmosphere with toe tappin' Blues. Open daily for lunch and dinner, dine-in or grab a load and hit the road with Famous Dave's TO GO. This is the mean barbeque your mama would approve of!



<http://www.famousdavesbluesclub.com/menus.html>

[Images for Famous Dave's Music Events | Live Blues Music | Blues](#)

enthusiastic

She had only danced at weddings before
and looked awfully young.
We danced differently
when the Southside Aces played
then during the instruction, but
she took to it quite easily.
When I asked her if she would like
to dance a second number,
she replied, "Yyyes!"
When I asked her later in the evening
if she would like to dance a second set,
she replied, "Yyyes!"

Southside Aces - About

Southside Aces – Traditional New Orleans Jazz

<http://www.southsideaces.com/>

<http://www.southsideaces.com/music.html>

<https://www.facebook.com/southsideaces/>

<https://www.dakotacooks.com/event/southside-aces/>

Images for Southside Aces

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EEIfNkUKyx0> Southside Aces Promo Video – YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7LEnFZJ0z5Q> Southside Aces with Charlie DeVore Tiger Rag at Famous Daves BBQ and Blues Mardi Gras 2012 - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bsmi3vUPmeM> Back to Back – YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J9VWrKjcbQw> Southside Aces "Careless Love" – YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-Cer-Jgrbcw> Southside Aces "Little Liza Jane" - YouTube

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=902bmLFv1rU> Southside Aces at the Minneapolis Eagles Club – YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6QCaEQFqDf8> Southside Aces "Curzon Hall Boogie" - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DREGNhZVugE> Southside Aces, Rick Carlson, Butch Thompson "Rosetta" - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uaa6xBaFrRQ> Southside Aces! – YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e-cC8GN6CzI> Southside Aces – Santaphone - YouTube

[Images for Southside Aces - youtube](#)

Shannon and Bill Butler

Dance Performance and Instruction

<http://www.shannonandbill.com/>

[Images for Shannon and Bill Butler Dance Performance and Instruction](#)



name?

"Followers, rotate,"

the dance instructor called out.

I shook hands with a young, tall,

black woman and introduced myself,

"Hi, I'm Lowell."

She looked me in the eye and said,

"You're not oold!"

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experience counts

"How long you been dancing?" she asked.

"Since 1993," I replied.

"Me too," she said, "but I was only five then."

The Truth about Well-Rounded Dancers | Dance Advantage

If my child wants to advance or get ahead he/she needs lots of experiences with different dance styles.

Experience and exposure in a variety of dance styles is important for creating versatile dancers and may even be a necessity for aspiring professionals. Being well-rounded in dance is a good thing. Exposure to different dance forms, starting at a young age, is a great thing. So, where's the myth? It lies in the misplaced emphasis on experience and omission of training. Experience and training are two different things, and I'll add a third level... exposure. To get ahead, your dancer needs a healthy balance of all three.

Exposure = Watching a variety of dancers, styles, and performances; Making contact with other students and professionals; Reading about dance or dance artists

Experience = Getting a taste of alternative ways of moving and patterning dance; Learning a dance; Participating in a performance; Working with master teachers or choreographers;

Training = Engaging in a course of study that prepares a dancer for the physical, cognitive, and mental requirements of codified dance forms/techniques; specialized practice and instruction over a period of time

<http://www.danceadvantage.net/well-rounded-myth/>

[Images for The Truth about Well-Rounded Dancers | Dance Advantage](#)



compliment

She didn't wait for men to ask her.

She asked the men, so

I had to wait my turn to ask her.

I shared with her my understanding

that during the Jazz Age

dancers danced a one step

and made up their own moves.

Pretty soon she was laughing

in addition to dancing

as the Southside Aces

played traditional New Orleans

dance hall jazz music.

At the end, she said,

"You're a playful lead."



unforgiving

“What was that black stuff on the bottom of my dance shoes?” I wondered as I scraped off whatever it was the next day after getting home from dancing at Famous Dave’s. My first thought was that maybe some adhesive was still left on the floor after scraping up the tiles, as I could see square patterns on the concrete floor. The next time I went there I mentioned it and was told it could be barbecue sauce. Regardless, the ankles and knees feel sore after dancing there, and I try to remember to glide rather than bounce on the hard surface.

What is the best dance floor available? - Yahoo Answers

I guess it depends on the kind of dancing you want to do. Almost everybody will agree that a **hardwood floor** is best for most kinds of dance. I do not like to dance on either a **concrete floor** or a floor that is tile over concrete. I pay the price in leg and knee pain for days afterwards.

<http://answers.yahoo.com/question/index?qid=20070424203707AAWFQVb>
[Images for What is the best dance floor available?](#)

mother and daughter

During the rotation of dancers in the lesson before the dance, one woman excitedly stated, “My daughter danced with you and had a blast!” I replied, “I remember her. Oh, to be young and frisky!”

The Bad Companions - Home | Facebook

The Bad Companions – rockabilly, ‘50s and swing

<https://www.facebook.com/The-Bad-Companions-290538937645193/>

[Images for The Bad Companions Kyle Tennis music – rockabilly, ‘50s and swing](#)

<http://www.prx.org/pieces/90230-centerstage-minnesota-with-charlie-pulkrabek-year>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=USsOQRnAiKk> The Bad Companions – YouTube. Dancing to The Bad Companions band at Lee’s 9-24-2014.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VZLWQUaChlw> The Bad Companions - Drink Drank Drunk! @ Lee’s Liquor Lounge 10-7-2015 – YouTube

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tale of two

She came with her man to eat, take a lesson, and maybe dance a few numbers. During the lesson, when she came to me, she asked, “Have you danced long?” to which I answered, “20+ years.” She said, “2 weeks for me.”

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fire hydrant

He lifted his left leg to the side, while she mirrored him with her right leg. Then he lifted his right leg to the side, while she mirrored him with her left leg.

Why do dogs lift their legs on fire hydrants, trees, posts, tufts of grass, and all manner of upright objects?

First, let's review the traditional/behavioral interpretation of leg-lifting. Elizabeth Marshall Thomas in *The Hidden Life of Dogs* noticed that the higher a stain appears on a post or wall, the next dog along would go to great lengths to hike its spray just a bit higher, the contortions being especially impressive if it was a small dog. She interprets this as a dog's attempt not only to cover the preexisting mark with its own but to produce one somewhat higher in order to make itself appear larger than it really is and intimidate dogs that come along later. Supposedly this indicates that dogs can think ahead and that they're thinking about territorial and social status. In this interpretation, dogs hose upright objects because they serve as prominent venues for display.

<http://naturaldogtraining.com/why-dogs-do-what-they-do/why-dogs-lift-their-legs-on-fire-hydrants-trees-posts-tufts-of-grass-and-all-manner-of-upright-objects/>

[Images for Why do dogs lift their legs?](#)

inflation

A guy used to be able to get into a lesson and a Cajun dance at the Half-Time Rec for six bucks, but when I went to the Eagles, the sign read \$15 for a lesson and dance, so that I turned around and went to Famous Dave's where I ordered a Sprite and laid down a \$5 bill, which the bartender waved off.

back to the cold

The last time I danced with her at Lee's she told me of a dance cruise. This time at Famous Dave's she told me about her time in Mexico with two others. I asked her and the other two when I danced with them, "How was it?" to which they all responded, "Warmer than here!"

10 Best Vacation Spots in Mexico | Touropia

Gorgeous beaches, one of the world's largest barrier reef, festive culture and ancient Mayan history all make Mexico a popular tourist destination. Mexico is a land of color and contrasts. Crowded beaches lead into quiet colonial towns while resort cities open gateways to jungles ringing with parrots and howler monkeys. Majestic mountains descend to remote

deserts. Traditional pueblo houses sit near Spanish haciendas. Ruins of Mayan cities lie excavated outside of modern metropolises. An overview of the best vacation spots in Mexico:

<http://www.touropia.com/vacation-spots-in-mexico/>
[Images for Best Vacation Spots in Mexico](#)

whoa!!

Normally, I danced a leisurely two-step with her, but when the band picked up the pace, I couldn't help myself and broke into a one step traveling dance, whereupon she let me know that was not our practice.

all that jazz

She requested String of Pearls, but it was not on the band's playlist. I remarked, "You know your jazz!" She replied, "I play in a college jazz band." I asked, "What instrument?" She answered, "Saxophone." I offered, "I can tell how improv dancing comes naturally for you." She smiled.



it's the music

Thinking back on an evening of dancing to The Bad Companions, I know there is no way I could have done some of those moves without the music.

change of opinion

She admitted that, when she first danced with me, she asked herself, "Who is this weird man?" Later that night, she told about her daughter whom she called a "renaissance woman who can do anything," whereas, she characterized herself as being "linear sequential."

22 Things Good Dancers Do Differently / Dance World Takeover

Dancers get good by doing lots of things differently. Read on to find out 22 uncommon actions they take and why you should too.

12. **Develop a unique voice and perspective on dance.** You'll need to figure out what this means to you. I can only promise that this is usually a difficult process. But hey, you're looking for hard things to work on and making your own discoveries now, right?

<http://rebeccabrightly.com/good-dancers-differently/>
[Images for develop a unique voice and perspective on dance](#)

[PDF]Are You a Global or Linear / Sequential Thinker? - Hawkes Learning

Directions: The left-hand column contains a number of statements that may or may not describe you. As you read each statement, decide if the statement Almost Never, Sometimes, or Almost Always describes you.

http://www.hawkeslearning.com/Instructors/Resources/Product/ENG/Global-Sequential_Learning_Style_Activity.pdf
[Images for Are You a Global or Linear / Sequential Thinker?](#)

second set

She and her friend usually left after the first set, so I was accustomed to having ask early in order to get a dance with her, but this time, when they stayed for the second set, I remarked about her staying later, to which she responded, "We really like this band."

what are we doing?

"This is salsa," she said. I remember asking her before if she danced salsa, to which she responded that she did, so I danced improv with Latin movement. She smiled as we danced, so it must have been close enough.

[Amazing Latin Dance! - YouTube](#)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F5zCGgZMaWQ>
[Images for Amazing Latin Dance! - YouTube](#)



ballerina

She related that she had just moved to the Twin Cities from upstate New York and was finding her way around. She looked like she must have just graduated from college. When I complimented her on her gracefulness, she replied that she had taken ballet since the age of three. When she left after the first set with her women friends, I said, "You're a lovely dancer. Keep it up."

[Home • Twin Cities Hot Club - Jazz Band - Minneapolis, Minnesota](#)

The Twin Cities Hot Club represents Minnesota in the burgeoning revival of gypsy jazz originally popularized by Django Reinhardt and Stephane Grappelli.

<http://twincitieshotclub.com/home>

<https://www.facebook.com/TwinCitiesHotClub/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-jUt8lIcrE> Twin Cities Hot Club performing My Blue Heaven at Famous Dave's BBQ and Blues Clue - YouTube

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vn-xE2xmZ24> Twin Cities Hot Club – I Can't Give You Anything But Love - YouTube

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VJZl6d-Ohkk> Twin Cities Hot Club – Sweet Georgia Brown - YouTube

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=35hsgG4vzec> Twin Cities Hot Club with guest Maud Hixson – Chez Moi - YouTube

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Biej90VYHI> Twin Cities Hot Club live performance on NBC Dare11 – YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gQXOjUceznU> Parisota Hot Club "Swing 42" - YouTube

[Images for Twin Cities Hot Club - YouTube](#)

<https://www.bellrobert.com/video/twin-cities-hot-club-mwlf-inv-jandi/>

<http://www.jazz88.fm/2019/03/26/live-from-studio-1-twin-cities-hot-club/>

<http://www.redstagsupperclub.com/events/twin-cities-hot-club/>

gypsy music

The women and most of the men left after the first set, but I danced alone on the floor to the gypsy music and imagined myself dancing with a gypsy woman.

Russ Tamblyn Yvette Mimieux Gypsy Dance - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ta676ZW5v0g>

[Images for Russ Tamblyn Yvette Mimieux Gypsy Dance](#)



picking up where we left off

She gave me that look like
she remembered me from before and
danced as if we had just danced together.

san francisco

She came to the lesson
at the invitation of a colleague.
She'd moved here from
the West Coast and
decided to give dance a try.
When she danced with me,
as the band played,
she stated, "It feels
like I've forgotten
everything I learned."
I assured her that
it wasn't her, but that
I don't dance the way
it was taught in the lesson.

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do you want to dance?

Men outnumbered women that night, and
a half dozen women
didn't feel like dancing when asked.
By the time the third set rolled around

I gave up asking and
danced freestyle solo
to New Orleans jazz music
by the Southside Aces.
After all, I'd driven two hours to get there
and it would be two hours back, so
I didn't want to just sit there.
On the last number, a young woman
blond hair and blue eyes
eating ribs with her friends,
came out and asked,
"Would you like someone to dance with?"
Without saying a word,
I offered my hand, and away we went.
She explained, "I don't know what I'm doing,"
and turned whenever she wanted, but
I appreciated her offer and the effort.



the girl doesn't want to dance (with a man)

She came with another young woman, but
sat with her coat on and texted on her phone.
The other woman agreed to dance two numbers,
but later on, when I came by to ask her to dance,
both of them got up to dance together.



sally and harry

She introduced herself in the lesson, "Hi, I'm Sally."
I asked, "Have you met Harry?"
She replied, "Harry lives just down the street from me."

[When Harry Met Sally - Restaurant Scene - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PdJm3DVg3EM)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PdJm3DVg3EM>
[Images for When Harry Met Sally - Restaurant Scene - YouTube](#)



voice teacher

He asked, "What was that dance?"
I replied, "Improv." He insisted,
"Does the dance have a name?"
Then I knew he wanted to know more, so
I told him about dance as play,
forward and back, circle, and travel.
I added that I had the best luck
with women new to dance.
He added, "I teach voice, and
it's the same thing, as many
who've had lots of lessons are less
open to trying something new."

improv quote

When I sit down to write a song, it's kind of improvisation, but I formalize it a bit to get it into the studio, and when I step up to a microphone, I have a vague idea of what I'm about to do.

Paul McCartney



Improvisation Quotes - BrainyQuote

<http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/keywords/improvisation.html>

[Images for When I sit down to write a song, it's kind of improvisation.](#)

second opinion

She asked me during the lesson
how that step went again, but
evidently not satisfied with the answer
she raised her hand to ask
the dance instructor.

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[Images for Shannon and Bill Butler Dance Performance and Instruction](#)

Get a Second Opinion

first time for everything

At the end of the two numbers,
she laughed and said,
"I'll remember this dance 'cause
I've never been complimented
by being asked if I lift weights
and by being told I have torque."



laughter quote

I love people who make me laugh. I honestly think it's the thing I like most, to laugh. It cures a multitude of ills. It's probably the most important thing in a person.

Audrey Hepburn



Quotes about Laughter (348 quotes) - Goodreads

<http://www.goodreads.com/quotes/tag/laughter>

[Images for I love people who make me laugh.](#)

adaptive

She matched me move for move and sang the song along with the singer.

When I asked her how she knew the song so well, she replied that she heard it for the first time.

She explained that she picked music and dance up quickly. Then, she related how she started a new job working with the hearing impaired the next day. I told her she'd do well and wished her the best.

Working With Deaf People - Careers for Hearing People in Deafness

Are you hearing, and have you been dreaming of a career working with deaf people? There are plenty of careers to choose from that will keep you involved with the deaf community.

<http://deafness.about.com/cs/jobfeatures/a/careersdeafness.htm>

[Images for Working With Deaf People](#)

adaptive leadership framework | The Innovative Instructor

Case-in-point supports learning over teaching, struggle over prescription, questions over answers, tension over comfort, and capacities and needs over deficiencies. It is about embracing the willingness to be exposed and vulnerable, cultivating persistence in the face of inertial pushbacks, and self-regulating in the face of challenge or open hostility. Why? Because this is what leadership work looks like in the real world. In the process, students and the facilitator learn to recognize their default responses, identify productive and unproductive patterns of behavior, and test their stamina, resilience, and readiness to change the system with others.

<http://ii.library.jhu.edu/tag/adaptive-leadership-framework/>

[Images for adaptive leadership framework | The Innovative Instructor](#)

change of life

She used to live on a hobby farm with horses, donkeys, chickens, ducks, and other animals but, as her voice trailed off, she said, "Then it all fell apart."



late

She wrote that
she'd be willing
to exercise more,
take lessons, and
drive to venues
closer to me, but when
I drove 120 miles and
arrived 20 minutes early
at our first meet-up, while
she drove 10 miles and
showed up 20 minutes late,
I began to doubt
her ability to deliver.

Davina and The Vagabonds

Davina and the Vagabonds – New Orleans jazz and blues

<http://davinaandthevagabonds.com/>

[Images for Davina and The Vagabonds](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC56s8eFiby-4HnRm3HUIYQ> Davina and the Vagabonds - Topic - YouTube

[Images for Davina and the Vagabonds - Topic - YouTube](#)



noodle arms

She told me
she lifted weights, but
it didn't seem to show as -
even after repeated requests
to provide some resistance -
trying to lead still felt like
shooting pool with a rope.

halitosis

Her breath spelled like
regurgitated refried beans, so
I turned my head to one side.
Evidently, she took offense and
insisted, "Look at me!"

social worker

She seemed pleasantly deferential when
I first danced with her and in her
subsequent electronic messages, but
the second night she said,
“We are going to dance again, right,”
“You are too serious,”
“Say thank you,” and
“Give me a hug.”
I responded,
“I’m not accustomed
to receiving
so many directives,”
to which she said,
“Sorry,” and left.

stout woman

She looked like an oak tree and
danced like a lumberjack.



no more music

No more eating,
no more dancing.

[Famous Dave's in Uptown Minneapolis pumps brakes on live music | City Pages](#)

Tuesday, March 26, 2019 by [Keith Harris](#) in [Music](#)

Live music—specifically live blues music—has always been an important element of the restaurant’s image. But the website’s “Music and Events” page lists no upcoming performances, just the simple message **“THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES.”** And [a March 6 tweet](#) (which leads to a dead Facebook post) announced “the last weekend for live music” at Famous Dave’s.

So what gives? Well, [Calhoun Square is up for sale](#), that’s what gives. And with the future of the prominent, spiky, [Prince-approved](#) Lake & Hennepin shopping center uncertain, Famous Dave’s is looking into its options. For the moment at least, that means no blues.

<http://www.citypages.com/music/a-blues-less-famous-daves-calhoun-square-bbq-spot-puts-live-music-on-hold/507668111>
[Images for Famous Dave's in Uptown Minneapolis pumps brakes on live music](#)



[Famous Dave's in Uptown Minneapolis: The longtime BBQ restaurant just closed | City Pages](#)

Friday, July 12, 2019 by [Jay Boller](#) in [Food & Drink](#)

In March, the Famous Dave's location in Uptown's Calhoun Square [scrapped live music](#). Last month, the Minneapolis barbecue restaurant [dramatically slashed its seating](#), opting instead to focus on counter service and delivery. On Monday, it shut down permanently.

<http://www.citypages.com/restaurants/famous-daves-in-uptown-just-closed/512628341>
[Images for Famous Dave's in Uptown Minneapolis closed](#)

Thanks for the memories