

Tango Mercurio Annual Report 2010



Photo by Isaac Oboka

www.tangomercurio.org

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Sharna Fabiano

Director of Elders Outreach

Noora Aberman

Director of Youth Outreach

Dima Berk

Director, Community Tango Orchestra

Brett Lemley

Rehearsal Coordinator, Community Tango Orchestra

Tom Kenney

Interns

Mary McKee

Stephanie Taylor

Adult Education

Combing our drop-in classes at the 18th Street Lounge and our ongoing 6-week introductory courses, we've introduced approximately 600 new students to the DC tango community. Our additional five adult classes per week serve 100 existing tango dancers from the local tango community.

We hosted several guest artists to enhance the education of our student base and the resources of the local community. Korey Ireland from Kansas City taught during October and November and Javier Rochwarger from Buenos Aires taught during the month of February. Daniel Trenner and Karen Studd led for our first ever Teacher Training in June, an event attended by 16 advanced students and professional instructors.

Youth & Elders Outreach

After a successful pilot in the fall of 2009, we promoted Noora Aberman to Elders Outreach Director. Under her supervision, we ran a 20-week program of classes at Vida Senior Center and a 10-week program of classes at Iona Senior Center during the Spring and Summer of 2010. Approximately 40 seniors benefited. Three instructors, one intern, and two volunteer assistants were involved. We created a video documentary of this program for our website, and conducted pre- and post-surveys designed by Lok Wong, volunteer evaluation consultant. This program was supported by the DC Commission for the Arts & Humanities and individual contributions.

During the Summer of 2010, we promoted Dima Berk to Youth Outreach Director. Under his supervision, we ran a 6-week summer camp for at-risk teenagers. In collaboration with the DC Department of Parks & Recreation, we taught five groups of students aged 14-18 twice a week at five separate community centers. Approximately 100 students benefited. Four instructors, one intern, and six volunteer assistants were involved. We created a video documentary of this project for our website, and conducted pre- and post-surveys designed by Jamaal Matthews, volunteer evaluation consultant. This program was supported by the Children's & Youth Investment Trust Corporation and individual contributions.

DC Community Tango Orchestra

During a Fall 2009 residency, we hired visiting guest artist Korey Ireland to bring amateur and professional musicians together to play arrangements for social tango dancing. The Community Tango Orchestra was established as a new project of Tango Mercurio and played for the first time at the Josephine Butler Center in February 2010.

In response to enthusiastic requests from local tango dancers and organizers, the group played again in the Spring of 2010 at the 18th St. Lounge Milonga, Colvin Run Schoolhouse, Glen Echo Ballroom, and Terrapin Tango Festival. Mercurio also made five original tango arrangements available to the public via our website to support similar groups forming in other communities, and hired Brett Lemley to continue directing rehearsals after Korey's residency ended. This project was supported by the DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities, individual contributions, and in-kind contributions.

Below: DC Community Tango Orchestra. Photo by Isaac Oboka.



Sharna Fabiano Tango Company

This year Sharna Fabiano Tango Company produced two new original works: The 50-minute interdisciplinary play “Abrazo,” a narrative blending tango, contemporary dance, an original script, and acting; and a tango duet for two women utilizing contact improvisation called “Points of Contact.”

Work was shown in progress in September 2009 at Glen Echo Ballroom and February 2010 at the Josephine Butler Center. Our Summer 2010 premiere was presented by Dance Place for two sold-out audiences. The show was featured as top pick in both the *Washingtonian* and *Washington Post Magazine*. The creation and production of “Abrazo” and “Points of Contact” were supported by a grant from the DC Commission for the Arts & Humanities, Dance Place, Project Tango (San Francisco), individual contributions, and in-kind contributions.

Right: Melissa Greco Liu. Photo by Isaac Oboka



Online Resources

We expanded our online resource center with six new articles on the social art of tango on subjects such as what beginners need to know upon entering the social milieu of the milonga, and how the study of tango may be enhanced through the disciplines of yoga, Feldenkrais, and pilates.

Statement of Financial Position

Program Year: July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

Google \$408.00

Operating \$18,866.95

Petty Cash \$242.00

Savings \$8,002.07

Total Checking & Savings \$8,002.07

Total Current Assets \$8,002.07

TOTAL ASSETS **\$27,519.02**

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Equity

Unrestricted \$6,719.71

Net Income \$20,799.31

Total Equity **\$27,519.02**

TOTAL LIABILITY & EQUITY **\$27,519.02**

Mercurio Supporter List

Program Year: July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010

Public Donors

Children's and Youth Investment
Trust Corporation
DC Commission on the Arts and
Humanities
Project Tango (San Francisco)

Individual Donors (\$100+)

Doreen Fabiano
Bob Lamb
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