

Homespun Community Dancing

Now Booking Memorable NYS Quadricentennial Events

■ Celebrate 400 Years of Dutch and French Dancing and Music

Multiculturalism

Celebrate the multiculturalism of the Hudson Valley and Lake Champlain regions.

In 2009, Homespun Community Dancing will be teaching dances from France and the Netherlands—as well as some Native American—to mark the 400th anniversary celebration of the significant voyages of European exploration and discovery made by Henry Hudson and Samuel de Champlain. They initiated some of the earliest contacts between Native Americans and Europeans.

French Dancing

Square dancing originated in France! When settlers from France came to the new world, they brought their quadrilles (square dance formation), their fiddles and their dances. The cultural heritage of Francophone America is brought to life—accompanied by the energetic Quebecois fiddling of George Wilson and the pulsating rhythmic piano and guitar of Peter Davis, Paul Rosenberg leads students through a series of dynamic dances as he points out the origin of such phrases as “do-si-do” (originally, *dos à dos*, back-to-back).

Dutch Dancing

Dutch dancing is much more than wooden shoes, although a frequent feature is stamping the feet, and hand clapping! There are many enjoyable and lively dances from the Netherlands that are very similar to the hoedown dances that were popular in this country for generations. Instrumentation for these Dutch dances includes fiddle, guitar, tin whistle and mandolin.

Dances of French and Dutch origin are in square, circle, and contra line formations. The Native American dances are done in lines and circles.

“Rhythmic movement, music, history, social skills and an opportunity to provide a FUNction for the whole family were just some of the benefits...”

*Blair McFarlane, Physical Educator
Caroline Street Elementary School,
Saratoga Springs, NY*

Community dancing fosters respect for cultural diversity and values, and teaches participants to treat all people and cultures with dignity and respect.

Student programs encompass history, geography, language, physical education and, of course, music!



Principal Dance/Music Educators
Paul Rosenberg • George Wilson • Peter Davis

Family Dances

Evening or daytime dances for the entire community

Arts In Education Programs

Daytime residencies/workshops (can be followed by an evening Family Dance)

Call Paul Rosenberg to plan your school's or community's Quadricentennial program.