

*Fundamentals Class  
and Practica Information*

*Tuesdays in Denver:  
The Denver Turnverein  
1570 Clarkson*

*Class: 6:30-7:30 pm / Practica: 7pm  
Dancing ends at 10:30 pm*

*Thursdays in Boulder:  
The Pearl Street Studio  
2126 Pearl*

*Class: 7:00-8:00 pm / Practica: 8pm  
Dancing ends at 10:30 pm*

*Cost: Denver & Boulder*

*Class AND Practica:*

*\$8 Members / \$10 Nonmembers*

*Take 4 Classes and SAVE!*

*Buy a package of 4 or more classes:  
Good in Denver or Boulder!*

*Members: \$6 each /  
Non-members: \$8 each*

*Practica only: \$5 members /  
\$8 nonmembers*

*Argentine Tango  
in Denver & Colorado*

There are dances (called milongas) and practice sessions (called practicas) in Denver, Boulder, Ft. Collins, Colorado Springs, Grand Junction, Greeley, and Aspen. Tango Colorado, a non-profit organization, is one of the oldest Tango groups in the country as well as one of the five largest and most active. This is not the "ballroom" dance that you see in dance competitions or that is taught by most commercial dance studios; rather this is the authentic Tango from Argentina, which is rarely seen competitively as it is generally danced socially. Argentine Tango is danced with extreme connection and focus on your partner. We think it is an amazing dance, and once you are hooked, it is like no other dance in the world.



*For More Information,  
a Comprehensive Calendar of  
Tango Events, or to Join Tango  
Colorado, please visit*

*Tangocolorado.org*

*Or*

*Contact board@tangocolorado.org*



**TANGO**



**GETTING  
STARTED**

*in Argentine Tango  
and Tango Colorado*



## Tango Colorado's Teachers

You can find a list of our Tango instructors on the Tango Colorado website. There are many other fine teachers in our community who do not appear on the site, but the ones who are pictured are the ones who have chosen to teach the Tango Colorado Fundamentals classes and have met the criteria to do so. Teachers generally teach for a full month at a time and are rotated each month (in both Denver and Boulder.) As each instructor has his or her own technique, style, and teaching philosophy, this allows consistency to the student and his or her skill progression. If you like a particular teacher's style, we encourage you to discuss with them the additional group and private lessons he or she offers.



## No Partners Required!

Partners are not necessary for the Tango Colorado Fundamentals Classes, practicas or milongas. If a particular teacher sponsors a workshop or class that requires a partner, they will specify it in their notice. We cannot guarantee there will be gender balance at any of these events, but in classes most instructors ask that partners rotate after every few songs so that all dancers participate. If you do come to class with a partner, you are still generally encouraged to rotate, but will not be forced to do so.

## Tango Music & Connection

Tango is all about two very important concepts: Connection and Musicality. Connection in close embrace is the physical contact between two small surfaces where there is

## Tango Music & Connection, cont.

an exchange of energy and feelings. A "circle of energy" is created when the leader takes energy from the floor, transmits it to the follower within the area of contact, and the follower, in response, sends the energy back to the floor. Feelings are also transmitted through this area, usually through the warmth of both chests, body language and vibrations.

Musicality is the essence of Tango. Tango music is quite different from other popular music. It is said that it has "texture", meaning each instrument and voice has its own text or melody. Tango uses rhythmic beats and syncopated beats. Dancers then translate the "beats" in a way that the partners place their feet on the floor at slightly different times creating a "suspension" of movement unique in Tango. Once you begin to really "hear" the various melodies of Tango music, you will magically discover that it opens up doors to creative, exciting, satisfying, intimate, peaceful, passionate, spontaneous and "addictive" experiences that only Argentine Tango can provide.



## Clothes & Shoes

We are often asked, "What do I wear to class? How about shoes? Are the dances dressy?" Below are some recommendations that will hopefully help answer those questions.

Clothing: The attire for classes and the practicas (practices) is generally casual. Jeans are acceptable, but you will see a variety of "dressiness" at the practicas. The most impor-

## Clothes & Shoes, cont...

tant thing is that you are comfortable. Layering is always a good idea because even when it's cold outside, you can become quite warm after dancing for a while.

Attire for milongas (the social dances) is generally more dressy and sometimes even elegant. How dressy you want to get depends on the milonga AND your mood. Women: If you feel like getting really "decked out", do; if you are feeling a little more casual, wear a nice skirt/pants and top. Strapless dresses can work, but you will probably feel more comfortable with something attached to your shoulders). Tight skirts do not allow the leg extension necessary in Tango.

Shoes: Until you're "hooked" on Tango and feel that intense need to buy multiple pairs of Tango shoes, all you need are shoes that have a soft or leather sole that will pivot easily on the floor. Rubber soled shoes do not work.

Women's shoes: A heel of one inch to four inches is fine, whatever you feel most comfortable in. Make sure they attach to your foot (i.e., open backed shoes, sandals, clogs, etc. don't work for Tango). Platform shoes do not work well for Tango either and your feet will hurt if you try to wear them dancing. If you know you're committed and want to spend the money, you can find dance shoes at any dance store, including practice shoes and dance sneakers.

Tango shoes are also available through a variety of online outlets, for both men and women, but before you spend the money, try out a few pair of leather/soft soled shoes, and experiment with heel height (and heel width, for women.)

