

Press Release:

Bachata Dance Class at Contemporary Art Center

The Contemporary Art Center (CAC) offers a partner dance class in Bachata, a dance style that originated in Dominican Republic. It is danced around the world as well as at Contemporary Art Center's monthly dance, *Salsa at CAC*. The basic 8-count dance sequence is performed within a square format, consisting of three steps and then a tap or various forms of step syncopations. Danced to specific Bachata music, it features side stepping accompanied by an exaggerated "pop" of the hips. The form continues to evolve, influenced by various Latin and ballroom dance moves. After the lesson, students are invited to remain to practice what they learned in class. Bachata is a featured dance form at *Salsa at CAC*, Contemporary Art Center's monthly dance, and another opportunity to improve your Bachata skills.

Beginners Bachata

Tuesdays, March 18-April 15, 6:30-7:30

Instructor: Spanky Fernando

Non-Member: \$45, CAC Member: \$40

(price is per person for 5 lessons)

Registration deadline: March 11

Students may register for the class at www.peoriacac.org/upcoming-classes

For more information about each class, call 309-674-6822, email to cac@peoriacac.org

Since Bachata is a partner dance, registering with a partner is strongly suggested. This is an introduction to Bachata dancing for complete beginners. No prior dance experience is expected or required. The classes are held on the 2nd floor of the facility in the Preston Jackson Gallery. Press 2R in the elevator upon arrival.

We recommend wearing clothing that is light and cool. Since you will be spinning, wear something tighter fitting, especially around the torso and waist area. Wear simple flat shoes with smooth bottoms. Plan to practice at *Salsa at CAC* every third Friday of the month.



About Spanky Fernando: Spanky Fernando is a Peoria native and chief curator of Whiskey City Entertainment. He learned to dance salsa, bachata, and Chicago Steppin' in Nashville and hosted *Blackchata Thursdays*. He won the Music City Top Performers and performed at the Rumba Room in Memphis. Since returning to Peoria, Senior Fernando has taught bachata at the following Peoria locations: Contemporary Art Center's *Salsa at CAC*, the Mackinaw Valley Winery, Carver Community Center and Cafe Rosa Santa Rosa.

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