

Thank You 2021 CPDSA New and Renewing Members

The CPDSA thanks these current 2021 members whose generosity allows us to keep rolling.

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|--|---|---|--|---|
| Anthony Donoghue
Suzanne Maxx
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L L and Kay Gifts
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Dalys "Panama"
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Carla McKenney
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LEEDS Coaching
Joanna Verzosa
Jennifer Stevenson
Mark Roberts |
|--|---|---|--|---|



Sara



Tracey, Edna and Yvette

All Photos this page: © 2021 by Bob Dea

SUPPORT US

Your generous contribution will go to pay for permits, sound equipment, storage, and other essential operating costs necessary to keep the CPDSA Skate Circle rolling.

Secure your payments via PayPal by scanning the QR code. If you do not have a PayPal account, PayPal will let you use a debit or credit card. If you have a PayPal account, you will need your PayPal login info to complete your payment.



DJ SCHEDULE

INDEPENDENCE DAY WEEKEND
Red White & Blue Skate Party

- 07/03 SATURDAY**
—>DJ Stargazer
- 07/04 SUNDAY**
—>DJ Jay Stewart
- 07/10 SATURDAY**
NO SKATING
—>NYC Triathlon
- 07/11 SUNDAY**
NO SKATING
—>NYC Triathlon
- 07/17 SATURDAY**
—>Skating Day
- 07/18 SUNDAY**
NO SKATING
- 07/24 SATURDAY**
—> DJ Stormin Norman
- 07/25 SUNDAY**
—> DJ Shan S
- 07/31 SATURDAY**
—>DJ KL
- 08/01 SUNDAY**
—>DJ Misbehaviour

THE CENTRAL PARK SKATE CIRCLE

takes place most Saturdays, Sundays and major holidays in 2021 from April 10th through October 31st. The music plays from 2:45 pm to 6:45 pm, weather permitting.

OFFICIAL CPDSA CONTACTS

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On the Web www.CPDSA.org
E-mail info@cpdsa.org

CPDSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bob Nichols — President
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Bob Dea: Photography
Val Brochard: Editing, Production, and Web

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

- <https://www.facebook.com/CentParkDanceSk8>
- CPDSA Fan Group

PLEASE DONATE

Scan this QR Code to donate and help the Skate Circle live on! Thank you!



CORRECTION FROM PREVIOUS ISSUE
In June 2021, Vol. 26, Issue 1, the caption under the first photo from top left was misspelt. In this Issue, the caption is correct and reads "Fiordaliza."

Happy Birthday CPDSA!

We celebrate the 4th of July as our birthday because in 1995, it was the first day we were allowed to skate under Mayor Guiliani's revisions to the city's rules that a gathering of more than 15 people required a special events permit and if music was being played, an amplified sound permit from the police was mandated. It was a system designed to get rid of us. We resisted. Twenty-five years later and we are still here. Guiliani has his own problems now. Karma?

The CPDSA is a large blended family. Many of our original skaters have scattered to the winds; some — too many — are perhaps a part of the wind, now. Our roots go deep into the heart of Central Park.

The Skate Circle began with a symbolic action, painting two concentric circles on the pavement. A ten foot diameter circle at the center and a larger Circle almost filling the 50-foot wide roadway around the smaller Circle. It was a strong beginning, a stroke for freedom. It staked out a territory and provided a unifying symbol for the skaters to rally around.

The names of the painters are legends now, Wayne, Scott, Blond Eric and others who watched and helped. At the end of September, Corrine Dayton (who was there) is leading a memorial at the Old Circle for Scott — better known as Slo Mo — a great skater and one

of the originals who helped form the Central Park Skate Circle.

For those of you who do not know us, the Central Park Dance Skaters Association is a registered 501-c-3 non-profit group that provides a free safe roller skate event in Central Park on weekends, April through October. We provide music and a secure perimeter for the safety of our skaters. We have rink style skating around our central area where there is a DJ sound booth and benches for changing into and out of our skates and a secure baggage area for our shoes and bags. Our friendly skaters also provide informal skating advice and encouragement to all skaters who join us.

Last year a pandemic wreaked havoc on our lives. New Yorkers were once again at ground zero. We mourn our losses, of friends, family and lost skating days, but we resolved to never give up and now we are back again, skating and following our joy into a new season in the Park.

We do this because we love roller skating, and especially skating out in the open air in our beautiful park. We are financed by small donations and memberships; most between \$25 and \$50 a year. We are all volunteers. Our costs are mostly due to city permits and requirements, sound equipment replacement, maintenance and storage. You can contribute on our website: CPDSA.org



Skate Family—Purple Rain Party (June 6, 2021 in Celebration of Prince's Birthday)

Photo: © 2021 by Bob Dea



New Skater



Steve and Gail



New Skater

SKATERS, DO YOU HAVE SKILLS THAT COULD HELP THE SKATE CIRCLE?

...Or just someone genuinely willing to be a part of the group that keeps the skate circle rolling? Would you like to contribute stories or photos for consideration in our next newsletter?

Please contact: info@cpdsa.org



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Next Generation Skater



New Skater



New Skater

The View from Skaters Road

by Bob Nichols, President, CPDSA

In the late 1970s roller skating experienced a renaissance. Central Park was the nucleus in New York. There were people who liked the skaters, others who didn't. Most people didn't really care one way or another. We were just another group in the park, doing our own thing. Our thing was skating to music out in the park.

In 1994, Mayor Dinkins' administration reached out to us to meet with the Parks Department. We met at a Parks Department facility on the East side. We were a diverse group of self appointed representatives. They wanted us to act as liaison to the skaters, to let them know when there was going to be a large sponsored event in the area where we usually skated. They wanted to be sure that there was no opposition or resistance from the skaters or the other denizens of the Dead Road. In return we were given a special events permit for the summer and a place to store our sound equipment and charge our boat battery. That worked out very well until Mayor Guiliani was elected.

In April 1995, fourteen Police and Parks Enforcement vehicles converged on the Skate Circle, confiscated a small boom box and told the skaters that they could not play music. The police continued to enforce this ban for three months. In desperation, we asked a skater who was an electronics whiz, to put together a small FM transmitter. We used FM Walkmen to listen to the music played on a small portable cassette player. The DJ on the first day of our "Radio Free Central Park" broadcast was Jay Stewart.

The FM transmitter allowed us all to listen to the same music and dance together. We kept coming back each week. When they realized that we were not going away, we were finally able to reach an agreement with the Parks Department. They allowed us to get all the requisite permits to start playing Amplified Music. That first day of skating to music played out loud, was the 4th of July 1995. We claim that date as the CPDSA's birthday. Jay Stewart will be our DJ on the Fourth of July this year.

The Parks Department promised that they would always do everything in their power to get us storage space in the park; in return for us organizing the Skate Circle and enforcing all parks and City regulations. When the Central Park Conservancy took over the administration of the Park, our agreement with the Parks

Department was "Grandfathered" into the contract between Parks and the Conservancy. In the early years we were able to use a corner in the back of the Mineral Springs snack bar. We were there for more than ten years. Over the years, the snack bar expanded and became a restaurant. We still managed to cooperate with a succession of franchise owners to keep our place there.

It wasn't until Le Pain Quotidian took over the space, gutted it and left no room for us, that we had to leave. The Conservancy leadership was able to get us storage space inside the Bandshell. We used that space in close cooperation with the Central Park Conservancy, the Department of Parks, the park gardeners and maintenance people, the Naumberg Classical concert series, several operas and various other performances. We were good neighbors. The reason we had to leave was that the Bandshell was leaking and had become unsafe for any occupation. We moved our gear out on November 11, 2018. Renovations began in soon after. The work was recently completed on the exterior while interior finishing work continues.

On July 28, 2021 the first of the Naumberg Classical Concert in the park since the renovation was held and live orchestral music was performed with great success. The Park is coming back to life. The Central Park Dance Skaters are very pleased, we hope that we will once again be allowed a small space in the back of the Bandshell where we can store our audio equipment and charge our batteries.

Storage space in the Bandshell and the resurfacing of the Skate Circle are the two most important issues for the CPDSA. With storage we could set up the Circle every day without logistical support from outside the park. With resurfacing, we would have a top notch skating area to rival the newly improved skating area in Golden Gate Park in San Francisco and the Venice Beach Skate Dance Plaza. This isn't just the Skate Circle, this is about New York.

The Skate Circle Lives!



Support Us! The Skate Circle is run by volunteers and solely depends on donations to exist. Please scan this QR Code to donate.



DJ Andre Collins



DJ Misbehaviour



DJ Dracula