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SUPPORT US

Your generous contributions will help pay for permits, sound equipment and other essential costs necessary to keep the Skate Circle rolling.

Become a member, renew your membership or donate and get discounts to shop online at:

CPDSA.org



MULTI-USE Discount

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SCAN TO JOIN



ONE-TIME Discount

With any amount you donate

Donations are 100% deductible

SCAN TO DONATE



DANCE SKATERS ASSOCIATION

CPDSA.ORG

July 2025 • Vol. 30 • Issue 1

JOIN US

- Most weekends, April thru October
- 2:45 to 6:45 pm, weather permitting

JULY DJ SCHEDULE

INDEPENDENCE DAY WEEKEND

07/04 FRIDAY
—>DJ Robb Scott

07/05 SATURDAY
—>DJ Ray Vazquez

07/06 SUNDAY
—>DJ Jay Stewart

07/12 SATURDAY
—>DJ TBD

07/13 SUNDAY
—>No Skating
Due to Park Event

07/19 SATURDAY
—>DJ TBD

07/20 SUNDAY
—>DJ TBD

07/26 SATURDAY
—>DJ TBD

07/27 SUNDAY
—>DJ TBD

Check out our schedule:



cpdsa.org

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Photography at the Skate Circle: Bob Dea
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Skate Family on 2025 Opening Day

30 Years Of CPDSA:
Still Rolling, Still Dancing, Still Family

by Rob Scott, CPDSA President

This year, the Central Park Dance Skaters Association (CPDSA) turns 30 — and for me, it’s more than just a milestone. It’s personal.

I’ve been a part of this community for over 25 years. I’ve skated here through sunny days, light drizzles, and packed weekends where the energy in the park was so electric it felt like the whole world was dancing with us. I’ve seen this circle at its highest highs and its quietest moments. And now, as president — and one of the DJs who helps keep the music going — I can tell you there’s nothing like it.

The skate circle is a New York City experience all its own. From April through October, you’ll find us in Central Park most weekends, spinning music, lacing up skates, and welcoming the world. Tourists stop by and end up staying for hours. Locals return again and again. And for those of us who skate here, it’s home.

But this doesn’t happen by accident. The music you hear? Played by volunteer DJs — myself included — who give our time, energy, and love to keep the circle alive. No pay, no playlist rules. Just passion. That same spirit runs through every part of what we do — from hauling sound equipment to securing permits to setting up and breaking down every weekend.

This is a labor of love.

Over the years, I’ve watched generations grow through this circle. Parents who once skated with us now bring their kids. Newcomers find their rhythm. Legends still roll like it’s the first time. And through it all, the CPDSA has stayed true to its roots: community, movement, music, and joy.

I’m proud to help lead this tradition — not just as president, but as someone who deeply believes in what this space means. It’s more than skating. It’s freedom. It’s culture. It’s healing. And it’s still rolling strong 30 years later.

So if you’ve ever skated with us, danced near us, donated, volunteered, or simply cheered us on — thank you. You’re part of this beautiful legacy.

And if you love what we do, join us. We’re always looking for volunteers to help keep the circle going — whether it’s setting up, breaking down, or just lending a hand where it’s needed. Because this space only survives when we do it together.

Here’s to 30 years of movement, music, and family in the park.

See you in the circle.

CONTACT US: info@cpdsa.org +1 (929) 273-3760 https://www.cpdsa.org

Thoughts From Some Of Our Skate Family Members

“You’ll never feel more welcomed anywhere. Whether you’re there every weekend or just once in a while, the warmth, kindness, and sense of belonging make you feel like family from the moment you walk in.”
— **Nadja Bregman**

“To me, the CPDSA means finding the family I never knew I had! ❤️”
— **Christie Highbridge**

“...A community of friendship and a sense of belonging intertwined with unconditional acceptance.”
— **Betty Gonzalez**

“The best, transformative, powerful dance skating association.”
— **“Panama” Torres**

“CPDSA is my refuge to fun! fun! fun!”
— **Max Cargill**

“Freedom, Friendships, Fitness & Fun!”
— **Ivory Henderson**

“There would be no Xavier if there were no CPDSA. My greatest gift, my son, came from a CPDSA marriage.”
— **Denyse Jones**

“A home away from home.”
— **Rochelle A.**

“CPDSA is my socket of relief for many years.”
— **Mary Mitchell**

“Dance skate with your heart not with your feet”
— **Marilyn Oliveras**

“I’ve been privileged to make great friends and also share my captures of the joy of the skaters for the past 10 years!”
— **Bob Dea**

“Freedom to be the New Yorker I have always been, to have grace, to connect or be in my own world, to flow – work it!”
— **Genji Siraisi**

“CPDSA is pure joy of life – we visit you on every NY vacation”
— **Norbert Beck**

“...It feels wonderful to come into the Park every weekend and know I have a family there.”
— **Robbin Ziering**

The View From Skaters Road

by Bob Nichols, CPDSA President 2012-2022

This is the thirtieth season of the CPDSA bringing music and Roller Dance Skating to Central Park. It seems hard to believe. From Mayor Dinkins’ Diplomatic outreach to Mayor Giuliani’s attack on our existence, we have had many ups and downs over the years, but we are still here, skating and having fun.

Of course, we didn’t do it all on our own, we had good friends in the Central Park Conservancy, The Department of Parks and Recreation, and the Central Park Police Precinct. There were so many over the years, but Doug Blonsky, Neil Calvanese, Erica Sopha, Jaime Warren, Stan Steen and Nick Maurauder stand out; they were there for us when it really counted. Former Manhattan Borough President, Gail Brewer, quietly lent her influence to see us through some dark days, in our quest for a newly paved skating surface. She came through for us.

Many people have skated with us, helped us and supported us financially; though not necessarily all three at the same time. Somehow we have survived and thrived. Sadly, many of our old friends are not skating with us anymore; some are no longer with us, some have moved to other places, and others have just moved on.

For some of us, the spirit is willing, but the body has aged out of the game. After forty

years of skating and thirty out in the park with the CPDSA, I find myself losing a step or two each year. I have to wonder how many good skating years I have left. I spent many years keeping the Circle rolling, but now I can only do some of the work needed to keep us going. What gives me hope is the joy and exuberance of the skaters who remain and the new Skaters who have just discovered this place and who love it.

The future of the Skate Circle lies with the new generations who are filling out our numbers and hopefully, picking up the slack for those of us who can’t hold it together alone anymore. It is up to those of you who are expert skaters and those who are still learning and improving your skating skills; to jump in and make sure we don’t lose the thing that has taken us thirty years to build.

What keeps us here is the love of skating and love for one another. We call it The Skate Family. With love, joy and dedication, we can keep the Skate Circle rolling for another thirty years.

The Skate Circle Lives!

PLEASE VOLUNTEER



Scan to
Become a
Volunteer



DJ Ray Vazquez



DJ Jay Stewart



DJ Rob Scott

SUPPORT US
CHECK OUT OUR
30TH ANNIVERSARY
GEAR!



Scan QR code and get limited-edition items while they last!

Your purchase of CPDSA merchandise helps keep the skate circle rolling.

See full catalog of CPDSA merch online at CPDSAMerch.org.



TAKE OUR FEEDBACK SURVEY!

We are continuously aiming to improve how we run our free skating sessions in Central Park. Your feedback regarding your experience at the Skate Circle is invaluable. Please scan the QR code on the right to fill out a questionnaire. All questions are optional. Thank you!

