

PARTICIPATORY DANCE PROGRAMMING PARTNERSHIP: Sessions 1 & 2

Hudson River Park Trust



Application For: Participatory Dance Programming in Hudson River Park

Session 1:

Submission Window: March 23, 2026, through April 13, 2026

Permit Term: May 22, 2026, through August 9, 2026

Session 2:

Submission Window: June 8, 2026, through July 3, 2026

Permit Term: August 14, 2026, through October 25, 2026

I. BACKGROUND

Hudson River Park (the “Park”) provides over 17 million visitors annually with a wide range of popular public spaces and facilities across a four-mile stretch Manhattan’s West Side. Facilities include popular sports fields, playgrounds, basketball and tennis courts, skate parks, dog runs, lawns, picnic areas and more, including nine heavily used sports fields, which see over 300,000 users each year. The Park is a highly visible, heavily used location for running, exercise, sports and fitness and community gatherings of all sizes.

Hudson River Park Trust (the “Trust”), a public benefit corporation, was created in 1998 when the New York Legislature passed the Hudson River Park Act (as amended, the “Act”) to revitalize the Hudson River waterfront between the northernmost boundary of Battery Park City and West 59th Street and reconnect Manhattan neighborhoods to the river through construction of Hudson River Park. The Trust has stewarded the development and operation of the Park for the past 25 years.

The Trust also produces a wide variety of programming each year that is free and open to the public. The Trust strives to maintain a balance between active programming and maintaining public open space for all New Yorkers with a key focus on public safety. Participatory dance is very popular in Hudson River Park, with free dance programming, including salsa and Bollywood and Bhangra, being highlights of our event season.

The Trust is seeking partners to provide additional free public programming at Pier 45 and Pier 84, both of which have long histories as popular locations for outdoor dance.

II. THE OPPORTUNITY

The Trust is accepting applications for seasonal dance partners to hold classes at Hudson River Park’s Pier 45, closest crossing at Christopher Street, and Pier 84, closest crossing at W 44 Street.

All forms of dance may be considered.

During Session One, proposed classes should occur on a regular schedule for a maximum of 10 weeks from May 22, 2026, through August 9,

2026. No more than one class may be hosted per week, totaling 10 events. During Session Two, proposed classes should occur on a regular schedule for a maximum of 10 weeks from August 14, 2026, through October 25, 2026. No more than one class may be hosted per week, totaling 10 events.

Classes must be capped at no more than 150 students, be free and open to the public and suitable for people of all ages and abilities. Pre-registration through a free RSVP system is permitted. The Partner is permitted to collect donations onsite, but donation must be strictly optional. The Partner is permitted to have one (1) standalone sign that can be up to 24”x36” onsite. Securing anything, including signage, flags and banners, to Park property is prohibited.

The Trust must be notified in advance of any cancellations and must be notified when the Partner is onsite for each session. At the conclusion of each session, the Partner is required to file a report

on the session to the Trust. In the event of lightning within 5 miles of the Pier, the Pier must be cleared up until a minimum of 30 minutes after the lightning ends. The Trust reserves the right to cancel or reschedule any session if a conflict arises at the scheduled time and/or place.

Preference will be given to non-profit organizations with a track record of providing free dance classes to diverse communities in a public setting and that have multiple, qualified, instructors to ensure consistent staffing and programmatic continuity. Partners with local connections to Manhattan's West Side will receive additional consideration.

III. VENUES

The host of each class will have dedicated use of a defined space on one of Hudson River Park's Piers. Piers that are currently under consideration include:

- **Hudson River Park's Pier 45** – closest crossing at Christopher Street, a 900-foot-long Pier that includes a promenade, shade structures, spray showers, seating areas and wood decking. Programming to take place under shade structure at far Western end.
- **Hudson River Park's Pier 84** – closest crossing at W 44 Street, a 1,000-foot-long Pier featuring an interactive fountain, dog run, wood decking and a great sloping lawn. Programming to take place on the boardwalk at the far Western end.

IV. PARTNERSHIP SUMMARY

Applicants must submit an online form through the Hudson River Park Trust Dance Partners page during the respective application windows to be accepted. Application questions will involve the applicant's organizational history, structure, and organization type (i.e. Nonprofit status). Interested partners should highlight community benefits for the community and the Trust as part of these public events. This can include but is not limited to: information about public outreach strategies and list of outreach organizations and individuals engaged; ability to capture and share high-quality photo and video assets; and opportunities to build brand visibility and audience awareness of Hudson River Park. In other words, the interested partner must provide a detailed description of what benefits will be in exchange for using Hudson River Park as a venue.

The interested partner must be able to pay the Trust a \$75 fee per session, \$750 in total for 10 sessions. The Trust is proud to provide access to a significant organic population of users in high-visibility, stunning locations. Additional event support is not available for the 2026 season.

V. TERM

During Session One, sessions will be permitted between May 22, 2026, and August 9, 2026, excluding June 26, 2026, through July 6, 2026. For Session Two, sessions will be permitted between August 14, 2026, and October 25, 2026.

VI. PROPOSAL DEADLINES AND SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

As a standard course of business, the Trust accepts proposal for partnerships throughout the year. Given the interest from partners regarding participatory dance, the Trust is soliciting interested parties to submit proposals during the following application submission windows via online form; **March 23, 2026, through April 13, 2026, and June 8, 2026, through July 3, 2026.**

Partner applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis within each session's respective window, via online submission at <https://hudsonriverpark.org/dancepartners>. The Trust will reach out to potential partners to further conversations. The Trust may or may not solicit for new partnerships for future seasons.

The Trust will work with selected partners to develop a partnership agreement, which will contain standard park permit requirements.

If you have any questions, please contact Kiera Boyle at (917) 661-6801 or kboyle@hrpt.ny.gov.

VII. ELIGIBILITY CONSIDERATIONS

To be considered as a Participatory Dance Partner, applications must meet the following criteria:

- Be a qualified organization specializing in dance, dance education, fitness or a related field. Non-profit organizations are preferred.
- Have at least 3 years of experience facilitating participatory dance in public spaces in New York City.
- Maintain a roster of qualified professional instructors.
- Clearly align with the Trust's goal of providing free and low-cost programming while balancing the need to maintain recreative open space for all Park users.

Applying does not guarantee that a partner will be selected. The Trust reserves the right to limit the place and time where participatory dance classes may take place.