



Web Chat | May 30, 2023

Communities in Conflict

An online discussion to support organizers of dance, music, and song groups



Tech Tips

- We're recording this Web Chat to post later; **turn off your video if you don't want to be seen.**
- Please **remain muted.**
- There are **live captions** for this video. You can turn them on or off by clicking the "Closed Caption" symbol that says "live transcript" at the bottom of your Zoom screen.
- While we are screen-sharing the slides, you can **adjust their size by dragging the vertical line between the videos and the slides.**

Join us in holding **community** and **tradition**

Together.



Web Chats and Community Resources are entirely supported by memberships and donations!

- Become a member for as low as \$25.
cdss.org/join
- Every dollar makes a difference!
cdss.org/donate

- ❓ CDSS Web Chats have provided resources and connections for hundreds of organizers since beginning in 2018.
- ❓ Topics are based on requests from participants like you.
- ❓ We want to continue offering Web Chats free of charge for everyone.

Web Chat Format

- 7:30 Welcome
- 7:35 Framing for today's conversation – **Katy German**
- 7:45 Tips from a Professional Mediator – **Jenny Beer** (Philadelphia, PA)
- 7:50 Stories from the Field: **Dana Dwinell-Yardley** (Montpelier, VT)
Sue Songer and Kathy Story (Portland, OR)
- 8:25 Break Out Rooms (small groups, 10 min)
- 8:35 Q&A, moderated – **Joanna Reiner Wilkinson**
- 8:55 Resources and follow-up
- 9:00 Wrap Up



Framing
today's
Conversation

This Web Chat is not...

- a debate about policy
- an opportunity to air specific grievances
- a chance to convince others of your opinion
- a quick and easy solution to all your problems

This Web Chat is about...

- navigating decisions as a team when you disagree
- working to keep your community together when there is conflict
- transparency and communication

Why this particular topic?

- ★ A common theme among requested topics
- ★ Can be applied to current and future challenges
- ★ Good organization strengthening in general
- ★ Counteracts polarizing impacts of social media





CDSS works on this, too.


Long history of conflicting opinions



- Song? Contra? Women morris teams? Leave NY City? Gender balancing? Arts Advocacy?
Becoming a remote organization?

Recent topics

- Calling terminology in our programs, COVID protocols, how we relate to our affiliates

2023 Board Meeting

- Introduced principles of nonviolent communication
curiosity, assuming good intention, recognition of emotions
 - Dedicated time for deeper conversations and understanding
- 



“I wish it need not have happened in my time,” said Frodo.
“So do I,” said Gandalf, “and so do all who live to see such times. But that is not for them to decide. **All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us.**”

JRR Tolkien, Fellowship of the Ring

Jenny Beer



Many of you know Jenny as a (very) longtime English country dancer and dance choreographer. In her other life, she is both an anthropologist and a professional mediator and facilitator, with much experience teaching college students and adults about conflict resolution, negotiation, and mediation, especially in mixed-culture situations. If you find yourself informally mediating in your dance organization (or elsewhere), you can find lots of down-to-details advice, in her *Mediator's Handbook*, which has gone through many editions since 1982.

Featured Guests



Dana Dwinell-Yardley
Montpelier, VT

Sue Songer and **Kathy Story**
Portland, OR



Break Out Rooms

You will be placed in rooms with 1-2 other people

Duration: 10 min



1. Quick intro

➤ name

➤ location

1. **What stood out** to you in hearing from our featured guest?

2. What's **one question** you'd like to ask the group?

Q&A

Continue to keep your video and mic muted unless asked to speak.

Type your questions into the chat. Our Web Chat guests will answer selected questions.



2023 Community Grants Available

Due to a high volume of grant requests in 2023, several of our funds are tapped out for the year. We are still accepting grant requests for initiatives related to:

- **Leadership training** callers, musicians, singers, and/or organizers (including cultural equity and anti-racism training)
- **English country dance musician** initiatives

For more information on CDSS Community Grants, please visit cdss.org/grants.

Recent Recipients



Burlington Family Contra Dance

Burlington, VT

Creating a community family contra dance for all ages and abilities

Funded by the May Gadd/Phil Merrill Fund

New and Coming Soon



Out now:

From the Mic, episodes 14

Featuring Steve Zakon-Anderson

CDSS Camps Season!

Intensive courses

Matching scholarships

camp.cdss.org



Fall of 2023

Web Chat for Dance Organizers

Topic TBD



Info and registration at cdss.org

Web Chat Follow-up

Your feedback is very valuable! To help us plan future Web Chats, *please reply to the survey you'll receive soon.*

In a few days, visit cdss.org/web-chats to access the video recording, powerpoint, and transcript of tonight's Web Chat. *Please help others find these resources!*

Stay tuned for updates about our next Web Chat

We welcome your questions, comments, and requests for ways CDSS can best support **your** community.

Keep in touch! resources@cdss.org



Thanks for all you do, from the CDSS staff!

