FAIRBANKS TANGO, member club of NORTHERN LIGHTS COUNCIL OF DANCERS

Fairbanks Tango is an inclusive group of social dancers dedicated to exploring comfortably connected movement to the rich musical landscape of Argentine Tango.

Tango is a fun way to meet new people and make new friends.



Argentine Tango is an improvised partnered social dance. Dancers develop the ability to connect with partners through subtle nonverbal communication skills. Individuals express themselves through their movements and physicality while in a close embrace. Couples silently communicate within the partnership, and with the other couples near them on the dance floor to create a dynamically flowing experience of oneness.

Tango is *a feeling that is danced*, requiring presence and authenticity, fostering healthy interpersonal connections. While dancing, tango dancers free themselves for a time, a blissful experience. At a *milonga*, a tango dance party, each partnership lasts a few songs, so individuals explore musicality and connection with a number of tango friends over the course of an evening.



Tango is a healthy social activity, a wonderful way to escape worldly pressures while staying both physically and socially active. Tango engages mind and body, enhancing coordination, focus, and emotional resilience. Social tango fosters trust, empathy, respect, and emotional well being; connected dancing contributes to a sense of unity. Tango dancing requires teamwork, communication, self-discovery, and confidence, which often inspires personal growth and a deep sense of belonging.

Tango is a complex social dance that takes time and practice to learn. Tango is danced heart to heart. Students start in a practice embrace, developing the physical coordination to connect and move seamlessly with others. As this physical coordination develops dancers recognize the connection goes beyond physical, dancers are fully present and deeply focused on one another during each dance. Tango dancers listen deeply, hearing many possibilities in the music. Whichever orchestra or musical genre, a playful Biagi *vals* or a mournful Troilo tango, our physical movements express the energy and emotion we hear and feel in the music.

In classes, *practicas*, and dance labs, we all agree to:

- Arrive in time to don clean, non-marking shoes before class.
- Maintain a respectful, hardworking attitude. Minimize chatter with partners.
- Respect each class level. Practice what is being taught.
- Demonstrate knowledge through respectful service; do not teach unless you are the instructor.

At social dances we agree to:

- Follow the line-of-dance for everyone's comfort and safety.
- Practice good floorcraft through cooperation.
- Keep food and drinks at the tables, away from the dance floor and sound equipment.
- Stay aware of surroundings, to not walk across the *ronda*.
- If accidents happen, apologize, check for injuries, and offer assistance as needed. Inform a club representative of all incidents.
- Remember instructors, DJs, and visiting artists are human and need rest.
- Recognize the importance of consent; none of us are entitled to dances, especially with higher level dancers.
- Refrain from asking for feedback while social dancing. (Save that for *practicas*!)
- Practice kindness and care by celebrating others' successes.

We firmly believe, when one of us becomes a better dancer, the entire community benefits.

Fairbanks Tango Vision: Perpetuate a supportive community built on respect, kindness, and cooperation where both people and the art of tango thrive. Participation in events strengthens well being, annealing human connections and shared values.

Tango is fun and enriching! Practicing tango makes us not just better dancers, but many social dancers become better people, making the world a better place. **Join us!**

You may email us at: fairbanks.tango.ak@gmail.com or call/text 907-479-8477

