

Four-Part Harmony – What Makes a Great Evening

Class Period 7: Sun., 11:00-11:50 -- 50 minutes

Materials:

Flip-chart & markers for note-taking

Panelists

- Laura Lengnick - music
- Tyler Johnson (if willing) for sound
- Pat Petersen - calling (Pat is a well known English Country caller, early music teacher and CDSS board member)
- Stephen Stiebel - TCD board member and CDSS board member.
- Gail - caller and Sun Assembly English Dancers facilitator and caller

This is envisioned as a train-the-trainer session. Participants are encouraged to facilitate a similar session within their own community.

What makes a great evening: For each category below, what do you like or look for? 3 min. for the panelist to give their opinion, then 5 mins. for audience to add any other thoughts:

Music - Laura

Calling – Pat, Diane

Sound - Tyler

Skill on the floor (level of dance) - Stephen

Facilities – floor, other? - Gail

Atmosphere of the event – Stephen, Gail

Other? - FOOD

As organizers, you try to find and meet consensus, or meet majority interests, or alternate (e.g., to meet different preferences for musical style).

Identify what you can control and what you can't: "Please grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, resources to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference." (*Apologies to AA – the Serenity Prayer*).

Use this process to identify short and long-term goals:

- create a process for hiring that includes criteria that reflects the result of this process;
- identify projects for your facility (sound attenuation, capital investments in equipment or building renovation, etc.);
- plan workshops to improve dance skills
- identify strategies for intentionally creating the atmosphere and tone you want

See resources from the session, "Activating and Energizing your Base," for how to recruit and nurture the help you'll need.