

Acknowledging Our Roots

We know that we stand on the shoulders (sometimes literally!) of the men and women who've held the focus and the financial risks for contact improvisation in the Boston area for the past twenty years. We thank all of you and hope that you know we appreciate your effort, and we invite you to give us feedback at any time. We couldn't have done it without you!

Some of the organizers of past events are listed here; but many others no doubt are missing. Our apologies; no slight is intended.

thank you all...
thank you Zevey Steinetz,
thank you Debra Bluth,
thank you Doug Pouliot, thank you
Patrick Crowley, thank you
David A, thank you Bill McAvinney,
thank you Billie Jo Jay,
thank you Rick Roberts,
thank you Amy Dare, thank you
Olivier Besson, thank you Neige
Christenson, thank you Bill
Jacobson, thank you Martin Keogh,
thank you Shakti Smith, thank you
thank you if we forgot to
list your name...
thank you all.

We also acknowledge all the dancers who've attended jams, past and present . . . *you're* what it's really all about.

Care to Join Us?

You are welcome to attend our meetings (to observe, and maybe even participate) if you'd like to get a better feel for how we operate, or to learn more about what kinds of things we do. You can attend as many meetings as you want, whether you're interested in joining the group or not. We'll be listing meeting times and places on our website: contactimprovboston.com

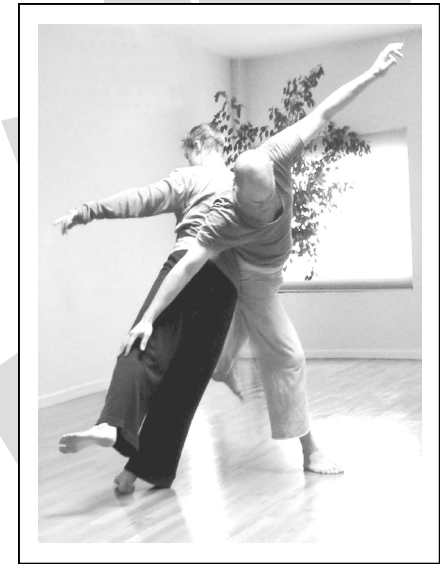
Currently, the CIB committee has six members (and another is moving away very soon). Our developing charter stipulates we can have no less than five and up to seven members. Are you interested in a new role in the community?

If so, we invite you to inform us of your interest in membership. We'll ask you to submit an application that includes a brief description of why you want to join us and what skills, strengths, interests, etc. you will add to the group. Then, you'll attend two consecutive meetings during which we'll encourage your participation in discussions. If we determine you're a good fit for the group, we'll ask you to make a one-year commitment (but we know that life happens...)

Our charter also states that if membership is stable at seven for more than one year, we will create an opening (someone will step down voluntarily, we'll draw straws, or come up with some other creative improvisational way to make room for a new face and new ideas.)

Have something to let us know? Talk to any CIB member at a jam, or email us:
info@contactimprovboston.com

CIB is Coming Out!



**Contact Improv Boston:
a behind-the-scenes look
at our organizational structure**

How It All Began...

In the Boston area, as in most places around the world, Contact Improv jams began when someone with a passion for the form started renting a room and seeing who showed up to explore. Over the years, various individuals stepped up to the plate, and somehow managed to make it all work. Years later, we are still sharing our passion for the dance, but the time seemed right to create a more formal structure: a collective that could handle the finances and oversee events.

About a year ago, an inaugural meeting was held. Current jam organizers invited past jam and event organizers and other involved individuals to attend, and give their input regarding the possible formation of what evolved into the "CIB group". Seven of the people at the meeting volunteered and were given the sanction of all present to form an organizing committee, with details to be determined.

It was clear from that evening's discussion that transparent decision-making and ensuring that all community members have a voice in planning were going to be critical to our success. We've accomplished a lot since that night, although we haven't exactly settled on a name for ourselves. We're definitely a work in progress!

Who Are We?

As of this writing, six people make up the CIB group. Alphabetically by last name, we are:

Gene Broadway	Maxine Gautier
Rek Kwawer	Megan Orwig
Paul Spielman	Dey Summer

Shira Wohlberg also participated for several months before relocating to western Massachusetts.

What Do We Do?

We meet monthly, in members' homes, to fulfill the original intentions shared at our foundation meeting, and to develop and live up to our mission statement and charter. We operate by consensus, and take turns facilitating meetings, taking notes and filling other roles as we determine them to be necessary.

It all sounds a little dry and boring. Our meetings are generally very lively, and we certainly believe we are contributing to keeping contact improvisation dance alive and well in the Boston area!

What Are We Responsible For?

Mostly, money. And making sure that a variety of people have a "voice" in what happens in the community. (That's where *your* input can be so helpful to us.)

The CIB group has a collaborative relationship with the group of people who facilitate Tuesday and Sunday jams, and we have financial oversight for the Tuesday Jam. We also feel strongly

about the identity of May Jam and Fall Jam, and will be involved to some extent in the organizing of these events in the future — even if our involvement is to delegate to individuals outside of the CIB group to manage these events.

We're open to new ideas for possible events, or changes to existing projects. We don't know exactly what the future holds, but if you've got input, we'd love to hear it.

And if you'd like to take on a bigger role in our community, please speak to us. There are many ways you can be involved.

Mission Statement

CIB is a collective of individuals committed to sustaining and strengthening a diverse and inclusive Contact Improvisation dance community in Boston. We create, monitor and maintain a sound financial structure to manage funds generated by our events. We embrace community involvement, collaboration and transparent decision-making in our relationships within and beyond our community. We hold and honor the history of contact improvisation within Boston, and look to its future. Grounded in the community's dynamic energy, we strive to foster the spontaneity within which safe and joyous improvisation may occur.