



North American Same-Sex Partner Dance Association
Embracing and Welcoming All Dance Couples and Dancers

NORTH AMERICAN & California STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS at Floorplay LA - Los Angeles, CA, USA, July 22, 2023

Recap of Floorplay 2023: A Heartwarming Success!

We're thrilled to share the heartwarming success of Floorplay 2023 and the North American Championships sanctioned by NASSPDA. On July 22, our community came together to dance, connect, and celebrate a vibrant return to the competition floor.

With an incredible 500+ entries, Floorplay 2023 truly showcased the talents of our dedicated dancers. A mix of dance styles highlighted the creativity and spirit that make our community unique.

The joy was palpable as judges, volunteers, participants, and spectators came together. This united front spoke volumes about the resilience and unity of our same-sex dance family.

Due to the incredible buzz and requests from all corners, we're excited to announce that Floorplay will be making a comeback next year! Your enthusiasm fuels our determination to keep this joyful tradition alive.

A huge thanks to everyone who made this event possible, and a special thanks to NASSPDA for their sponsorship of this year's event, without their contribution this event wouldn't have been possible. As we look ahead, we can't wait to see Floorplay grow and the connections within our community strengthen.

Warmly
Eddie and Sergio

Results of 2023 North American & California State Championships

American Smooth

A-Level 18+ (Male/Male) – Both Title Winners & Medal Recipients

1. Justin Miller & James Repetti, New York, USA

A Level 18+ (Female/Female) – Both Title Winners & Medal Recipients

1. Ashley Quibilian & Nicole Wooding, California, USA

2. Chelsea Blandford & Nance Stevens, California, USA

B Level 18+ (Female/Female) – NA Medal Recipients

1. Katrina Carter-Journet & Eva Dobesch, California, USA

International Standard

A-Level 18+ (Male/Male) – Both Title Winners & Medal Recipients

1. Justin Miller & James Repetti, New York, USA

B Level 18+ (Female/Female) – NA Medal Recipients

1. Caryl Ann Hathaway & Evelyn Velez, California, USA

B Level 45+ (Female/Female) – NA Medal Recipients

1. Caryl Ann Hathaway & Evelyn Velez, California, USA
2. Sandra Gladney & Linda Smith, Oregon, USA

B Level 45+ (Female/Female, Student/Teacher) – NA Medal Recipients

1. Debbie Esparza & Julianne Daniells, Arizona, USA

American Rhythm

A-Level 18+ (Male/Male) – Both Title Winners & Medal Recipients

1. Justin Miller & James Repetti, New York, USA

B Level 18+ (Female/Female) – NA Medal Recipients

1. Chelsea Blandford & Nance Stevens, Arizona, USA
2. Katrina Carter-Journet & Eva Dobsch, California, USA

International Latin

A-Level 18+ (Male/Male) – Both Title Winners & Medal Recipients

1. Justin Miller & James Repetti, New York, USA

A Level 18+ (Female/Female) – Both Title Winners & Medal Recipients

1. Denise Machin & Viola Ni, California, USA

B Level 18+ (Female/Female) – NA Medal Recipients

1. Rosie Castaneda & Elly Bishop, California, USA
2. Katrina Carter-Journet & Eva Dobsch, California, USA

B Level 18+ (Female/Female, Student/Teacher) – NA Medal Recipients

1. Debbie Esparza & Julianne Daniells, Arizona, USA

Showdance (Couples)

(Male/Male) – Both Title Winners & Medal Recipients

1. Tim Leslie & Antonio Ninez, California, USA
2. Justin Miller & James Repetti, New York, USA

(Female/Female) – Both Title Winners & Medal Recipients

1. Chelsea Blandford & Nance Stevens, Arizona, USA



NASSPDA's 2023 Event Sponsorship Program

For 2023, NASSPDA's Board had decided to place on hold the Scholarship and the Activity Grant Programs and institute instead an Event Sponsorship for recurring sanctioned events, namely 'April Follies,' 'Floorplay LA' and 'Boston Open DanceSport Championships'.

These events have been well established and have had a proven track record as well as have been established to serve NASSPDA's community without the intent to make a profit, as reported in the January 2023 eNewsletter.

All three events have now taken place and the organizers shared the following with the Board:

April Follies

After many, many years of fabulous April Follies competitions, followed by the COVID-19 pandemic, which shut it down completely for 4 years, the three remaining members of the AF committee made the decision to have one final celebration on April 29, 2023. This was NOT to be a competition, but a swan song of dancing and tributes to all the legendary dancers, spectators, committee members and judges from all the previous years. And, as part of its newly established 2023 Event Sponsorship Program, NASSPDA donated \$1000 to support this huge effort, enabling April Follies to truly go out with a bang, with amazing dance demonstrations, lots of social dancing, a free dinner, and topping off the day-long event with a grand show, entitled 'Platforms 20-30', produced by Photis Pishiaris, and starring many of the past AF competitors.

Susie Hoskins, Ellen Levitt & Bridget Scading

Floorplay LA

A special thanks to NASSPDA for their sponsorship of this year's event in the amount of \$1,500, without their contribution this event wouldn't have been possible. As we look ahead, we can't wait to see Floorplay LA grow and the connections within our community strengthen.

Eddie & Sergio

Boston Open DanceSport Championships

A special thanks to NASSPDA's Event Sponsorship Program, supporting us with a grant of \$1500 to make this event happening.

Boston Open DanceSport started back in 2013, for the first time supporting same-sex and reverse-role couples as well as overall supporting the LGBTQ community at a dance competition in New England. Very successful years followed, promoting equality in dancing and specifically in the competition world hosted at locations in Boston Downtown, Provincetown, MA (the bohemian gay Mecca), Providence in Rhode Island and back to the Greater Boston area in Dedham, MA.

Due to the devastating effects of the Pandemic and the ever-changing landscape of the world in general, this grant from NASSPDA made a huge difference. It allowed us to keep our doors open, being a stage for the remaining fewer same-sex dancers and keeping the love for competing and performing alive. We knew that this is our call and our duty to the dance community.

Thank you, NASSPDA Board!

Keep on Dancing!

Kalin Mitov & Team

In light of recent aggressions targeting specifically transgender, non-binary, and gender non-conforming folks in several states in the USA and Canada, NASSPDA wishes to make its position explicitly clear. We welcome all gender identities and expressions, including specifically folks who have transitioned or are transitioning and gender non-conforming individuals. NASSPDA has zero tolerance for harassment or discrimination of any of its members.

To create a safer space for trans- and gender non-conforming folk, we invite NASSPDA-sanctioned event organizers to implement the following actions:

Use each dancer's self-disclosed pronouns.

Provide gender-inclusive washrooms, or make reasonable efforts to reserve certain washrooms for all genders in venues that do not have them.

Similarly, provide gender-inclusive change rooms, if applicable.

Offer dancers means of reporting harassment or discrimination safely and anonymously.

Consider developing security protocols that address the physical safety of the event. This could include identification verification during registration, incident response plans at events, evacuation plans, maintaining lists of emergency contacts, etc.



Ambassador Program

In need of broader visibility, better promotion in the DanceSport world and advocating for same-sex competitive dancing, NASSPDA is looking to engage Ambassadors.

As many North American DanceSport organizations have changed their definition of a dance couple, we are witnessing interest and participation of newly formed same-sex, reverse role, and gender-neutral couples at their

events. Many of those couples haven't been introduced or exposed to NASSPDA as an organization; hence, they also do not know the benefits of being a member of NASSPDA.

[Please use this link to access description and details as well as the application form](#)

(* please contact us if you encounter problems with accessing this form. A Gmail account login is required)

Poster for IFSSDA's World Championship Dancesport at the XI Gay Games in Guadalajara, Mexico. The poster features a couple dancing in a ballroom setting. Text on the poster includes: "GAY GAMES XI · 2023", "Guadalajara MÉXICO", "IFSSDA'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP", "DANCESPORT", "VENUE LARVA", "TRAINING NOV 4", "COMPETITION/GALA NOV 5-8", and "SPORT FEE* \$1,600 MXN GENERAL / \$850 MXN MEXICANS". It also includes a registration website: GGGDL2023.org and logos for CODE, Secretaría de Educación Jalisco, Gay Games, Guadalajara, and the City of Guadalajara.

Competition Calendar

- **IFSSDA Sanctioned Competitions in 2023**

2023 World Championship at The XI Gay Games
From November 5 - to 8, 2023 in Guadalajara, Mexico
<https://gggdl2023.org/en>



Outreach and Media



**National Academy
of Health and Physical Literacy**

New partnership with The National Academy of Health and Physical Literacy (NAHPL)

NAHPL is a diverse organization that seeks to advance health and physical literacy in our society, especially in K-12 schools, higher education, and in dance and sport venues. NAHPL seeks to grow and advance professional leaders who will interact and network on regional, national and global levels to expand health and physical literacy opportunities for all children and adults.

As a member and mission centered organization, NAHPL encourages and facilitates active participation by all members, advocating for health and physical literacy. NAHPL leadership and members plan and implement professional learning opportunities and events at the regional and national levels, and advocate for health and physical literacy in Pre-K-higher education and across society.

<https://nahpl.org>

OUR WEBSITE IS CURRENTLY UNDER CONSTRUCTION.



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