

“Free Dance Lessons in Second Life LEA1 Exhibit”

Opens August 1, 2016 (through September)

From 2LDance.org in Second Life

For Immediate Release:

2LDance.org is proud to announce the opening of our “**Free Dance Lessons in SL**” exhibit at LEA1, courtesy of the Linden Endowment of the Arts. FDL/LEA1 provides four illustrations of the *Dance 101* class experience we recently developed. This class provides an overview of six of the most popular dances in Second Life, teaching students how to choose dances to match the songs they dance to. FDL/LEA1 has four distinct dance classroom environments, plus an area to practice dancing. We also illustrate our 2LDance.org *Media Center* concept, which is a small facility specifically dedicated to teaching SL newcomers the basics of SL dance so they can participate in a Dance 101 class.

A complete **list of SLurls** to our LEA1 Exhibit is provided on the last page of this release.

In addition to the self-directed classes which run continuously 24x7, 2LDance.org staff will conduct Live Instructor classes at LEA1 once a week during August and September. The live class adds a flurry of additional fun, including instructor comments, solo dance move demonstrations, and costume changes with each successive dance. Here is the schedule for our **first three live instructor classes**:

Thursday, August 4, 8PM SL

Thursday, August 11, 8PM SL

Thursday, August 18, Noon SL

Additional class information is available by joining our 2LDance.org FANS group, or at our [website calendar](http://2ldance.weebly.com/live-instructor-calendar.html). (<http://2ldance.weebly.com/live-instructor-calendar.html>)

Swing City & CP Swing

Our showcase environment is *Swing City*, created by 2LDance.org designer Lesly Rotaru. *Swing City* is a literal step back in time, to the 1940's-era when Swing dancing was at the height of its popularity. Step across the bordering canal bridge, and the sound of a 1940's radio station welcomes you to another place and time. Lesly's vision for *Swing City* includes a variety of period shops and businesses, surrounding the featured *Swing City* dance hall, *CP Swing*. The city is richly landscaped courtesy of 2LDance.org designer, Barbie Alchemi.

CP Swing was envisioned as a themed dance venue offering a rich array of Swing dance animations along with our own SWINGStream music inside the hall. *CP Swing* looks and feels like a real dance hall from the 1940's, from the authentic etiquette experienced on the dance floor to the signature marquee outside. Lesly has a Big Band bandstand, tables and chairs for rest in-between dances, a second floor alcove to escape from the bustle of the dancefloor, and a bar at which to imbibe and release your dancing Muse. A 2LDance.org Dance 101 classroom is integrated off to the side of the dance hall, illustrating how other dance venue owners in

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Second Life might incorporate Dance 101 into their venue's operation. In addition, we are using *CP Swing* to develop prototypes for our next dance class, 301 - Swing, during the course of our LEA1 stay. You will see bits and pieces of Dance 301 taking shape here.

From Lesly Rotaru, creator of *Swing City* and *CP Swing*:

Second Life is place where people can grow and learn in so many ways. I am honored to be a part of a project that seeks to use this platform to enrich people's lives through the arts. Swing City is a joint effort that celebrates the heyday of swing dancing, the 1930's and 40's. There's so much to see, but the heart of the area is the CP Swing Ballroom, which is inspired by several swing clubs of the era, including the home of the Lindy Hop, the Savoy. I hope those who visit take a look around and soak up the era in the city before they jitterbug their hearts out in the club!

Jardines de Baile

2LDance.org designer Stella Rhode Rocco has imaged a Mexican coastal resort experience into our other themed dance venue. Her beautiful landscaping is shaped around a seaside cabana and Plaza De Baile, adjoining a full sized Latin-themed Dance Venue, Club Nocturno. At Club Nocturno, dancers can select from dozens of Vista Latin dances, and use our 2LDance.org LATIN radio to pick the stream of their choice. (Radio available for free in the courtyard.) An open-air Dance 101 classroom (Clase de Baile) links the Cabana to the Club. Once again, our Latin-themed Jardines de Baile illustrates how a Venue Operator in Second Life could integrate the Dance 101 classroom experience directly into their own facility.

From the creator of Jardines de Baile, Stella Rhode Recco:

In Second Life, I am mostly a builder. I love to try make ideas become real, as real looking as I can make them. The Jardines de Baile project was about exploring to me. I had to look at a lot photos (from Google!) to get even some feeling for coastal Mexico. It is so far away from here (Finland) and I have never been there. I hope people find Jardines a place where they can listen to amazing Latino music, relax looking at waves and nature, and dance Latino dances. I'm inspired by how well our team worked together and how we interact with suggestions and ideas.

Studio Skybox

2LDance.org offers venue owners the option of installing a Dance 101 classroom in a skybox, rather than integrating one into their facility. This is also available as a "Pop-Up" facility for short-term demonstration installations. This skybox studio requires only 512m2 of dedicated parcel space, but provides a full featured classroom dance floor and educational media center. Rather than having our skybox out of sight (or hovering in mid-air) we have brought a mountain up to it so it rests majestically overlooking the rest of the SIM. Our skybox studios come with an enclosure (as shown) to visually isolate it from any skyward neighbors. Here we have our example of a 2LDance.org Media Center, specifically for SL newcomers who need to discover the very basic skills such as how to click on a dance pose set, how to click on a dance machine, and how to select dances from the machine's menu.

Gardens Park & Dance Plaza

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For our stand-alone Dance 101 Classrooms, we install an open dance floor so students can practice the skills they learn in class right away. To meet this need at LEA1, 2LDance.org designer Barbie Alchemi has produced a dazzling park facility next to Swing City. It beautifully provides a playground, clock tower, secluded waterfalls, and meditation pond. Across the path lies the featured Gardens Park Dance Plaza, which provides students with the opportunity to practice the variety of dances they have learned in our LEA1 venues and classrooms, selecting the music stream of their choice using our 2LDance.org STREAMS radio. (Free STREAMS radio available in our Education Center.) This highly photogenic Park and Dance Plaza form the transition from our 21st-Century Welcome Area and the 1940's-themed Swing City off to each side.

From the Gardens Park creator, Barbie Alchemi:

"I have been working with 2LDance.org this past year as the first Dance 101 class has taken shape. I jumped at the chance to help the team build out the LEA1 Grant SIM to showcase this exciting development in the world of SL dance. I was able to stretch my interest in landscaping to the limit as I designed and built Gardens Park, and its Dance Plaza, as a beautiful place to practice the dance skills learned in class. As founder of Creations for Parkinson's and owner of Creations Park, I am proud of the 2LDance.org mission goal to extend the dancing experience in SL not only to residents who are fully mobile in RL, but to those who are mobility-assisted in RL as well. It has been an honor and inspiration to work with the talented team members on this high quality project."

Welcome Area and Education Center

Our walkover-access from LEA3's Welcome Area and our neighbor Core SIM, LEA4, is a lovely open plaza also created by Barbie Alchemi. Majestic dance statues and fountain guide you to our Education Building. Inside, we have displays showing the mission and vision of 2LDance.org and a functioning mini-classroom for Dance 101, with explanations of how we create our "magical" classroom experience. We also have a sitting area to discuss the opportunity to become Venue Partners with 2LDance.org, so venue owners can provide the Dance 101 classroom at their own club. On entry, a small display shows the creative inspirations Lesly used to cast her Swing City vision, along with a display of "Then and Now" photos of swing dancers, past and present.

2LDance.org and Dance 101

Dance 101 is the first of four classes envisioned in Phase I of our 2LDance.org project. Our mission, to Make More Dancers, and Make Better Dancers, starts with Phase I classes and grows to an ambitious array of other dreams, including actually teaching East Coast Swing dancing in SL, dancing in SL for mobility-assisted RL dancers, and hopefully into the use of high-affinity, high-repetition dance experiences as part of Graded Motor Imagery therapies. (All explained on our [website](#) and in our Education Center.)

And, it is all, really, Free

2Ldance.org is a mission-driven, not for profit endeavor. We do not solicit or accept donations. We do not charge any fee for our classes. Our venue partners pay no fee to incorporate Free Dance Lessons into their venue, and in turn, agree to offer our classes for free to students. Our

Venue Partners offer Live Instructor classes where trained teachers augment the class experience through their live performance. We encourage students in Live Instructor classes to tip the instructors according to their performance using our 100% Tip-to-talent tip jars. 2LDance.org receives none of their tips, nor do we receive any other compensation for what we provide.

Join Us - Stay in Touch!

Please consider joining our 2LDance.org FANS group. You will be kept aware of our Live Instructor dance classes, our new Venue Partner facilities, and our newly developed classes! No spam, no chatter, just newsworthy developments within the 2LDance.org family. Seeing newcomers to our FANS group gives us a real incentive to keep working on our Mission.

Become Part of our Mission-Driven Team!

We are looking for candidates to train as Live Instructors who will teach Live classes at our Venue Partner facilities. Training takes a couple of one-hour sessions, usually one-on-one. You are also required to assemble your own Dance Costumes (see the website for guidance.) Each Venue Partner schedules their own Live Classes and works with instructors we have trained just like they do Live Musicians in SL. And of course, we provide this training, like everything else, Free of Charge.

LEA1 2LDANCE.ORG EXHIBIT Parcel SLurls

LEA1 **Welcome Area** - LEA1 (221, 86, 23)

<http://maps.secondlife.com/secondlife/LEA1/221/87/24>

LEA1 2LDance.org **Education Center** Building - LEA1 (220, 121, 24)

<http://maps.secondlife.com/secondlife/LEA1/222/123/25>

LEA1 2LDance.org **Mini-Classroom** (inside Education Bldg) - LEA1 (209, 133, 24)

<http://maps.secondlife.com/secondlife/LEA1/209/134/24>

LEA1 **Gardens Park** & Dance Plaza - LEA1 (159, 72, 24)

<http://maps.secondlife.com/secondlife/LEA1/222/123/25>

LEA1 40's-Era **Swing City** - LEA1 (108, 72, 24)

<http://maps.secondlife.com/secondlife/LEA1/222/123/25>

LEA1 **CP Swing** 40's-Era Dance Hall - LEA1 (65, 71, 25)

<http://maps.secondlife.com/secondlife/LEA1/222/123/25>

LEA1 **Entrar Jardines** de Baile - LEA1 (125, 170, 23)

<http://maps.secondlife.com/secondlife/LEA1/125/170/23>

LEA1 **Jardines de Baile** Landing - LEA1 (60, 206, 22)

<http://maps.secondlife.com/secondlife/LEA1/64/207/22>

LEA1 **Clase de Baile** - LEA1 (84, 221, 22)

<http://maps.secondlife.com/secondlife/LEA1/84/221/22>

LEA1 **Skybox Studio** Classroom - LEA1 (203, 219, 108)

<http://maps.secondlife.com/secondlife/LEA1/204/219/108>

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