**Synthesis Dance Agreements**

**1. All interactions in this space will be based on the concept of mutual consent.**

**2. I understand that I enter this space with full rights of a sovereign entity – that I am here of my own free will and am capable of (or willing to practice) interacting with others as equals.**

**3. I will act with kindness, generosity and respect to all other dancers, facilitators and staff.**

**4. I am free to express myself any way that feels comfortable to me, as long as my self-expression does not compromise the free expression of others or infringe on their sovereignty.**

**5. I enter the space in an attitude of acceptance and equality and will not discriminate against others, on the basis of gender, color, race, body-type, age or experience with dance.**

**6. When choosing to dance alone or to not avail myself of partner or group dances, I understand that I have the option to wear a wristband to clearly indicate that I want to not be approached by others wishing to initiate a dance.**

**7. When not wearing a wristband, I am both free to initiate dances and open to receiving invitations to dance. I am also free to dance alone without a wristband with the understanding that I may be asked to dance.**

**8. I am free to decline an invitation for any reason. I am encouraged to honestly and clearly communicate my boundaries to the best of my abilities. When offering an invitation, I will do my best to respect the boundaries of others, including their non-verbal cues. If I decline an invitation, I will do my best to clearly indicate if I would like the individual to offer future invitations.**

**9. I am free to end a dance at any time. I am also free to leave the dance at any time for any reason.**

**10. I will be responsible for clearly setting my boundaries (as needed) with anyone with whom I dance. If I feel my boundaries are not being respected, I will speak directly, and clearly to the person who has crossed my boundary. If I feel unable to speak up and/or they continue to cross my boundaries, I am free (and encouraged) to report the violation to a dance ambassador. If none are obviously available and immediate action feels necessary, I am free to ask any other person in the room for assistance. As dancers in community, we are ALL responsible for stopping what we are doing to aid a fellow dancer in need.**

**11. I am free to enter into ‘prior consent’ agreement with anyone who freely enters into the agreement with me. Prior consent means, when connecting with this person, usual protocols for engagement may not apply. This applies to those who have some history with each other and can be negotiated off the dance floor.**

 **12. While chatting on the dance floor (and off) is generally discouraged, using words and/or gestures to initiate, accept, decline or otherwise negotiate consent is always okay! Very quiet conversation in the perimeter of the dance is okay, as long as it is not audible to the dancers (please use common sense!)**

**13. All styles of dance are welcome – including but not limited to: solo, ‘mirroring’, contact improv and partner ‘frame’.**

**14. I will refrain from using scents of any kind prior to a dance. Rule of thumb: If I can smell it, they can smell it. If I can’t smell it, they might still smell it. Please be extra careful as this is a serious health concern for some!**

**15. I will refrain from using illegal substances prior to or during a dance. If I use legal mind-altering substances, such as caffeine, tobacco, alcohol, marijuana, or prescription medications, I will maintain a relative mental and physical state of sobriety that allows me to follow all the dance agreements without exception. I also understand that others are free to decline dances with me based on my usage and will not take offense if that happens.**

**16. I will respect the space by wearing dance shoes, socks or bare feet and by cleaning up water spills or debris on the floor.**

**Management reserves the right to remove any individual or group that willfully violate the intent and/or letter of this agreement.**