Our First Full Year of CDSS Web Chats!

We’re thrilled to announce that our four web chats in 2019 included 21 guest speakers and 185 participants from 25 states, 3 provinces, and France! Topics included:

- **January 16: Increasing Youth Involvement** discussed social media, university affiliations, including youth as organizers and board members, respect and safety, gender-free calling, making events affordable, and more.
- **April 4: Family/Community Dance Organizers Unite** discussed creating and sustaining intergenerational dances, flexible partnering, engaging volunteers, including fun non-dance activities, connecting with the broader music, dance, and song community, and related topics.
- **July 11: Building Safe Dance Communities** discussed resources to help music, song, and dance groups provide safe environments at their events, including tips for addressing complaints, giving effective feedback, a toolkit for developing policies and procedures, etc.
- **October 16: Connecting Community Sing Organizers** was our first web chat to support organizers of community singing groups across the continent! Guest speakers shared their experiences and perspectives about leading song circles, sea chantey sings, and pub sings.

To delve further into this new resource, check out the recordings and materials from these web chats on the CDSS website:

```html
<cdss.org/resources/how-to/organizers>
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See back cover for news about next web chat in mid-February.

### Online Auction Coming in March!

If you’ve been to a CDSS camp, you know that the fundraising auction is a fun way to support CDSS and win some unique items. If you’ve never been, then you’ll soon have a chance to find out what you’ve been missing! The CDSS Board will run the first ever North American CDSS online auction in March. Items will include opportunities to commission/name dance tunes and dances from leading choreographers and composers, chances to have leading dance callers call a dance in your community, exotic home stays, and much more. Look for more information at CDSS.org, on social media, and in emails from CDSS. The fun begins in March!

### Call for Scholarly Song and Dance Articles

**Country Dance + Song Online**, CDSS’s peer-reviewed scholarly journal, is seeking articles that explore how Anglo-American dance and song traditions continue to be relevant in the age of the internet and the cell phone.

What’s your passion? Check out our past articles [cdss.org/programs/cdss-news-publications/cds-online](cdss.org/programs/cdss-news-publications/cds-online) and submit your paper or proposal to Allison Thompson, General Editor, by February 1, 2020.

Email: Allison.1775.Thompson@gmail.com

### Poetry & Painting by Sarah Hirsch

**Orbit**

you can feel that pull, the momentum an arc of someone’s life swung for a moment into your orbit eyes locked

and there’s a certain embarrassment a caught me gasp but there’s no time

for we have already seen each other caught by the chance of looking

as we move through sound each of us a particular specific story a satellite of yearning and touch and distance and there is a clinging—a static realization of love, maybe—

I can only believe love knows many forms before we tessellate and realign and know someone else again

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Sarah Hirsch is a lifelong dancer living in the Boston, MA, area who is also a prolific visual artist. You can see her work at [www.sghirsch.com](http://www.sghirsch.com).

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Did you know? CDSS has scanned and uploaded vintage issues of The Country Dancer to their website. Why? For you to read and enjoy! —The above appeared in the 1965/66 issue.