

We Came, We Saw, We Contra'd

- Description:** *This phrase is a variation on the famous declaration of Julius Caesar that "I came, I saw, I conquered." So our theme is all about ancient Rome.*
- Decorations:** *Mostly what establishes the illusion of ancient Rome is pillars. Toss up a couple of Styrofoam pillars (or hang a couple of pieces of cloth with pillars drawn on them) at the front corners of the stage, put a triangular facade atop, and bingo, you've got ancient Rome. An artful spiral of ivy ascending your pillar would not be taken amiss. Posters can have schedules and such superimposed on images of pillars. Faux Latin can make the verbiage more fun. Laurel wreaths and chariots are also part of the imagery.*
- Costumes:** *First and foremost, The Toga, a costume available to anyone who owns a sheet. But there are many Roman costume choices for those who like to exhibit finer style (simple belts and such) as well as the Egyptian costumery suggested by Caesar's acquaintance with Cleopatra. References to the Roman gods and goddesses (Mars, Venus, Jupiter, Diana, Mercury, Neptune, etc.) could also come into play.*
- Skit:** *We know Julius Caesar primarily from Shakespeare's play. The famous "Friends, Romans, Contra Dancers, lend me your feet" speech seems likely to be aired. We might have a story of Queen Cleopatra teaching contra dancing to the barbaric Romans, for example, or perhaps the Roman gods bestowing the gift of dance upon their followers.*

It's A Great Contra Dance, Charlie Brown

- Description:** *The Peanuts/Charlie Brown gang learns about the Atlanta Dance Weekend. Peanuts characters also a natural inclusion for registration flyer. We can have several Charlie Brown/Peanuts sound effects as MP3 on laptop plugged into sound system, such as "Woodstock chirps", "Arrrrgh!!", Red Barron plane sound, "You Block-Head!", "Wah Wah Wah" teacher voice.*
- This can include:*
- Red Barron plane overhead and Snoopy on bullet riddled dog house.
 - Lucy's Psychiatry & Advice booth in lobby (Christin Whittington may be a good character choice here)
 - Making Schroder's Mini-Grand piano with electronic keyboard (Kate Barnes/LDL or Sven Carlberg could both play Schroder's piano, part of the time)
 - Hallway decoration posters, showing History of Peanuts over the years, misc. fun-facts, and general biography of Charles Schultz.
 - Collection library of Peanuts cartoon books in lobby for people to read.
 - A few Peanuts coloring books, if we can still find some.
 - Blue "Linus Blanket" positioned in display case.
 - A "Face Cut-Out" photo spot. Like tourist attractions have, with Peanuts
- Decorations:**

characters painted on front.

- *Pumpkin Patch Lounge*
- *Charlie Brown's Kite stuck in tree (or rafters)*

Costumes:

Dancers can pick from any of the well-known Peanuts characters, from Lucy, Linus, Charlie Brown, Snoopy, Woodstock, Sally, Peppermint Patty, also many variations of Snoopy & relatives (Dog with red bowl, Curse You Red Barron, Spike, Joe Cool) or Great Pumpkin, Dog House, York-Peppermint Patty, crashed kite, etc.

Skit:

Skit can be a variation of "Great Pumpkin", where Linus & Charlie Brown describe contra dancing in grade-school kid terms, to the "Wah Wah" teacher, and some of the other kids who have never seen a dance. Some will be interested... others skeptical (like Great Pumpkin story)... Woodstock can be excited, and Bill Porter may provide flute chirp effects... Charlie Brown can be hopeful of seeing the Little Red Haired girl there... After things get going, Snoopy can do his happy dance... We might include short contra dance, with Peanuts theme music "Linus & Lucy"... or could save that for later.

Oliver!

Description:

Oliver Twist discovers Contra

Decorations:

Appliances boxes made to look like the workhouse; silhouettes, 1870s streetlight, posters

Costumes:

Period pieces from dowdy workhouse clothes, hats, finger-less gloves, scarves, long coats.

Skit:

On the way to the workhouse, Oliver sees a contradance. He joins in only to be snatched out by Mr. Bumble the workhouse master. He asks, "Please, Sir, may I dance some more?" Oliver runs away from the workhouse and finds himself in the company Contradancers. Key songs to contratize: Consider Yourself; Food Glorious Food/ Tunes, Glorious, Tunes! Musician strolls by, and stared at longingly by the boys; Who Will Buy/Who Will Dance? Oliver tries to find a dance partner; You got to Pick a Pocket or Two/You got to Dance a Contra or Two; Reviewing the Situation

Dancing in the Woods

Description:

Trees, Wood elves, Greenery, Fairies, Nymphs, Centaurs, etc.

Decorations:

Green, leafy, lush forest

Costumes:

Green / any forest theme or color

Skit:

A Midsummer Night's Dream...

Under the C(CD)

Description:

Ocean and underwater theme with fish and sea creatures. Mermaids and mermen abound with seaweed in their hair and fish scales sparkling.

Decorations:

Hall is decorated with multicolored green and blue crepe paper (seaweed) and seashell cutouts. Fish and coral cut outs painted in sparkling colors and blue and green twinkle lights add to the seascape. White and blue balloons are bubbles (We got no troubles, life is the bubbles! Under the C(CD)).

Costumes:

From T-shirts with fish on them to diving costumes with or without snorkel, mermaid leggings (from \$7.63 on Amazon) with sparkly tops, pearl-encrusted or seashell bras, and pirates lurking in Davy Jones's locker. Is that a jellyfish made with pink and white boas? Squid skirt with swirling tentacles. That electric eel costume is shocking!

Skit: Musical number by Hot Crustacean Band"(Atlanta band dressed in red) with melody and alternate words from Under The Sea"from The Little Mermaid.

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Skit:

*The newt play the flute
The carp play the harp
The plaice play the bass
And they soundin' sharp
The bass play the brass
The chub play the tub
The fluke is the duke of soul
(Yeah)"*

(with words changed to match band members and instruments)

"Dancing is better, when you are wetter, under the C(CD)!"

Contra Circus

Description:

Juggling, Ponies, Elephants, Acrobats

Decorations:

Streamers in bright colors, Posters, Popcorn

Costumes:

Tights, Clowns, Ring Masters, etc.

Skit:

Circle up and prance like horses, clowns try to ride ponies

Game of Contra

- Description:** *A dance in Westeros, where intriguers' romance rule the day. Whether you are a king, a queen, a lady, a knight or a commoner, you can join the game of contra!*
- Decorations:** *Medieval rocks, castles, goblets & steins for water, old-fashioned food like drumsticks & bread, green grass & forest themes
Kings Landing – fancy dresses, court wear & robes
Wildlings – wear furs and bows & arrows*
- Costumes:** *Dothrakis – dress like horsemen
Many kinds of costumes can fit the theme – flowing dresses, fur, flowing robes, sashes, swords, dragons, wolves, jesters*
- Skit:** *Sword fight dance*

Contra at Hogwarts

- Description:** *To all Harry Potter fans, please join us for a magical evening. Muggles and wizards are welcome all!*
- Decorations:** *Packages available at costume shops; Electric candles on the walls, warm yellow-orange background lighting*
- Costumes:** *Maroon & Gold tie or scarf, Gryffindor robe, Round glasses, Lighting bolt “scar”*
- Skit:** *One Contra to rule them all!*

What the Contraflock?

- Description:** *Flamingos & birds galore, nests, coops, feeders, feathers (I have 11 huge, pink flamingos as mascots)*
- Decorations:** *Sky, trees, flowers, lawns with birds of all kinds and colors*
- Costumes:** *Bird of choice, feathers, wings, beaks*
- Skit:** *I love pink! Pink Floyd songs, Flock of Seagulls, The Flamingos, Maxine Nightingale, The Eagles, The Fabulous Thunderbirds, Old Crow Medicine Show, Counting Crows, The Byrds, The Yardbirds, The O'Jays, Dixie Chicks....*

Mystic and Magic Contra

- Description:** *Quote That Captures the Mystic & Magic of Music:
“Music is a world within itself, it's a language we all understand.” – Stevie Wonder*
- Decorations:** *Decorations would be crystals, crystal ball, love potions, candles, cats, astrology, unicorn, glitter, magic trick props, séance, aromatherapy, top hats, magic forest, wands, cards, magic lamp*
- Costumes:** *Fortune teller; gypsy; magician; wizard; witch; genie; fantasy-related*
- Skit:** *Skit would involve a magic trick, such as livening up a crowd by using a magic music song, or wand, or a magic spell...*