



City of Cambridge

47.

IN CITY COUNCIL

August 4, 1997

COUNCILLOR REEVES
 VICE MAYOR BORN
 COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU
 COUNCILLOR DAVIS
 COUNCILLOR DUEHAY
 COUNCILLOR GALLUCCIO
 MAYOR RUSSELL
 COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
 COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: It has come to the attention of this City Council that **Rozann Kraus** has resigned as director of the Dance Complex and reclaimed her time for dancing; and

WHEREAS: Rozann is the person who made the Dance Complex happen and saved the historic Oddfellows Building in Central Square for dancers six years ago when the Joy of Movement ceased to exist in that space; and

WHEREAS: Rozann lobbied the city for assistance; fought for grants and generated the publicity necessary to save the historic space for dance; and

WHEREAS: Rozann has been the spiritual and practical force behind the Dance Complex; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record expressing its appreciation to **Rozann Kraus** for her creativity, dedication and perseverance for the benefit of dance and dancers as Director of the Dance Complex; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Council express its best wishes to Rozann as she begins the next chapter of her professional life; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to prepare a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution for presentation to **Rozann Kraus** on behalf of the entire City Council.

In City Council August 4, 1997

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

D. Margaret Drury

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk

KR
VMB
KT

#47

Whereas: It has come to the attention of this City Council
that Rozann Kraus has resigned as director of the
Dance Complex and reclaimed her time for dancing; and

Whereas: Rozann is the person who made the
Dance Complex happen ^{and saved the historic Oddfellows} ~~several~~ years ago when
the joy of movement ceased to exist in
that space; and

Building
in Central
Square for
dancers

Whereas: Rozann lobbied the City for assistance; fought
for grants and ^{generated} ~~received~~ the publicity necessary
to save the historic space for dance; and

Whereas: Rozann has been the spiritual and practical
force behind the Dance Complex; ~~for time~~ ~~as~~
now therefore be it

Resolved: That the C-C go on record expressing its
appreciation to Rozann Kraus for her
creativity, dedication and perseverance for the
benefit of dance and dancers as
Director of the Dance Complex; and be it
further

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August 4, 1997

COUNCILLOR REEVES, *VMB*
KT

RESOLVED: That this City Council go on record expressing congratulations to **Rozann Kraus** for serving as Executive Director of the Dance Complex. (chronicle)

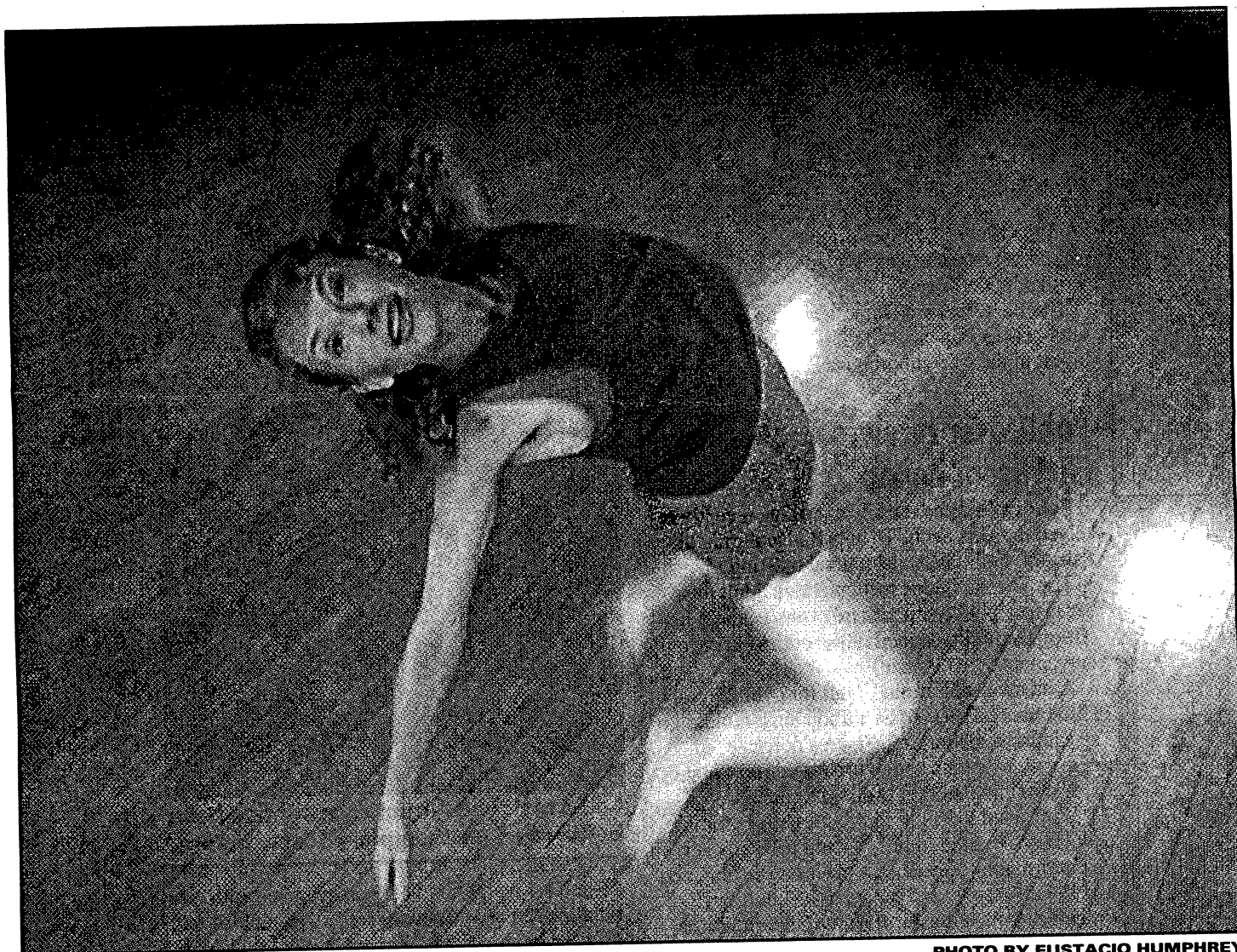


PHOTO BY EUSTACIO HUMPHREY

Rozann Kraus is giving up her post as director of the Dance Complex after nearly six years dedicated to breathing life into the Central Square dance collective.

Jeté from Dance Complex to simpler life

BY AMY MILLER
Chronicle Staff

The woman who most would agree made the Dance Complex happen nearly six years ago has decided to retire as its director and reclaim her time for dancing.

After giving herself almost completely to the Central Square dance collective, Rozann Kraus has resigned as director of the operation, leaving an opening for a new director.

"I'm going to get my life back as a dancer," said Kraus, who will continue to serve as president of the Dance Com-

plex board.

At this point, no one has stepped into Kraus' shoes as director of the volunteer-run organization, but Kraus said she was convinced it was time for her to move on, for the good of both the Dance Complex and herself.

"I've been talking about leaving in various ways for the past couple of years. It's just time," said Kraus, 44, who officially resigned May 22 on the full moon. "The Dance Complex is five and half and as the founder and director it's time for a transition. It's like the life of a pair of socks or the elastic on underwear."

It was Kraus who lobbied the city,

fought for grants and received the publicity necessary to save the historic Oddfellow's Building in Central Square for dancers. The building formerly housed the Joy of Movement, a dance studio and school popular in the area.

Kraus said she leaves the Complex convinced it is in as good shape as it ever has been.

"It's as stable as it's going to be," she said.

A lawsuit pending against Kraus and the Dance Complex also influenced her decision to step down, she said. A dancer filed a civil rights action against her after the plaintiff and another dancer were in a fight

DANCE, page 11

Jeté from Dance Complex to simpler life

DANCE, from page 1

and were asked not to return.

Kraus noted it's a challenge to run any non-profit organization and even more of a challenge running a volunteer-based outfit.

Although she is still president of the board and will keep an office in the building, Kraus said she has stopped doing much of her old work since she resigned.

"I'm not doing publicity, writing grants; I'm not doing the kind of outreach I've normally been doing, or orientation things," she said.

Although Kraus readily admits her role as the spiritual and practical force behind the complex for many years, she says she is not worried about its future.

Rather, she said, "I'm interested to see where it's going to go." But she quickly adds that she is a bit concerned the collective will soon look like other non-profits, run by professional staff, rather than full-time artists who volunteer.

That's the easier path, she said. But Kraus believes the volunteer base is what makes the Dance Complex "run in a way to accommodate artists."

"That [change] wouldn't be OK, but my leaving means I have to accept what happens," she said.

Having artists run the Dance Complex means it is staffed by a transient community, which "by its nature almost makes the concept of community an oxymoron," she said. This also means it doesn't necessarily function as efficiently as it could.

For instance, most organizations encourage long-term memberships by offering discounts for those willing to sign up for longer periods. At the Dance Complex,

"The Dance Complex is five and half and as the founder and director it's time for a transition. It's like the life of a pair of socks or the elastic on underwear."

Rozann Kraus

though, staffers believe those who can afford a six-month advance membership have more money and thus should not be charged less.

"That's an example [of a philosophy] that coats all the major decisions at the Dance Complex," she said.

Kraus, a resident of North Cambridge, said she doesn't know what she will do next, other than give more time to dancing.

"Since I'm officially being absolved of heady responsibility, I want to give myself seven consecutive days off before I make any decision," she said.

In the meantime, she's been able to enjoy her family in ways not possible during the life of the Dance Complex.

"I went to my son's parent breakfast at his school," said Kraus, who has an 8-year-old son at the Tobin School. What the time has meant so far is "being able to do something like a normal parent."

But Kraus does not look at this as a new life. Rather, she said, "it's more like my old life back."

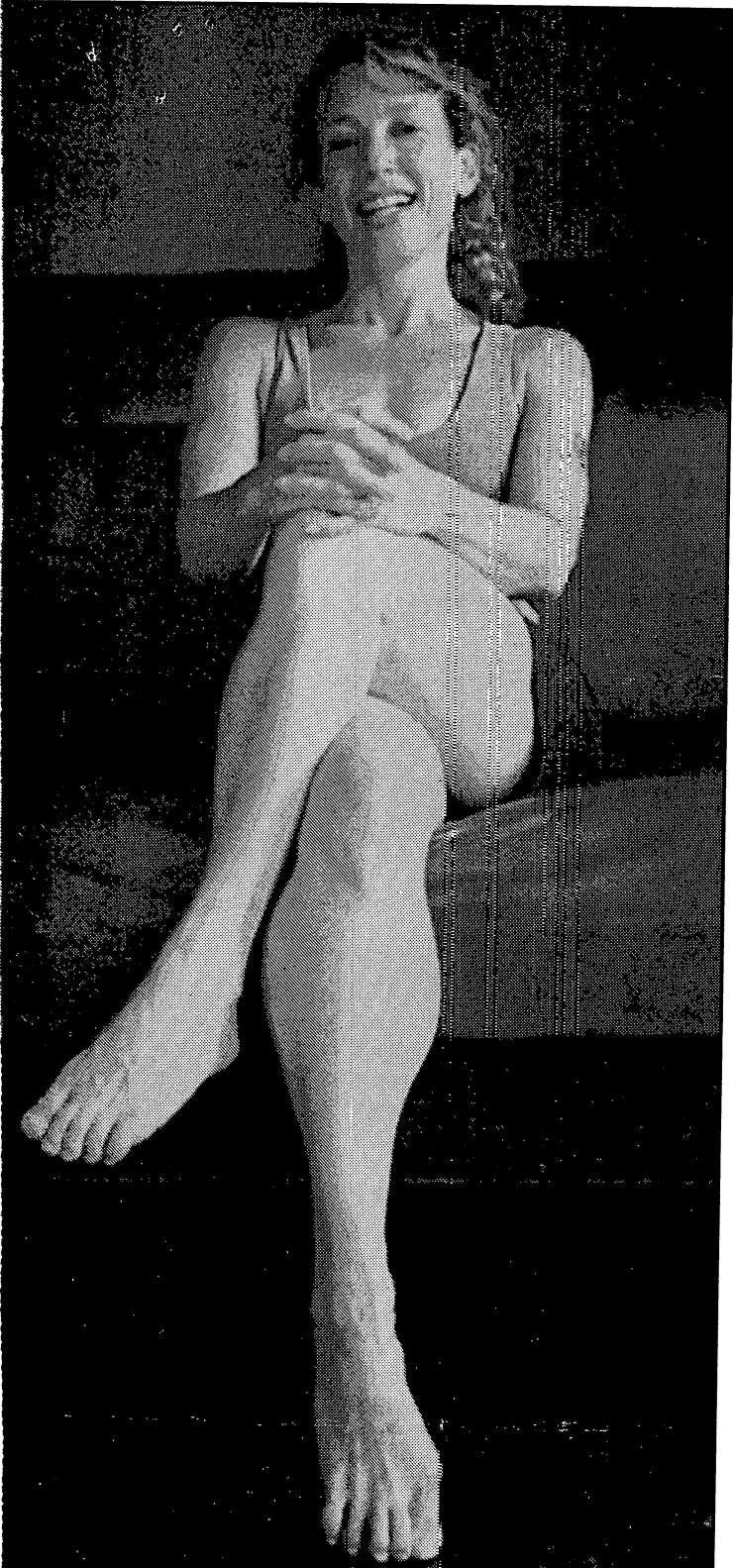


PHOTO BY EUSTACIO HUMPHREY

For nearly six years as director of the Dance Complex, Rozann Kraus is anxious to focus on family and reclaim her time for dancing.

City loses Spanish language newspaper to Boston

WORLD, from page 1

The Hispanic community is one of the growing minority groups in the city. Those who identified themselves as Hispanic in the 1990 census make up 7 percent of the 250,000 residents. That's a 43 percent increase from the 1980 census figures.

great addition to have [El Mundo] there. They're expanding. It's looking really positive."

In a facade improvement program, Boston is matching El Mundo dollar for dollar up to \$10,000 for building upgrades, Vasallo said. Boston is currently offering other programs as well that make it a good match

on Brookline Street and soon moved to the other side of Central Square, to 20 Columbia St. on the corner of Bishop Allen Drive.

The paper was an active spot in Area 4, one of three neighborhoods which are, collectively, home to half of the Spanish-speaking population in the city. The other neighborhoods are

KT. Resolute,

7-11-97

Order L

Rozann Krauss

add
name
to KR

upon retirement

for same couple

(checked. 7/10/97)



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August 4, 1997

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VICE MAYOR BORN
COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

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Consent Order #47

Enthal
memb.
R-1027

Councillor Reeves and Vice Mayor Born
and Councillor Triantafillou re: Congrat-
ulations to Rozann Kraus for serving
as Executive Director of the Dance
Complex.

In City Council August 4, 1997

ORDER ADOPTED