

DANCE/NYC RECEIVES FUNDING FROM DANCE/USA'S ENGAGING DANCE AUDIENCES

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By By Dance/USA

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ENGAGING DANCE AUDIENCES

A PROGRAM OF DANCE/USA

Washington, DC (For Release May 1, 2017) – [Dance/USA](#), the national service organization for professional dance, is pleased to announce that [Engaging Dance Audiences \(EDA\)](#), the national funding program focused on refining and sharing dance audience engagement practices, will award \$1,112,000 in funding to 21 organizations. The 21 grantees from 11 states were selected through a rigorous national review by a peer panel. Since EDA's inception in 2008, Dance/USA has awarded more than 70 grants and related assistance totaling over \$5 million. EDA was established through the generosity of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation.

[See the list of grantees here.](#)

Building on past rounds, the emphasis in this fourth round of EDA is on refining existing engagement programs that have shown success at reaching dance audiences and communities. EDA round four grantees feature projects that meet one of two objectives: 1) The projects refine an existing engagement program, focusing on the quality of the experience for the participating audience or community. 2) The organizations have a track record of engaging African, Latina/o, Asian, Arab, and/or Native American audiences, the LGBTQ community, people with disabilities, communities of faith, or incarcerated people and/or their families.

"We are very grateful to the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation's commitment to audience engagement practices in the national dance field," said Dance/USA Executive Director Amy Fitterer. "I am enthusiastic that EDA Round Four will support a wide range of grantees and projects that continue to reach specific audiences and address important societal issues. We look forward to continuing to share the learning of Engaging Dance Audiences with the broader field."

EDA Round Four grantees include dance companies, presenters, and service organizations, and represent a range of budget sizes and business models, from those that are fiscally sponsored to multi-million dollar nonprofits. In order to engage with a wide range of audiences, grantees will partner with a range of organizations such as middle and high schools, community colleges, historically Black colleges and universities, museums, churches, neighborhood advisory committees, city agencies, parks, senior centers, and cultural/community centers. The cohort of grantees represents a broad spectrum of dance forms and styles, including African, ballet, Bharatanatyam, hip-hop, Irish, Mexican folkloric, movement-theater, Odissi, physically integrated, samba, stepping, tap and other percussive forms, and a wide range of contemporary forms of expression.

EDA Round Four grantees and projects include Dance/NYC. [Visit DanceUSA.org for a complete list of grantees.](#)

Dance Service New York City, Inc. (DBA Dance/NYC), New York, NY
\$55,850 (\$44,000 plus \$11,850 core operating support)

To support components of its Disability. Dance. Artistry. Initiative, including marketing for physically integrated dance groups, video statements from disabled artists, and a disabled dance maker directory. Dance groups include AXIS Dance Company, Jess Curtis/Gravity, Dancing Wheels, Full Radius Dance, Kinetic Light, and Heidi Latsky Dance.

"This new round of Dance/USA EDA funding reaches a robust mix of forms, geographies and communities of concern, vividly illustrating the variety of settings within which audiences can connect to dance," said Maurine Knighton, program director for the arts at the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. "We are pleased to support Dance/USA in sustaining and growing the vibrancy of dance in communities around the country."

The \$1,112,000 total grant support includes \$876,000 in grantee project support and \$236,000 in grantee core operating support. The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation generously offers the core operating support to provide greater stability to the arts sector and to deepen its commitment to groups identified as leaders.

[Visit the Dance/USA website](#) for a full list of the EDA Round Four Grantees and the project descriptions, and information about the review panel.

The EDA Project Manager is Suzanne Callahan, founder of [Callahan Consulting for the Arts](#), who has managed EDA and other re-granting programs for Dance/USA and other organizations.

About the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation

The mission of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation is to improve the quality of people's lives through grants supporting the performing arts, environmental conservation, medical research, and child well-being, and through preservation of the cultural and environmental legacy of Doris Duke's properties. The Arts Program of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation focuses its support on contemporary dance, jazz, and theatre artists, and the organizations that nurture, present, and produce them. For more information, please visit [www.ddcf.org](#).

About Dance/USA

We believe that dance is essential to a healthy society, demonstrating the infinite possibilities for human expression and potential, and facilitating communication within and across cultures. We are committed to honoring, nurturing and advancing dance through the lens of diversity, inclusion and equal opportunity in all aspects of our programming, services and organization.

Dance/USA is the national service organization for the professional dance field. Established in 1982, Dance/USA sustains and advances professional dance by addressing the needs, concerns, and interests of artists, administrators, and organizations. By providing national leadership and services, Dance/USA enhances the infrastructure for dance creation and distribution, education, and dissemination of information. Learn more about Dance/USA by visiting our website, [www.danceusa.org](#).

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