

**Dance/NYC Immigrants. Dance. Arts. Task Force**  
Working Charter as of October 2018

**Mission of Dance Service New York City, Inc. (Dance/NYC):**

Dance/NYC's mission is to promote and encourage the knowledge, appreciation, practice, and performance of dance in the metropolitan New York City area. It embeds values of [justice, equity, and inclusion](#) into all aspects of the organization. Dance/NYC works in alliance with Dance/USA, the national service organization for professional dance.

**Values of Justice, Equity & Inclusion:**

Dance/NYC believes the dance ecology must itself be just, equitable, and inclusive to meaningfully contribute to social progress and envisions a dance ecology wherein power, funding, opportunities, conduct, and impacts are fair for all artists, cultural workers, and audiences. Dance/NYC seeks to dismantle xenophobia in dance and extend the role of dance artistry in fostering the inclusion, integration, and human rights of more than three million immigrants in the New York City area.

**Immigrants. Dance. Arts. Initiative**

In 2017, Dance/NYC began a multi-year initiative to extend the role of dance artistry and dance education in fostering the inclusion, integration, and human rights of immigrants in New York City, while shaping urgent public discussion about changing demographics and immigrant affairs. The initiative includes three primary activities: research, convening, and online information resources. The first year focused on discovery, including the production of quantitative research and initial online information content. The second year is devoted to dialogue and deeper inquiry, including the production of qualitative research and convening.

**Purpose of the Immigrants. Dance. Arts. Task Force**

To advise and assist Dance/NYC's Immigrants. Dance. Arts. Initiative efforts on behalf of the organization and the dance field in the metropolitan New York City area.

**Value to Members**

- Participation in ongoing dialogue about immigrant affairs and NYC dance with key stakeholders;
- Access to Dance/NYC Board, Advisors, and constituents, and representation through Dance/NYC;
- The opportunity to shape field-wide efforts to serve immigrant communities and inform the future of immigrants, dance, and arts in the NYC metropolitan area; and
- Promotional support through Dance/NYC communications

## **Membership**

App. 12 participants, each named for a 1-year renewable term. Dance/NYC seeks participants with lived and learned experience in immigrant artist and arts education matters, including advocates, educators, service providers, and immigrant artists from Africa, Asia, Australia/Oceania, Europe, Middle East/North Africa, North America, and South America. Dance/NYC encourages inclusive and equitable membership and seeks expertise both within and beyond the dance community that is relevant to core initiative activities.

To foster the values of justice, equity, inclusion, and diversity, Dance/NYC seeks participation on the task force from individuals who share and hold these values and reflect the diversity of the metropolitan New York City area, with a focus on majority African, Latina/o/x, Asian, Arab, and Native American (ALAANA) participation and disability and immigration representation. (According to Census data, the New York City population is approximately 77% ALAANA, 10% disabled, and 37% foreign-born. Source: US Census Bureau American FactFinder 2011–2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.)

## **Commitments**

Participants will be expected:

- To make recommendations on initiative activities, especially through feedback on planning documents, research, issue statements, and other communications;
- To consult with constituent groups and introduce Dance/NYC to contacts and resources;
- To be available for counsel with Dance/NYC leadership and relevant staff and independent contractors;
- To include task force participation on biographical and organizational material as possible; and
- To attend ad hoc task force meetings, initiative convening, and Dance/NYC events when possible

*This is an ad hoc task force, with no ownership or formal authority over the entity.*