

## ARTISTS ARE NECESSARY WORKERS

Overview [Take Action](#) [Tune In](#) [Campaign Activations](#)

For reimagining our world / For moving toward an equitable future /  
 For celebrating our diverse cultures / For maintaining our humanity /  
 For strengthening education / For caring for our families /  
 For fueling our economy / For showing the beauty of movement /  
 For sustaining our emotional health / For demanding justice /  
 For rebuilding New York City as a dignified workforce  
 #ArtistsAreNecessaryWorkers @dancenyc

artists are  
 necessary workers.

### Facebook Live Conversation Series

The series has ended. Thank you for tuning in!

*Enjoy this recap video of the 12 conversations!*

After 12 weeks, Dance/NYC closes the #ArtistsAreNecessaryWorkers Facebook Live Conversation Series. This has been one strand of the public campaign towards demanding the acknowledgement, representation and integration of dance and arts workers into the city's future post-pandemic.

Beginning on May 21st, these conversations highlighted the importance of the arts ecology, pointed to current challenges and offered considerations on our way forward as a field. Dance/NYC hosted 12 such events with 50 speakers across various roles: dancers, performers, choreographers, agents, curators, arts educators, administrators, city officials, technologists and many more. With an audience of over 1K unique live attendees, the topics covered disability justice, studio practice, digital futures and the future of touring, performance venues and festivals. The final conversation: Dance As Dignified Labor, further emphasized Dance/NYC's commitment to advocating for dance worker rights and wellbeing.

The "dream team" - Dance/NYC's staff, board and advisors - thank you for your continued support and engagement with the #ArtistsAreNecessaryWorkers campaign during a pivotal time for the dance workforce.

### The #ArtistsAreNecessaryWorkers Campaign Is Not Over! Continue To Take Action By:

- 1) Signing on to the latest advocacy actions on [Dance/NYC's news page](#).
- 2) Joining Dance/NYC's bi-weekly [field-wide calls](#) that address the field's questions, needs, and plans for the future.
- 3) Amplifying the 12 the #ArtistsAreNecessaryWorkers Conversations by sharing and re-experiencing the videos from our [Facebook page](#) [not captioned] and growing list on our [Youtube channel](#) [captioned].
- 4) Sharing this conversation series as an insightful resource for you and your organization during this pivotal moment for the field. Revisit our captioned videos and [visit each webpage](#) for a list of shared resources.

Date	Conversations
Thursday, May 21, 2020	<a href="#">#ArtistsAreNecessaryWorkers: A Call to Action</a>
Tuesday, May 26, 2020	<a href="#">Arts Educators Leading the Charge</a> <div style="text-align: center;"><a href="#">PLAYBACK</a></div>

Date	Conversations
Friday, June 5, 2020	<a href="#">A Moment to Pause/Dystopia</a> <a href="#">PLAYBACK</a>
Tuesday, June 9, 2020	<a href="#">Studio Practice Redefined</a> <a href="#">PLAYBACK</a>
Tuesday, June 16, 2020	<a href="#">Disability Justice as the Vanguard of Recovery Thinking</a> <a href="#">PLAYBACK</a>
Tuesday, June 23, 2020	<a href="#">The Future of Performance Venues</a>
Tuesday, June 30, 2020	<a href="#">Dance in Community</a> <a href="#">PLAYBACK</a>
Tuesday, July 7, 2020	<a href="#">Cultural Workers Behind the Veil</a>
Tuesday, July 14, 2020	<a href="#">Touring in a Post-COVID World</a>
Tuesday, July 21, 2020	<a href="#">A Digital Future for the Arts</a> <a href="#">PLAYBACK</a>
Tuesday, July 28, 2020	<a href="#">What's Next for Festivals?</a>
Tues, August 4, 2020	<a href="#">Dance As Dignified Labor</a>

## Speakers



Alejandra Duque Cifuentes,  
Dance/NYC Strategy and  
Research Consultant +

Founder & Principal, ADC  
Consulting

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Alice Sheppard  
Kinetic Light

[more](#)



Alicia Bauman-Morales, Independent Dance Artist; Organizer, Artists Co-creating Real Equity

[more](#)



Alicia Graf Mack, Director, Dance Division, The Juilliard School

[more](#)



Allie Beach, Director of Youth Programming, Broadway Dance Center

[more](#)



Ana Nery Fragoso, Director of Dance, NYC Department of Education

[more](#)



André Zachery, Artistic Director, Renegade Performance Group

[more](#)



Anna Glass, Executive Director, Dance Theatre of Harlem

[more](#)



Ashley Ferro-Murray, Curator, Experimental Media & Performing Arts Center (EMPAC)

[more](#)



Brinda Guha, Curator, Wise Fruit NYC

[more](#)



Brittany Williams, Organizer and Artists, Co-founder of WoodShed Dance

[more](#)



Candace Thompson-Zachery, Co-Executive Director

[more](#)



Christopher Unpezverde Núñez, Choreographer

[more](#)



Clarissa Soto-Josephs, Executive Director  
Pentacle

[more](#)



Cliff Matias, Cultural Director, Redhawk Indigenous Arts Council

[more](#)



Courtney J. Cook, Performer, Bold Facilitator, Co-Rehearsal Director with Urban Bush Women, Performer & Vocalist

[more](#)



Denise Roberts Hurlin, Founding Director, Dancers Responding to AIDS

[more](#)



Dustin Gibson, Founding Member, Harriet Tubman Collective

[more](#)



Fred Dixon, President + CEO, NYC & Company

[more](#)































Gabri Christa, Film and Dance Maker; Associate Professor of Professional Practice, Barnard College; Director, Move

[more](#)



Georgina Pazcoguin, NYCB Soloist, Co-Founder A Final Bow for Yellowface

[more](#)

-  [Griff Braun](#), Director of Organizing & Outreach, American Guild of Musical Artists [more](#)
-  [Jonelle Procope](#), President & CEO, Apollo Theater [more](#)
-  [Kaisha Johnson](#), Founding Director, Women of Color in the Arts [more](#)
-  [Karesia Batan](#), Founding Executive Director, Queensboro Dance Festival [more](#)
-  [Karisma Jay](#), Performing Artist, Professor, and Executive Artistic Director  
AbunDance Academy of the Arts, Inc [more](#)
-  [Kimberly Olsen](#), Executive Director  
NYC Arts in Education Roundtable [more](#)
-  [Lane Czaplinski](#), Director, Performing Arts, Wexner Center for the Arts [more](#)
-  [Laura Colby](#), President, Elsie Management [more](#)
-  [Leal Zielinska](#), Artistic Associate, Gibney Company [more](#)
-  [Linda Shelton](#), Executive Director, The Joyce Theater Foundation [more](#)
-  [Lucy Sexton](#), Executive Director, New Yorkers For Culture & Arts [more](#)
-  [Marjani Forté-Saunders](#), Choreographer, Co-Visionary of 7NMS| Marjani Forté-Saunders + Everett Saunders, Co-Visionary of Art [more](#)
-  [Marya Wethers](#), Independent Creative Producer & Curator [more](#)
-  [Melanie George](#), Dance Maker, Educator, Dramaturg, Choreographer, Scholar, Founder of Jazz Is... Dance Project [more](#)
-  [Michael Novak](#), Artistic Director, Paul Taylor Dance Company [more](#)
-  [Michelle Manzanales](#), Director, School of Dance, Ballet Hispánico [more](#)
-  [Naomi Goldberg Haas](#), Artistic Director, Dances for a Variable Population [more](#)
-  [Pamela Tatge](#), Executive & Artistic Director, Jacob's Pillow [more](#)
-  [Phil Chan](#), Co-Founder  
Final Bow for Yellowface [more](#)
-  [Quilan "Cue" Arnold](#), Dancer and Choreographer [more](#)
-  [Rebecca Ferrell](#), Director of Programs, Dance/USA [more](#)
-  [Sade Lythcott](#), CEO, National Black Theatre [more](#)
-  [Sheila Lewandowski](#), Executive Director, The Chocolate Factory Theater [more](#)
-  [Simi Linton](#), Arts Consultant, Author, Filmmaker & Activist [more](#)
-  [Stanford Makishi](#), Vice President for Programming, New York City Center [more](#)
-  [Sydney Skybetter](#), Lecturer and Public Humanities Fellow, Brown University [more](#)
-  [Tiffany Rea-Fisher](#), Artistic Director & Choreographer  
EMERGE125 [more](#)
-  [Traci Lester](#), Executive Director, National Dance Institute [more](#)



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## Series Schedule

Launch: Thursday, May 21, 2020 from 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Full Series: Every Tuesday starting May 26, 2020 through August 4, 2020 from 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Registration: No registration was required. *All conversations broadcast live, free and open to the public*

About: A series of transparent conversations with arts workers highlighting the importance of the arts ecology, pointing to current challenges and offering considerations on our way forward as a field. Most events were moderated by Alejandra Duque Cifuentes or Candace Thompson-Zachery, with the exception of a few guest moderators.

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## Special Thanks

Dance/NYC thanks LC Interpreting Services and The Viscardi Center for ASL interpretation and Closed Captioning services throughout the entire series.



*#ArtistsAreNecessaryWorkers*  
*#DancelsDignifiedLabor #DanceWorkforceResilience #dancenyc #nycdance*

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*Dance/NYC seeks partners and speakers with a variety of viewpoints for its events with the goal of generating discussion. The inclusion of any partner or speaker does not constitute an endorsement by Dance/NYC of that partner's or speaker's views.*