

**Disability.
Dance.
Artistry.**



DANCE/NYC TOWN HALL

Disability. Dance. Artistry (Inter)national Voices Series

Dance Educators and Disability

October 17, 2016

David Dorfman and Victoria Marks

Moderated by: Alice Sheppard

AS EDUCATORS

1. What comprises a dance education for disabled people?
2. What comprises a meaningful education for faculty teaching physically integrated classes?
3. Are there existing programs for such teacher preparation?
4. How does the history of disabled people entering dance training compare to the history of people of color entering formerly exclusively white worlds of dance? What are the differences and the similarities in terms of:
 - a. shifts in admissions practices
 - b. shifts in the culture of the school/conservatory
 - c. other factors related to what is taught, how it is taught and by whom it is taught?
5. Why are there so few interested in disabled dancers? Why are people unprepared to consider disabled students as viable candidates for dance education?
6. What factors in the K-12 system impede or enhance the likelihood of success of disabled dancers in higher education?
7. What can we do to change any of these factors related to preparation, faculty preparedness, and performance?

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8. How can teachers/professors/administrators change that?
9. What distinguishes those, such as yourself, who have been open to this work?

AS CHOREOGRAPHERS:

1. Do you make work that is about “race” or other categories of identity? How do you conceptualize that?
2. What do you see as the possibilities for making work that is about “disability”?
3. What kinds of audience reactions to disabled artists have you observed? Are there reactions that bother you? What are they? What do you think might change those responses?