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Dance Education Leaders Move Forward At Luna's Leadership Institute

Berkeley, Ca- Luna Dance Institute (LDI) is proud to announce the completion of the first Dance Education Leadership Cohort. Spanning a period of 15 months, seven remarkable leaders dedicated to dance education completed Luna's first Leadership Institute November 30, 2014.

Funded by a generous grant from the Clarence E. Heller Foundation, Leadership Institute participants were selected through a competitive process of California dance educators representing diverse backgrounds and teaching settings that range from early childhood, K-5, middle and high school, college and afterschool/community programs. Each leader received ongoing direct mentorship from LDI's Director of Teaching and Learning, Patricia Reedy throughout the year. In August, they met for a week-long intensive and attended workshops taught by Luna faculty and guests. The cohort presented their visions and created goals to increase the trajectory of their impact in the field of dance. They returned to their settings to implement the goals articulated during the summer, finalizing their projects by the end of the year.

Meg Glaser Teran has worked with Luna for seven years and completed the LDI Summer Institute in 2008. Through Luna's Building Cultures of Dance Initiative, Meg has developed three family dance programs in collaboration with TWF, the Migrant Education program of Anaheim City School District, and Active Learning. The Leadership Institute helped Meg coalesce her work building family dance projects in Southern California, and increased her capacity to provide professional development in dance.

Education and Outreach Director and Leadership alum Annika Presley reported, "The Leadership cohort has showed me where my strengths are, but also where my passion is. It has helped me articulate what is important to me in a career and how I want to be seen as a leader."

LDI Director of Teaching and Learning, Patricia Reedy is ecstatic about the outcomes of the Leadership Institute. She states, "It is exciting to witness the next generation of dance education leaders gain confidence, connect with peers and learn to effectively communicate their intentions and vision. At this point in my own career I am encouraged to see the ripple effect of dance education in motion- reaching audiences beyond what I am able to see or touch directly. I know that the world will be a better place in the hands of these leaders."

LDI's Professional Learning program fulfills the mission of bringing all children to dance by providing comprehensive education and support to all who teach. Last year, 250 artists and teachers came to Luna, in turn bringing improved dance instruction to 24,499 students. Summer 2015, Luna offers many intensive learning opportunities including the annual Summer Institute, bringing six dance teaching artists and six classroom teachers/practitioners together for a year of collegial exchange at no cost to selected participants (selected through application process); a second family dance institute; and courses in developing and implementing curricula. Visit lunadanceinstitute.org for more information.



ABOUT LUNA DANCE INSTITUTE

Luna Dance Institute (LDI) is the most comprehensive dance education organization on the west coast. We serve children, families, dance artists, educators, schools and organizations through a variety of programs aimed at increasing access to dance for everyone. Last year we brought dance to over 20,000 children and 300 artists, teachers, and social- service providers. Our rigorous approach emphasizes creativity, collaboration, and composition. LDI's programs include Professional Learning, providing education and support to all who teach dance; Studio Laboratory, the Bay Area's only choreography-based program for children and teens; School and Community Alliances (SCA), supporting schools in our community to build standards-based dance programs; Moving Parents and Children Together (MPACT), providing parent-child dance classes to families in the child welfare system. As an established Institution with a national reputation for expertise and training in dance education—Luna's Building Cultures of Dance initiative offers program planning, implementation, consultation and evaluation to schools, districts, and arts organizations throughout the country. For more information visit:

lunadanceinstitute.org  