

LUNA DANCE INSTITUTE

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Luna Dance Institute Awarded California Arts Council “Local Impact”, “Artists in Schools”, and “Professional Development and Consulting” Grants

State funds extend the reach of the arts to local underserved populations

Berkeley, CA– The California Arts Council (CAC) announced its plans to award \$41,000 to Luna Dance Institute as part of its programs: Local Impact, Artists in School (AIS) Engagement, and Professional Development and Consulting (PDC).

The CAC grants will support Luna’s MPACT (Moving Parents and Children Together) and School & Community Alliance (SCA) programs. CAC’s Local Impact grant for the MPACT program fosters equity, access, and opportunity by providing project and partnership support for small arts organizations. Luna’s MPACT program engages families in relationship-based dance classes designed for families who experience separation due to court mandates, immigration, or economic hardship. The Artists in Schools Engagement Grant supports the SCA program, which builds partnerships of artists, teachers, and public schools to implement comprehensive K-5 standards-based dance education programs. Luna’s SCA includes model dance classes, side-by-side coaching, in-services and family dance events in effort to create sustainably viable programs that reach those with the least access to arts.

CAC’s Professional Development and Consulting grant will help launch a newly designed website. Luna has an abundance of programming and resources to share with teachers, parents, administrators, policy-makers, choreographers, and more; optimizing the website will allow Luna to advance its goal to bring dance to all children by leveraging best-practices of digital marketing and user experience.

“Despite the ups and downs associated with our state’s budget, the California Arts Council has bravely supported artists and arts organizations for the past 41 years. We are incredibly grateful for their commitment to enriching the lives of all Californians through their grant programs that support organizations like Luna Dance Institute that bring arts education to schools, social service agencies, libraries, and cultural centers. We are proud to be a grantee this year through their Artist in Schools, Local Impact, and Professional Development and Consulting grant programs.” Nancy Ng, Luna Dance Institute Director of Community Engagement.

Luna Dance Institute is one of 130 grantees chosen for this highly competitive program, which received applications from 203 organizations statewide. The news of Luna Dance Institute’s grant was featured as part of a larger announcement from the California Arts Council, which can be viewed online at <http://arts.ca.gov/news/pressreleases.php>.

Luna Dance Institute’s projects helps to further the Arts Council’s vision of enriching the lives of all Californians through arts participation, while allowing the local community to access their own creativity.



About Luna Dance Institute

Luna Dance Institute, a 501(c)(3), was founded in 1992 and brings dance and creative movement to children, adults, and families throughout the San Francisco Bay Area, and throughout the United States. In its 25 years, Luna has created continuously-running dance programs in the Oakland Unified School District, and its MPACT program currently offers 90 parent-child classes a year to families in residential centers and public libraries throughout Oakland. Dance educators around the nation look to Luna's outreach programs, workshops, and resources as a model for the possibilities and potential of dance education. lunadanceinstitute.org