

Luna Dance Institute Presents at Two National Arts Education Conferences

Berkeley, CA - This November Luna Dance Institute (LDI) faculty will present at the **National Dance Education Organization Conference (NDEO) in San Antonio, TX and the National Guild for Community Arts Education Conference in San Francisco, CA**. LDI, a non-profit dance education organization, is known regionally and throughout the nation as a progressive institute that provides comprehensive dance teacher training and equitable programming with an emphasis in creativity and community building. This year, LDI joins nationwide arts educators and leaders to share their expertise in curriculum, advocacy, and arts management, and to engage in critical dialogue with those in the field.

LDI is a long-time member of NDEO and the National Guild and has presented at their conferences for over a decade. The faculty at Luna continues to be a resource for these national organizations as NDEO and the National Guild progress and evolve to better serve the arts sector. Luna's founder, Patricia Reedy, attended NDEO's very first conference in 2001 and for many years felt there was a lack of CA teachers present. With LDI co-director, Nancy Ng, Reedy made a point to encourage other CA dance educators to become more involved with the umbrella organization to ensure adequate voice and representation. Later Ng was elected co-president of the CA Dance Education Association (CDEA), helping them, a much smaller group merge with NDEO. In 2008 Reedy was named *Outstanding Educator* by NDEO, and both she and Ng currently sit on their Dance Education in Practice Journal editorial board. The co-directors continue to lead Special Interest Groups on early childhood and the private sector at annual conferences.

This year Ng will present a workshop on family dance and lead the conference's first special interest group on dance and equity with CDEA's President-elect, Nicole Robinson. Parallel to the conference theme, "Cultivating Equity and Access: Dance Education for All" Reedy and LDI teaching artist and communications manager, Cherie Hill, will share a brief history of LDI's equity work and communicative practices used within the organization and with outside agencies.

In response to NDEO hosting their first Dance and Equity Special Interest Group, Ng states, "For any organization, institutional change is difficult, and I am heartened that NDEO is willing to tackle this very huge issue of dance & equity in our field."

The National Guild is an early funder of LDI's School and Community Alliances program, and supported Luna to create Oakland Unified School District's first elementary school to have a full standards-based dance program where each classroom teacher received professional development, and every child danced. At this year's National Guild Conference, LDI will partner with the Guild to host an on-site visit and panel. The site-visit will include a morning tour of ODC. After, attendees will visit Luna's Berkeley studio for a guest panel on community, power, and privilege in dance. Ng, one of last year's recipients of the Guild's Milestone Award for dedicated service to the field of arts education, will be facilitating this panel. Panelists include Tammy Johnson, Eddie Madril, Judith Smith, and Hill (who is part of the Guild's 2017 Community Arts Education Leadership Cohort). As part of the conference's arts management track, Reedy will lead a workshop on evaluation and purpose, sharing how data gathered from evaluative sources can be integrated to strengthen programming.

Click for more information on [NDEO](#) and [National Guild](#) Conferences and to visit lunadancenstitute.org.

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 all. 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    