

## **The National Endowment for the Arts Grants Luna Dance Institute \$30,000 for the Summer Institute and Professional Learning**

Berkeley, CA – National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Acting Chairman Mary Anne Carter has approved more than \$80 million in grants as part of the Arts Endowment's second major funding announcement for fiscal year 2019. Included in this announcement is an Art Works grant of \$30,000 to Luna Dance Institute for Dance Teaching & Learning Studies through our Professional Learning.

"These awards, reaching every corner of the United States, are a testament to the artistic richness and diversity in our country," said Mary Anne Carter, acting chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. "Organizations such as Luna Dance Institute are giving people in their community the opportunity to learn, create, and be inspired."

The NEA Art Works grant will support Luna's weeklong **Summer Institute** held July 2019 in Oakland, CA with follow-up, and sustained coaching throughout the year. Summer Institute alumni receive advising from LDI faculty as they hone their skills as mentors and leaders, plus the opportunity to participate in advanced professional development, keeping them engaged as life-long learners and significant contributors to the field.

Luna began our Summer Institute (SI) nineteen years ago with the vision of bringing dance artists and classroom teachers together to learn from each other, create community, develop the art of dance teaching, and activate and inspire individual and collective imaginations.

SI participants are selected through a competitive application process and commit to a year of intensive professional development. "This year's cohort is already asking critical questions about dance education, equity, inclusion, and leadership," says Professional Learning Associate Jochelle Pereña. "They teach in studios, preschools, classrooms, community centers, in the air, and in the forest. By extending conceptions of who and where people can dance, they will push our field to new heights."

### **Luna proudly welcomes the following educators to our 19th Summer Institute:**

**Aimee Green**, Montclair Elementary, Oakland, CA

**Andreina Maldonado**, Performing Arts Workshop, San Francisco, CA

**Ariel Appel**, Abundant Beginnings, Oakland, CA

**Bhumi Patel**, Shawl-Anderson Dance Center, Berkeley, CA and West Valley College, Saratoga, CA

**Cindy Miner Kapelke**, educational therapist & consultant throughout the Bay Area

# LUNA DANCE INSTITUTE

Media Contact: Cherie Hill  
[chill@lunadanceinstitute.org](mailto:chill@lunadanceinstitute.org)

(510) 883.1118

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 26, 2019

**Cynthia Conlon McManus**, Xian Yun Academy, Studio 505 Movement Arts, and Children's Center For Dance at German International School of Silicon Valley, San Francisco, CA

**Erin Walter**, St. Mary's Episcopal School, Memphis, TN

**Jessica Kershner**, Acorn Woodland, Oakland, CA

**Michaela Summers**, Echo Horizon, Culver City, CA

**Samad Raheem Guerra**, CONTRA-TIEMPO Urban Latin Dance Theater, Los Angeles, CA

**Sharon Benitez**, Luther Burbank School, San Jose, CA

**Stacie Lackler**, Nia House Learning Center, Berkeley, CA

**Suzanne Gallo**, Bandaloop, Oakland, CA

For more information on this National Endowment for the Arts grant announcement, visit [arts.gov/news](https://www.arts.gov/news). To learn more about Luna's Summer Institute, visit [lunadanceinstitute.org/professional-development/institutes/summer](https://www.lunadanceinstitute.org/professional-development/institutes/summer).

## 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](https://www.lunadanceinstitute.org)    