

The National Endowment for the Arts Grants Luna Dance Institute \$35,000 for the Summer Institute and Professional Learning

Berkeley, CA – National Endowment for the Arts Chairman Mary Anne Carter has approved more than \$84 million in grants as part of the Arts Endowment's second major funding announcement for fiscal year 2020. Included in this announcement is an Art Works award of \$35,000 to Luna Dance Institute for our Dance Teaching & Learning Studies through Professional Learning. This is one of 1015 grants nationwide that the agency has approved in this category.

"These awards demonstrate the resilience of the arts in America, showcasing not only the creativity of their arts projects but the organizations' agility in the face of a national health crisis," said Mary Anne Carter, chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. "We celebrate organizations like Luna for providing opportunities for learning and engagement through the arts in these times."

The NEA Art Works grant will support Luna's 20th **Summer Institute** held for the first time as a blended yearlong course, incorporating online workshops, spring in-person training, collegial support, and sustained coaching. 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) with the vision of bringing dance teaching 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. "Our 20th cohort is asking questions about critical reflection, anti-bias teaching, and child-centered learning," says Professional Learning Manager Jochelle Pereña. "As they face a year already fraught with challenges, they are digging deep into their values and teaching practices as a way to consider creative possibility and transformation."

Luna proudly welcomes the following educators to our 20th Summer Institute:

Andrea Fuchilieri, ODC, San Francisco, CA and Berkeley Unified School District

Annalise Constantz, Brisbane Dance Workshop and ODC, San Francisco, CA; RoCo Dance, Marin, CA

Bernadette LaNoue, Bella Vista Early Childhood Program, Oakland, CA

Cristina Paul, UCLA Lab School, Los Angeles, CA

Garley Briggs, GiGi Tonyé Arts & Fitness, Chicago, IL

LUNA DANCE INSTITUTE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Genoa Sperske, San Francisco Ballet, San Francisco, CA and School of the Valley Dance Theatre, Livermore, CA

Julie Crothers, Shawl-Anderson Dance Center, Berkeley, CA

Kirah Caminos, Young Audiences of Northern California and Leap Arts in Education, San Francisco, CA

Peter Limata, Emerson Elementary, Oakland, CA

Samia Karimi, Luna Dance Institute, Berkeley, CA

Simone van der Meer, Jewish Community Center San Francisco, CA

Susannah Young, Lincoln Elementary, 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-learning/institutes/summer](https://www.lunadanceinstitute.org/professional-learning/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)    