

Luna Dance Institute to Receive \$35,000 Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts

Berkeley—Luna Dance Institute has been approved for a \$35,000 Grants for Arts Projects award to support Dance Teaching & Learning Studies. This project will support dance educators in strengthening their creative teaching practice, and developing their leadership and advocacy skills through Professional Learning services. Luna's project is among the more than 1,100 projects across America totaling nearly \$27 million that were selected during this round of Grants for Arts Projects fiscal year 2021 funding.

"As the country and the arts sector begin to imagine returning to a post-pandemic world, the National Endowment for the Arts is proud to announce funding that will help arts organizations such as Luna Dance Institute reengage fully with partners and audiences," said NEA Acting Chairman Ann Eilers. "Although the arts have sustained many during the pandemic, the chance to gather with one another and share arts experiences is its own necessity and pleasure."

"This year Luna celebrates our 20th Summer Institute (SI), which has been a cornerstone of our Dance Teaching & Learning. Due to the restrictions imposed by COVID-19, we held this year's SI as a virtual yearlong experience. This was one of the many ways we learned to adapt and remain connected to teaching artists this past year," reflects Luna Professional Learning Manager Jochelle Pereña. "As we move forward, NEA funding will allow us to reconnect with the 300+ SI and PL alumni and design new programming in response to new needs. We are grateful for the NEA's continued support as we support the next generation of dance education leaders."

Luna's founder and Co-Executive Director, Patricia Reedy, adds "Luna's PL alumni are becoming leaders in their communities and are curious about investigating their practice through action research. I am excited to develop seminars, fellowships, and research opportunities for these future leaders." Over the next year, Luna will match NEA funding with grants from the Louis L. Borick Foundation, the Clif Bar Family Foundation, and the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation to fulfill our mission of bringing dance to all children by nourishing, connecting, and developing dance teaching artists as exemplary practitioners, researchers, and leaders.

For more information on the projects included in the Arts Endowment grant announcement, visit [arts.gov/news](https://www.arts.gov/news). To learn more about the ripple effect of Luna's Professional Learning, visit [Pebble in the Pond: Teachers Creating Change](#) or [The Dance Inquiry Podcast](#).

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. As the SFBA arts community emerges from a post-pandemic reality, Luna will be taking a deep dive into the interconnectedness of these programs and their adaptability to expand service in an unknown future. For more information visit: lunadanceinstitute.org.