

## **The National Endowment for the Arts Grants Luna Dance Institute \$35,000 for Professional Learning and the 21<sup>st</sup> Summer Institute**

Berkeley, CA – Luna Dance Institute has been approved for a \$35,000 Grants for Arts Projects award from the National Endowment for the Arts to support our Dance Teaching & Learning Studies through Professional Learning. This project is among 1,125 projects across America totaling more than \$26.6 million that were selected during this second round of Grants for Arts Projects fiscal year 2022 funding.

“The National Endowment for the Arts is proud to support arts and cultural organizations throughout the nation with these grants, including Luna Dance Institute, providing opportunities for all of us to live artful lives,” said NEA Chair Maria Rosario Jackson, PhD. “The arts contribute to our individual well-being, the well-being of our communities, and to our local economies. The arts are also crucial to helping us make sense of our circumstances from different perspectives as we emerge from the pandemic and plan for a shared new normal informed by our examined experience.”

The NEA Art Works grant will support Luna's 21<sup>st</sup> [Summer Institute](#) as a hybrid yearlong experience that includes in-person workshops, online follow-up sessions, collegial support, and individualized coaching focused on the art of teaching dance. Participants will investigate national dance content standards, the elements of dance, human development, learning theory, teaching strategies, arts integration curriculum development, and culturally responsive and inclusive teaching practices through a lens of critical reflection. Luna's Professional Learning offerings are informed by the inquiries of Summer Institute participants and alumni and are designed to engage them in lifelong learning as significant leaders and 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.

“This dedicated and resilient cohort comes to us after 2+ years of teaching through the pandemic and multiple socio-political challenges,” shares Professional Learning Manager Jochelle Pereña. “They seek to cultivate curiosity, play and joy through child-centered teaching, and to invest in their own creativity as a path towards transformation and systemic change.”

### **Luna proudly welcomes the following educators to our 21st Summer Institute:**

**Alisa Clayton**, San Francisco Ballet Dance in Schools & Communities, San Francisco, CA

**Alma Cunningham**, Charles Drew Elementary, San Francisco, CA

**Daya Cox**, New Ballet Ensemble and School, Memphis TN

**Elizabeth Lyons**, E.R. Taylor Elementary, San Francisco, CA

# LUNA DANCE INSTITUTE

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**Garley ‘GiGi Tonyé’ Briggs**, GiGi Tonyé Arts & Fitness, Chicago, IL

**Jazlynn Pastor**, American Center of Philippine Arts, Bay Area, CA

**Kristie Saucedo**, Bobby Duke Middle School, Coachella, CA

**Lauryn Kerutis**, C5 Children’s School, San Francisco, CA

**Louisa Mann**, AXIS Dance Company, Oakland, CA

**Myeisha Jones**, Manzanita Child Development Center, Oakland, CA

**Orina Lee**, Chinese American International School, San Francisco, CA

**Peggy Hongduc Nguyen**, Los Angeles Unified School District Arts Branch, Los Angeles, 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://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://lunadanceinstitute.org).