



BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Dance Centre Programs: Enhancing Artistic Growth, Building Audiences

The Dance Centre offers a range of activities that is unparalleled in Canadian dance. Its extensive programs support the professional development of dance artists, build audiences, and introduce new ideas into the cultural landscape.

Every season, hundreds of artists from diverse cultural backgrounds and working in a wide range of genres participate in The Dance Centre's programs, access free or subsidized studio space for creation and rehearsal, and benefit from resources, information, and other opportunities. These programs are at the heart of the many activities taking place at The Dance Centre's vibrant cultural hub in downtown Vancouver, which sees an estimated 87,000+ visits annually as people from all backgrounds come to experience dance.

ARTIST PROGRAMS

The Dance Centre invests in a comprehensive suite of programs which support the professional development of dance artists and the creation of new works. Key programs include:

- Artist-in-Residence, where choreographers undertake creation, performance, and outreach activities over an extended period of time;
- DanceLab, in which choreographers collaborate in research with artists from other disciplines such as visual art and music, and their research in public showings;
- 12 Minutes Max supports the creation of short works by emerging artists through studio research, feedback, and public sharings and dialogue;
- Dance In Vancouver, a biennial platform and the leading opportunity for presenters from Canada and around the world to experience the dynamic contemporary dance of the Canadian West Coast, as well as a public celebration of BC's dance scene;
- Open Stage: opportunity for artists to show short works in a shared performance platform;
- SummerSpace: supports emerging artists with access to space for research and development over the summer months;

- Artistic Exchange programs and projects take place regularly with local, national and international partners.

PRESENTATION PROGRAMS

Performances and public events feature a wide range of dance genres for audiences of all ages and backgrounds.

- Global Dance Connections is a performance series featuring work by local, Canadian and international artists.
- Discover Dance! is a popular and accessible series combining performance with artist talkbacks, featuring many genres including flamenco, tap, Bollywood and more.
- The Dance Centre also collaborates extensively with many organizations such as the PuSh International Performing Arts Festival, Matriarchs Uprising Festival, and Dancing on the Edge Festival.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Community programs offer an opportunity for people of all backgrounds to engage with dance.

- The annual Open House, a day of free classes and events, takes place in September;
- Free public events celebrate International Dance Day every April 29;
- The Power of Dance program offers classes for elementary and high school students, immigrant and refugee youth, and seniors.

AWARDS

- The Isadora Award is presented each year to honour artists who have made an exceptional contribution to dance in BC;
- The Iris Garland Emerging Choreographer Award is presented every two years to a young choreographer who shows outstanding promise;
- The biennial Lola Award supports mid-career and senior choreographers.

Information: 604.606.6400 thedancecentre.ca

Social Media :

Facebook @thedancecentre

Instagram, YouTube, TikTok, Threads @thedancecentrebc

The Dance Centre is situated on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the xwməθkwəy'əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and Səl'ílwəta?/Selilwitulh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

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The operations of The Dance Centre are supported by the Government of Canada, Canada Council for the Arts, the Province of British Columbia, the BC Arts Council, and the City of Vancouver through the Office of Cultural Affairs.

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