

ARIZONA

DANCE

MAY 2021

SPECIAL
AWARDS
EDITION

13 AZ DANCE
EVENTS
RECOGNIZED

20 AWARD-
WINNING
ORGANIZERS

10-48 YEARS
CREATING
"DANCE"
CONNECTIONS
IN ARIZONA
AND BEYOND



MICHAEL WILLIAMS
ARIZONA DANCE COALITION
CREATING CONNECTIONS AWARD WINNER

AZ JAZZ DANCE SHOWCASE | JAZZ IN AZ
UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA SCHOOL OF DANCE

28 YEARS CONNECTING
1700-2000 STUDENTS & INSTRUCTORS
FROM ACROSS ARIZONA AND THE COUNTRY

PHOTO BY ED FLORES



Arizona Dance e-Star

a publication of the *Arizona Dance Coalition*

Volume 11, Issue 1

May 2021

ARIZONA DANCE STATS 2021

550 Dance Businesses

266 Women-Owned,
Women-Managed
Dance Businesses (48% of all
dance businesses)

24 Nonprofit AZ Dance
Organizations (2018-19)

Revenue \$10,825,014

Expenses \$11,748,888

Personnel \$6.6 million

AZ DANCE PROFESSIONALS SURVEY RESULTS

Job Titles (see next page)

56% identify with 3 titles

42% identify with 4 titles

28% identify with 5 titles

16% identify with 6 titles

10% identify with 7-8 titles

Dear readers,

Welcome to the *Arizona Dance e-Star* CREATING CONNECTIONS AWARDS special issue. *Creating Connections* is the Arizona Dance Coalition's tag line (15 years). In celebration of International Dance Day, April 29, 2021, ADC recognized 13 long-standing dance events that have made significant connections in Arizona and beyond. They have also made an impact on our economy. In addition to the recognition, ADC presented the first ever CREATING CONNECTIONS AWARD to 20 organizers of these 13 events. (pgs 4-42)

As one of the presenters, it was rewarding to see the appreciation for the recognition (*yes, we see you and know exactly what you do*), and feel the emotions of the recipients. *Surprise* was one of those emotions as they didn't see the award coming. Staged photo shoots and crashed rehearsals turned into deeply meaningful experiences that were FUN for all. And more significant 'connections' were made.

I would like to thank ADC Director *Susan Bendix* for being the Phoenix/Mesa presenter, and ADC member *Leslie Baker* and ADC Director *Dr. Hanna Ian* for presenting in Flagstaff. Other co-conspirators included ADC Director *Lori Howard* (Tucson), *Cory Wall* (Flagstaff), *Mary Wall* (Tempe), *Giselle Ramirez Cartagena* (Mesa) and *Alfonso Dancil* (Tucson Int'l Mariachi Conference).

Thank you to *Laura Palmer Higgins*, the artist who worked on the design ideas with me since December 2020. *Everything Etched*, co-owned by dancer *Liz Ann Hewett*, created the 'glass' awards that will be used to sip delicious drinks mixed with Prickly Pear Nectar from the *Arizona Cactus Ranch!* The award will keep giving and will not be a dust collector on a shelf. ZOOM TOASTS are in the near future!

Thank you to our photographers: *Elena Thornton* (Phoenix), *Rick Meinecke* (Mesa), *Daniel Buckley* and *Ed Flores* (Tucson). *FB Photo Album*

enJOY this issue, and if you know the award recipients, send them your love and congrats!

Krystyna Parafinczuk, Editor (May 15, 2021)

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Here's a list of the many '**job titles**' held by dancers who responded (134 as of 2/21/21) to the **AZ DANCE PROFESSIONALS LIST** who will be participating in the **Economic Impact of Dance Arts in AZ Project**.

Dance Educator 22.2%

Choreographer 17.7%

Dance Studio Owner/Manager 13.3%

Professional Dancer 12.8%

Artistic Director 11.5%

Dance Studio Administrator 5.3%

Under 5%

Director - Nonprofit Board

Administrator | Dance Team Leader

Dance Team Member | Costumer Designer

Dancewear Store Owner

Admin/Organizer - Community Organization

Administrator - Public, Charter, Private Schools

OTHER TITLES submitted by respondents:

Somatics Professional

Author | Writer | Blogger | Pedagog

Marketing & Outreach | Coach

Director of Costuming/Wardrobe

Director, Arts Education Program

Dance Shoe Brand Representative

Dance 'Club' Administrator | Dance 'Group' Owner

Production Manager | Lighting Designer

Dance Studio Asst Director | Musical Theatre Director

The **Arizona Dance Coalition** is a membership-based, statewide 501(c)(3) nonprofit dance organization creating connections and communication between the general public and the dance community. ADC membership is available to individuals, organizations, foundations, and venues/presenters affiliated with dance. You may join online at AzDanceCoalition.org. All questions about membership and sponsorship can be sent to Lisa@AzDanceCoalition.org. **Calendar of Events** are posted online by ADC members. Send news, article submissions, advertising, and job postings to Krystyna@AzDanceCoalition.org. View the last page for more information.

Past e-Star publications are available at azdancecoalition.org/newsletters/.



The **Arizona Dance Coalition** presented its very first **CREATING CONNECTIONS AWARD** to 20 organizers representing 13 long-standing dance events selected because they:

- *connect dance companies and choreographers for performance,*
- *unite dance students (high school and university) for the purpose of learning and performing, or*
- *they bring people together from across the country to social dance – some dancers and guest instructors even coming from other countries.*

In a series of 'staged photo shoots' and 'crashed rehearsals,' presenters surprised the winners and created a lot of joy and excitement in celebration of **International Dance Day** on **Thursday, April 29, 2021**. Even the Mayors got involved by providing Certificates of Appreciation and Recognition, or Proclamations!

The AWARD consisted of two exquisitely etched glasses by the famous dance artist **Laura Higgins Palmer**. Two glasses so that no one has to drink alone. And the award came with 100% pure, sugar-free, concentrated **Prickly Pear Nectar** made in Arizona by the **Arizona Cactus Ranch**. The 4-oz jar makes 24 drinks! A group ZOOM TOAST is in the near future — creating yet one more connection.

The 20 extraordinary award winners work tirelessly year after year after year, and with deep passion and conviction, to produce their dance events for the students, the dancers, the choreographers, the social dancers and the public.

Dr. Maribel Alvarez & Kate Alexander
ETHNIC DANCE PERFORMANCES at
Tucson Meet Yourself - since 1972 (48 years)



Michael Williams
AZ JAZZ DANCE SHOWCASE
University of Arizona School of Dance - since 1992 (28 years) TUCSON



Andrea Downing & Lynn Monson

AzDEO HIGH SCHOOL DANCE FESTIVAL

Az Dance Education Organization – since 1983 (38 years) LOCATIONS VARY



Lisa R. Chow

ARIZONA DANCE FESTIVAL

Desert Dance Theatre - since 2000 (20 years) LOCATIONS VARY



Chantal Danay Ralls, Delfina Alvarez, and Grace "Mini" Alvarez
BALLET FOLKLORICO WORKSHOPS during La Frontera's
Tucson International Mariachi Conference - since 1990 (30 years)



Giselle Ramirez Cartagena & Vanessa Ramirez (Artistic Director)
BALLET FOLKLORICO FESTIVAL part of
C.A.L.L.E. de Arizona and Folklorico Festival - since 1999 (21 years) CHANDLER



Suzy Guarino-Hall

TAP 24.7 THE SHOW (National Tap Dance Day Celebration)

Tap 24.7 - since 2011 (10 years) PHOENIX

***Gina Darlington***

FLAGSTAFF DANCE FESTIVAL

Canyon Movement Company - since 2000 (20 years)



Nanette Robinson**NO FRILLS DANCE HAPPENIN'****ZUZI! Dance - since 1999 (22 years | 44 bi-annual performances) TUCSON****Phyllis Davies, Judy Francis and Jerry Ray Weinert****DANCE IN THE DESERT****Tucson Friends of Traditional Music****Contra Dance Event at the Triangle Y Camp - since 1996 (24 years)**

*Arizona Dance e-Star**Steve Conrad*

ARIZONA SWING JAM

Arizona Lindy Hop Society - since 1997 (22 years) PHOENIX

*Jim Baker*

TUCSON TANGO FESTIVAL - since 2009 (11 years)



Dabney & Karen Hopkins**SWINGdepenDANCE - since 2010 (9 years) MESA**

The **CREATING CONNECTIONS AWARD** was designed by *Laura Higgins Palmer*. Her drawings follow the ZEN tradition of using simple means to represent the essences of things. She uses Chinese calligraphic techniques to elicit the joyful dynamism of dance. Laura focuses on energy, the joy of motion and the actions of forms in space – capturing the ephemerality of life itself. Working with Dance and movement as her subject *"is the perfect link to the infinite. It affirms life and I see no end to it,"* writes Laura Higgins Palmer. StudioLHP.com

Awards were created by *Everything Etched* in Scottsdale, with expert service by *Liz Ann Hewett*. Liz is also a dancer and educator who manages Everything Etched with her husband.



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Scottsdale AZ 85260
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[Facebook](#)



everythingetched.com/



ETHNIC DANCE PERFORMANCES

part of TUCSON MEET YOURSELF (TMY)

Since 1972 — 48 years!

Free 3-day event in Downtown Tucson
150,000 guests
2019 Economic Impact: \$5.5 million

Long-time curator *Dr. Maribel Alvarez*, Folklorist and Program Director, together with Director of Performance *Kate Alexander*, are directly responsible for programming the dancers featured in the longest running folklife festival in Arizona.

2019

400 dancers representing
34 performing groups and
25 ethnicities

40% of the festival's performers
were dancers



The festival was founded by University of Arizona folklorist and anthropologist *Dr. James "Big Jim" Griffith*, who in 2011 was honored by the National Endowment for the Arts with a prestigious recognition as a "National Heritage" treasure.

TMY is the signature annual event of the Southwest Folklife Alliance (SFA), an affiliate non-profit organization of the University of Arizona, housed within the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences,

and the designated Folk Arts Partner of the Arizona Commission on the Arts with the support of the National Endowment of the Arts.

TMY 'creates connections' by building a community that respects traditions, culture, diversity and honors the land and environment ("sense of place") unique to the desert borderlands.

"Installing multiple outdoor stages for dancers to perform and share their traditional dances is a worthwhile investment. It's our way of saying 'thank you' for keeping traditional ethnic dances alive and sharing them with our community," said Dr. Maribel Alvarez.

AZ JAZZ DANCE SHOWCASE | JAZZ IN AZ

University of Arizona School of Dance

Since 1992 — 28 years!

3-day event on the main campus of the University of Arizona
1700-2000 participating students & observers | 800 audience members
2019 Economic Impact: 420 hotel rooms were occupied between the
Marriott University Park and ALOFT Hotels

AZ Jazz Dance Showcase attracts thousands of students from across the country with the greater percentage within driving distance -- Arizona, California, New Mexico, Utah and Colorado, according to co-founder and co-director **Michael Williams**, Professor, University of Arizona School of Dance. Intermediate/advanced students ages 13 and older take classes with jazz dance masters like **Joe Tremaine**, **Joe Lanteri**, **Mia Michaels**, **Justin Giles**, **Stacey Tookey**, **Alex Magno**, and **Marguerite Derricks**, to name just a few. Returning guests with long-time **Gus Giordano** Midwest connections have been **Sherry Zunker** and **Richard Havey**. Students also have the opportunity to take classes with UA Dance faculty and sample other dance styles.



Additional perks of the Showcase include scholarship auditions, recruitment for dance jobs, company internships, and scholarships to other programs.

Two Tucson dance leaders, **Megan Maltos** (co-owner, **Danswest Dance**) and **Shelly Hawkins** (Artistic Director, **Hawkinsdance**), started attending the Jazz Showcase when they were 13-14 years old. Both were wowed by the talent of the advanced dancers and the Jazz Showcase faculty. Both graduated from the University and continue their connections with the UA dance faculty. Now Megan brings her students to the Jazz Showcase continuing the jazz cycle that began in 1992.

JAZZ in AZ, in collaboration with the Showcase, is an all-jazz performance open to the public featuring world-class dancers and choreographers from the School of Dance and guest artists.



JOIN UA DANCE FOR the 2021/22 SEASON!
Visit dance.arizona.edu or call 520-621-4698 to sign up for our mailing list and receive up-to-date information about season subscriptions, upcoming performances, and more!



**AzDEO HIGH SCHOOL
DANCE FESTIVAL**
**Arizona Dance Education
Organization**
Since 1983 — 38 years!

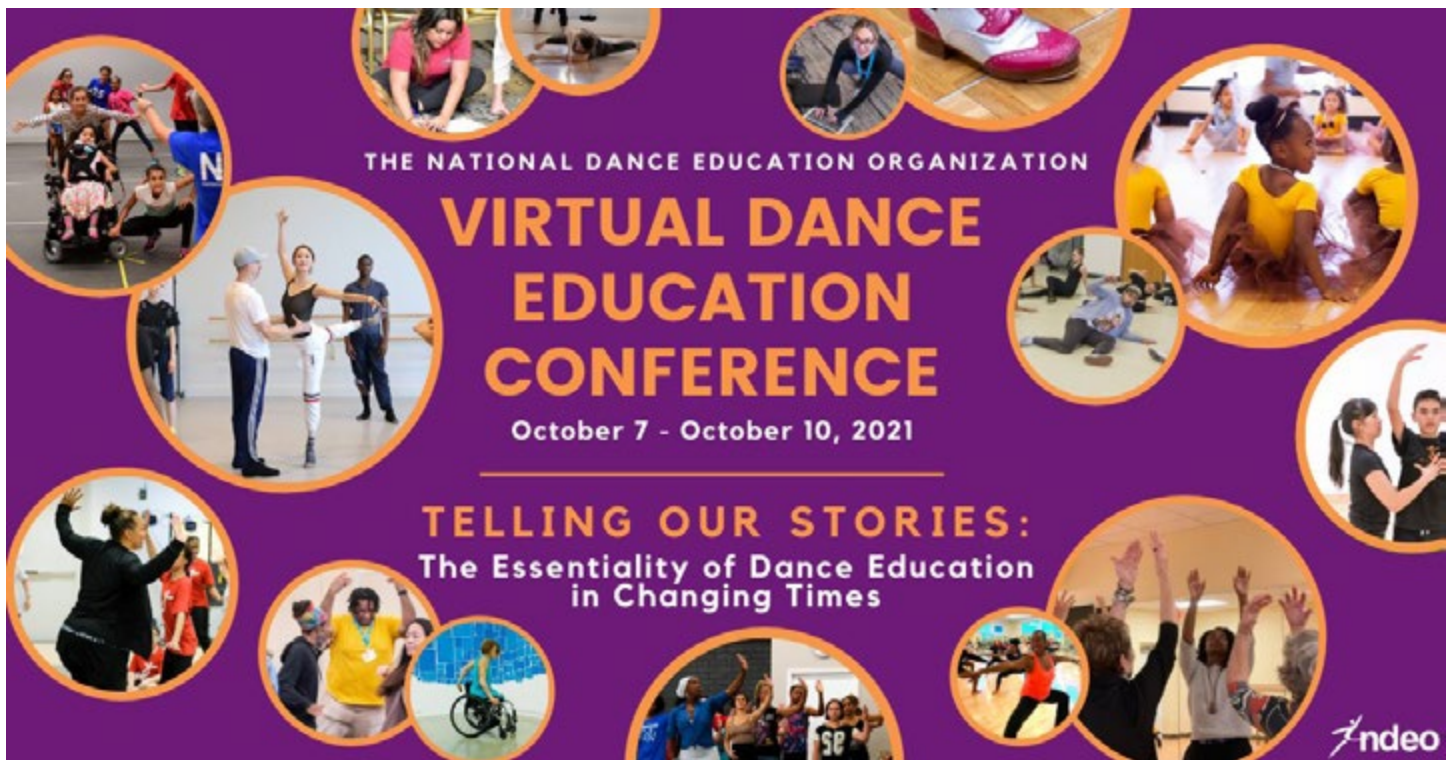
**1-day event usually held at a Maricopa County high school
500-650+ participating high school dance students & observers
from more than 40 schools across Arizona**

Arizona Dance Education Organization's (AzDEO) High School Dance Festival was first organized by a handful of high school teachers in 1983. When AzDEO was formed in 2006, it became the producer with teachers still volunteering to organize the event. Currently more than 40 schools participate from across the state, to include high schools and private dance studios. Anywhere from 500-650 students fill 32-34 classes taught by guest faculty from Arizona. Many school teams also participate in adjudicated performances (adjudication optional).



Lynn Monson, Executive Assistant, states *"While we have grown, the festival still offers students the opportunity to take classes with a variety of dance artists learning different dance genres. They also perform for their peers. We hold a teachers' meeting to provide information and networking, and we announce the recipients of our Kathy Lindholm Lane Dance Educator of the Year and the Bill Evans Excellence in Teaching Awards."*

Proceeds from the Festival provide scholarships for teachers to attend the National Dance Education Organization's Annual Conference.



Join us for the **23rd** Annual National Dance Education Organization Conference
TELLING OUR STORIES: *The Essentiality of Dance Education in Changing Times*
Register now: ndeo.org/conf2021 — Become an AzDEO Member!



Join us in person or virtually for our annual
AzDEO Dance Educators' Retreat,
 tentatively **August 21st**

Go to azdeo.org for details closer to the event

AzDEO, PO Box 60152, Phoenix AZ 85082
Imonson@cox.net

ARIZONA DANCE FESTIVAL**Desert Dance Theatre****Since 2000 — 20 years!**

Multiple day event featuring a different lineup each show
Up to 35 dance artists and companies comprised of 60-100 dancers
from around Arizona and Out-of-State
Master Classes by Guest Artists

The **Arizona Dance Festival (ADF)** brings dancers together from around Arizona and out-of-state to share their artistic choreographic works. ADF is organized by **Lisa R. Chow** and produced by **Desert Dance Theatre** since 2000. A panel of dance experts adjudicates and selects up to 35 dance artists and companies of different genres and styles to perform.



Desert Dance Theatre Presents
OCTOBER 18-20
 7-7:15pm Site Specific (East Breezeway)
 7:30pm On-Stage Showcase
 Post-Show Q&A by Arizona Dance Coalition
Tempe Center for the Arts
 700 W Rio Salado Pkwy, Tempe

ARIZONA DANCE FESTIVAL 2018

Amy Symonds • Anthony James Kelly/AKELLZ • Arizona Ballet Theatre
 Astarte Belly Dance Troupe • Aylin Eleonora • CaZo Dance
 Crossroads Performance Group • DMJ Dance Collective • Desert Dance Theatre
 Dulce Dance Company • Fusion of Movement • Johanna Sapakie & Justin Bryant
 Merging Forces/PVCC Dance Company • Movement Source Dance Company
 Niamay Thomas/Life of a Young Realist • Phoenix Dance Conservatory Youth Co.
 Sanskaar Nritya Dance Academy • Shahrazad Dance Company
 SVG Dance • Step's Junk Funk • Tap 24.7 • Tharangini Dance Group
 The Parking Lot Project • University of Texas at El Paso Dance Company
 Wight Noise Dance Company • Yumi La Rosa Flamenco Dance • Zouk Phoenix
DesertDanceTheatre.org or 480-962-3584
 Tickets: \$13-\$40 Box Office: 480-350-2822 or TCA.TicketForce.com

The festival performances are usually presented over multiple days/evenings in late September or early October. Some of the out-of-town guest performers come from Las Vegas, California, New York, Texas, and even from Spain. Past ADF performance venues have included: Scottsdale Center for the Arts, Tempe Center for the Arts, Yavapai College Performing Arts Center, and the University of Arizona Ina Gittings Studio Theater.

Over its 20-year span more than 10,000 people have viewed 2000+ dancers and groups perform in the Festival.

"ADF creates opportunities for the dance community to connect, share, network and present," states Lisa R Chow.



Dancing into the future...



Interested in DANCING?
**Dancers needed for the
2021-22 Season!**

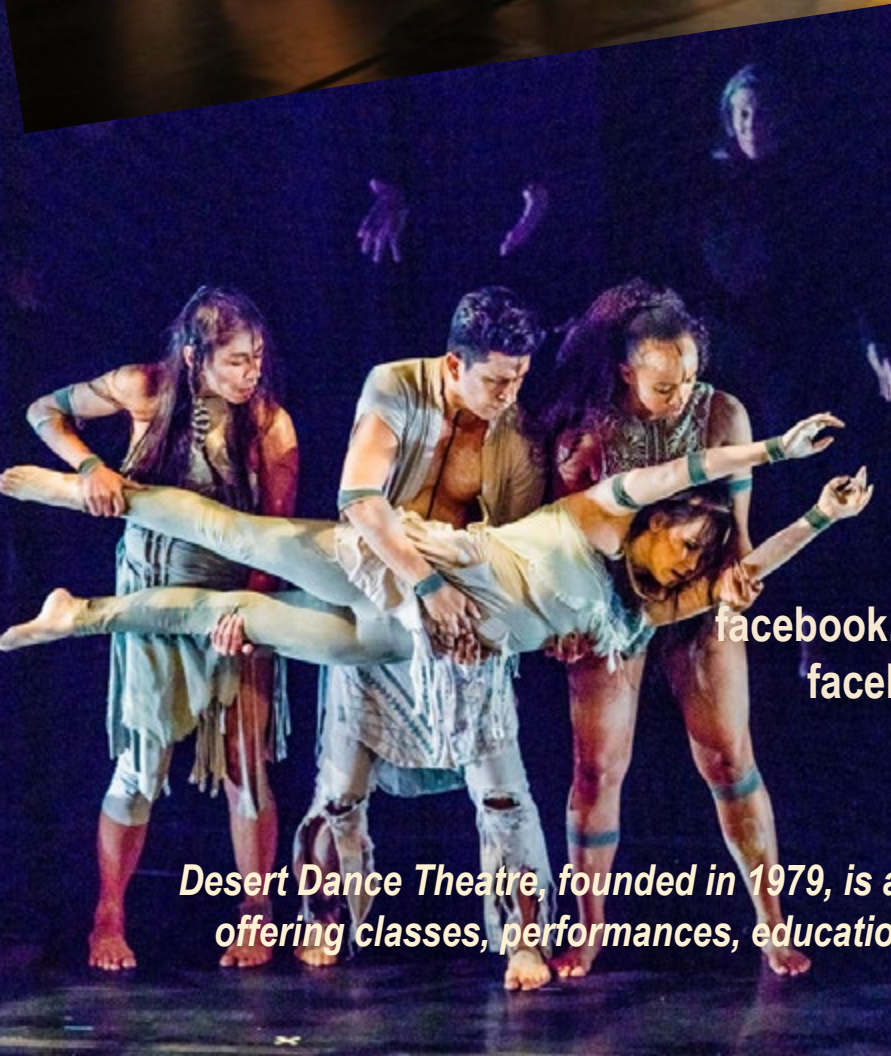
Coming soon!
Watch for details about
Arizona Dance Festival 2021!

Lisa@DesertDanceTheatre.org

facebook.com/groups/DesertDanceTheatre

facebook.com/DesertDanceTheatreAZ

twitter.com/DesertDanceAZ



Desert Dance Theatre, founded in 1979, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization offering classes, performances, educational programs and residencies.

Ballet Folklórico Workshops

Tucson International Mariachi Conference (TIMC)

Since 1990 — 30 years!

3 days with 3 levels of instruction

Juniors (ages 8-12), Seniors (ages 13-17), Master Class (18+ who have experience in dance, directing and choreography)

170-200 students participate from Arizona and neighboring states

4 Folklorico groups have the opportunity to perform

The **Ballet Folklórico Workshop** program in conjunction with the **Tucson International Mariachi Conference** boasted 500 students when the program was introduced in 1990 (30 years ago). It was added to the Conference which began in 1982. Participants came from Chicago, New York, California, Texas and New Mexico. The faculty was from the Universidad de Colima, Mexico, known for its Ballet Folklórico training. When the Mariachi Conference moved from the Tucson Convention Center (TCC) to Casino Del Sol in 2012, the Ballet Folklórico program was limited to 200 participants (Pascua Yaqui Wellness Center maximum capacity).



World-renowned Ballet Folklórico instructors, like **Maestro Rafael Zamarripa** (godfather of folklórico dance), director of the Ballet Folklórico de la Universidad de Colima, Mexico, and **Maestro Juan Carlos Gaytan** from the Universidad de Colima, as well as expert local instructors, have passed on traditional choreography to more than 10,000 students over 30 years.

“The TIMC will be returning to the Tucson Convention Center in 2022,” reveals Chantal Ralls, Ballet Folklórico organizer

C.A.L.L.E. de ARIZONA MARIACHI & FOLKLORICO FESTIVAL
Chandler Center for the Arts
Since 1999 — 21 years!

**50-150 Ballet Folklórico dancers
 representing 4-8 different groups merge to
 learn choreography and perform as one united group**



C.A.L.L.E. de Arizona Mariachi and Folklorico Festival is organized by **Vanessa Ramirez**, president of the organization and also artistic director of **Ballet Folklórico Quetzalli-AZ**. Vanessa invites anywhere from 50 to 150 Ballet Folklórico dancers from different groups in the

valley to join her dancers and perform as 'one united group' for the C.A.L.L.E. Festival. Rehearsals begin in September and are held at a local school cafeteria. Occasionally guest instructors from Mexico have conducted Ballet Folklórico workshops which are open to the public (**Maestro Miguel Angel Arellano Pena**, from Puebla, Mexico, in 2016).

The dancers and at least three Mariachi bands perform at the Chandler Center for the Arts (CCA) carrying on the legacy of founding members **Mr. Joe Garcia** and **Mr. Eddie Encinas**. Even during the pandemic, Vanessa organized a virtual event. Thanks to CCA Anywhere, a virtual platform created by CCA, the 21st Annual C.A.L.L.E. de Arizona Mariachi and Folklorico Festival was a free, 2-hour pre-recorded virtual presentation streamed on October 17th, 2020, featuring the music of Mariachi Tesoro de Tucson and Mariachi Corazón Del Valle, and a dazzling array of dancers from Ballet Folklórico Quetzalli-AZ filling the CCA Main Stage.

"I'm dedicated to keeping our culture alive and providing an avenue for our youth to showcase their talents and continue their education," states Vanessa.

I am honored and grateful to be the recipient of the
Creating Connections Award



Arizona Dance Coalition
 Thank you for your support!



Vanessa Ramirez



RECORRIDO MEXICANO:
A Journey Through Mexico

presented by Ballet Folklórico Quetzalli - AZ



May 6 - June 10, Performance June 26

TAP 24.7 THE SHOW | TAPapalooza

National Tap Dance Day Celebration (May 25th)

Since 2011— 10 years!

10th Anniversary show: 12 main characters and a cast of 70+ tap dancers from across the country



TAP 24.7 THE SHOW celebrates **National Tap Dance Day (May 25)**, and **Suzy Guarino-Hall, co-founder, organizer and producer** has choreographed and written the script for the 10th anniversary performance titled **TAP 24.7 Xperience**. THE SHOW always tells a story with some of the country's best tap dancers snagging the main roles. Thanks to virtual choreography classes, Suzy is

able to bring together the best 'tap stars.' They come from Arizona, California, Colorado, Washington, Oregon, Michigan, Illinois, and Ohio. **TAPapalooza** – the accompanying tap workshop program - is open to the public and welcomes the community to participate and experience classes with tap masters.

Over the past 10 years Suzy has provided an opportunity for more than 1,000 tap dancers to perform. Plus, THE SHOW has gone on the road with performances and workshops in Detroit and Seattle. THE SHOW has not only created national 'tap' connections, it has created jobs. Arizona's tap masters are teaching and/or choreographing for studios across the country. Due to the pandemic TAP 24.7 Xperience has delayed their performance until July 31, 2 & 6 pm. It will be at The Madison Center for the Arts in Phoenix.

"This year's show will feature tribute pieces dedicated to the late Gregg Russell who was an integral part of our company and contributed many pieces of choreography, taught many classes, and mentored me," states Suzy. Gregg was an Emmy-nominated choreographer who died of COVID-19 in November leaving behind a wife and 5 year old daughter.

A poster for the Tap 24.7 10 Year Anniversary Show. The background is a collage of black and white photos of tap dancers in various poses. A large black 'X' is centered over the top half. The text 'tap 24.7' is written in a stylized, colorful font across the 'X'. Below the 'X', the word 'PERFORMANCE' is written diagonally. The main text 'JOIN US!' is in large, bold, black letters. Below it, 'Saturday, July 31' is in a teal, cursive font, followed by 'The Madison Center For The Arts' in a purple, cursive font, and '2:00pm and 6:00pm' in a purple, cursive font. A cartoon character with a party hat and streamers is on the right. A dotted line separates the top section from the bottom section. The bottom section has 'Tap 24.7 10 year Anniversary Show!' in a large, black, cursive font, followed by 'Join us for an original production celebrating 10 years of bringing tap to the valley.' in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. Another dotted line is below this. The text 'Ticket info coming soon!' is in a black, cursive font. At the bottom left is a Facebook icon and 'Tap 24.7'. At the bottom right is an Instagram icon and 'tapzen24.7'.

FLAGSTAFF DANCE FESTIVAL

Canyon Movement Company (CMC)

Since 2000 — 20 years!

2 performances | 40+ dancers | 4-6 guest companies | 1 master class
200-250 audience members



Canyon Movement Company (CMC) presented DanCelebration from 2000-2009 -- a week-long summer festival with performances and workshops featuring national and international guest artists and teachers. In 2010 the format changed to a spring festival and it has enjoyed several names: Flagstaff Dance and Film Festival, Flagstaff Fringe Festival, and currently

is **Flagstaff Dance Festival**. Two performances and a master class have been scheduled the past five years and usually 4-6 companies participate, with at least one from out of town. The 2020 virtual festival allowed more than 10 companies and choreographers to participate because they didn't have to travel.

Guests have been dancers and companies from Ireland. A former associate director of the Jose Limon Dance Company taught and performed from 2000-2007. CaZo Dance Company, Movement Source Dance Company, and Condor Dance are just a few of the companies that have headed north from Phoenix to participate in the Festival.



The Festival will be performed May 22nd in a parking lot featuring CMC, Velocity Dance, and Show Low's DMJ dance collective. See ad on the next page. *"Guest artists are invited to broaden the dance experience for the audience and for the dancers," states Gina.*



Canyon Movement Company
Featuring Velocity Dance Company
and DMJ dance collective

Boum-dles

May 22, 2021
1:00 PM & 3:00 PM
BBVA Parking Lot 2 E. Birch Ave.

Please bring your own seating for this parking lot performance.

Suggested donation of \$20 at the door or in advance online..

20% discounts will be available at Vino Loco and Olive the Best with proof of donation. Donations can be made online at canyonmovementcompany.org or via Venmo.



Learn more at canyonmovementcompany.org

NO FRILLS DANCE HAPPENIN'

ZUZI! Dance

Since 1999 — 22 years | 44 performances!

2 performances | bi-annual

8-10 choreographers | 60 dancers | 2200+ dancers since 1999



Nancy Mellan and *Nanette Robinson*, co-founders of **ZUZI! Dance**, invited choreographers from the community to participate in a 'relaxed, no frills' performance back in 1999, 22 years ago. They saw the need for choreographers to have a 'safe space' to test their work, receive meaningful feedback, and for dancers to

perform in a theatre setting. The focus would be on experimentation -- testing segments of new choreography, rearranging existing pieces, and for some, presenting their first choreographed piece of work.

No Frills Dance Happenin' was created. More than 300 different choreographers, 2200+ dancers, have performed in No Frills at the Historic Y in Tucson since 1999.

"No Frills" has come to serve two important purposes. *"First, it has become*

a popular venue for youth performers, schools and youth choreography. Second, it has continued to be an important venue for local choreographers to showcase new work, which can be quite experimental in nature," Nanette commented. *"This showcase is truly about the process, so that you do not have to have a finished product to show your work."*



ZUZI! Dance has moved into new space at Studio Y— 650 North 6th Avenue, Tucson (SE corner of 6th Ave & 4th St) | 520-629-0237 | zuzimoveit.org

ZUZI! DANCE HAS A NEW HOME

Studio Y is part of The Historic Y Community. We are presently looking for other organizations to join us. Our vision is to become a vibrant arts and education center with multiple dance offerings held in the sYnapse in the evenings and weekends.

Located around the corner from The Historic Y at 650 N 6th Avenue, the sYnapse is a bright, airy, unobstructed 1400-square-foot studio space with high vaulted ceilings, clerestory lighting and a cushioned rubber dance-step floor. It has been the home of ZUZI! Dance since October 2020.



**A Summer Solstice
No Frills Dance Happenin' Show**

Join us in celebrating the
Summer Solstice with a
"No Frills Dance
Happenin' Show". We
want you to be part of it!
We are accepting all
genres, ages and levels of
dance.

e-mail:
ZuziMarketing@gmail.com

ZUZI!



**A Summer Solstice
No Frills Dance Happenin' Show**

Join us in celebrating the
Summer Solstice with a
"No Frills Dance
Happenin'" virtual show!

**FRIDAY, JUNE 18
@ 6:30 PM**

\$1 – \$10:
You pick your price!

Tickets Available at:
ZUZIMOVEIT.ORG

ZUZI!

The **sYnapse** at **Studio Y** is available to rent by the hour in the evenings or on the weekends for non-profit and arts, education, social justice and environmentally related classes, workshops, rehearsals, small performances and events on a one-time or recurring basis (including weekly dance classes and rehearsals) for \$30 per hour. The rate for private receptions, gatherings and other events is \$50 per hour. Classes and other uses may be able to be accommodated during regular business hours if compatible with adjacent office uses. Reduced rates may be available for recurring use by non-profit and arts-related organizations.

Shawn Burke | shawn@thehistoricity.com

DANCE IN THE DESERT

Tucson Friends of Traditional Music (Contra Dance)

Since 1999 — 24 years!

**Up to 170 participants | 2-3 local/regional bands | 1 national-level band
3 days & nights of dancing and lessons**

Triangle Y Camp, Oracle

Economic Impact: 50% of the participants are from out of town



Dance in the Desert is a long-standing contra dance event hidden at the Triangle Y Camp in Oracle (5000 elevation) for 24 years. It's over Veteran's Day weekend and is organized and produced by nonprofit Tucson Friends of Traditional Music, a group which holds bi-monthly contra dances in Tucson with live music and a caller.

Participants max out at 170 — the limit in the Y recreation center. Fifty percent of the participants are from out of town -- Washington DC, Baltimore, California, Nevada, New Mexico, Colorado, Alaska and Washington state. The attraction, besides the environment, is a popular national-level band and famous callers hired for the event.

Everyone eats together and dances together. A team assembles and disassembles a floor they made and it's stored at the camp. Phyllis Davies, one of the long-time organizers, says the Y loves them. *"We're there to have fun, and we try to be friendly users of the spaces."*



ARIZONA SWING JAM**Since 1998 — 22 years!****250-500+ participants****2-day event with classes and dances with live music****Economic Impact: \$1 million over 22 years**

Steve Conrad founded **Arizona Lindy Hop Society** in Phoenix in 1996 and has produced the 3-day **AZ Swing Jam** for 22 years. In 1998 he invited dance legend **Frankie Manning** to teach. Manning became famous when he invented the 'aerial' in Lindy Hop in the '30s at the Savoy Ballroom. Never expecting fame, always humble, and always engaging, Manning continued to be

a guest at the Jam until his passing in 2009 (Manning was born in 1914). Thousands of dancers came to experience Frankie.



Recently, guests included Lindy legend from the West Coast **Jean Veloz** (born in '24) and author, dance historian, **Rusty Frank**.



Steve was 22 when he started the Jam. ***"I loved the Lindy Hop and Frankie Manning***

so much that I wanted to share that love with as many people as possible," shares Steve. And they came – from Canada, Germany, Sweden, the U.K. and South Korea! Lindy Hop is global with major events and competitions held around the world. Visit **AZLindy.com** for events in Arizona and a listing of events around the world.

TUCSON TANGO FESTIVAL**Since 2009 — 11 years!****300-400 participants****3-4 days & nights of Argentine Tango****2019: Participants from 39 states and 4 countries**

Tucson Tango Festival attracts 300-400 participants from around the country with a few international guests, stellar faculty and specialized DJs. According to organizer **Jim Baker**, participants came from 39 states and 4 countries in 2019.

The 11th Tango Festival will be back in Tucson (from Casino del

Sol) at the Marriott University Park Hotel over the 4th of July weekend. The event has already filled and there is a waiting list. Safety protocols will be enforced and attendance is limited.

Jim took the reins from founders **Rusty Cline & Joanne Canalli** in 2015. Rusty & Joanne, Tucson Tango instructors, started with a mini-fest the fall of 2008—testing the waters. The first full festival in 2009 drew 500 attendees with an economic impact of \$500,000, according to Rusty's accountant. Continued under Jim's management, Tucson is an Argentine Tango destination on the global map. Jim's expert organization skills, returning dancers, and his beautiful floor make the Tucson Tango Festival a successful experience for all.



"Argentine Tango dancers attend these events based on the quality of the music, the atmosphere, the ability of the dancers, and the surface of the floor," according to Jim. "Maybe 50% attend based on the instructors."

SWINGdepenDANCE**Since 2010 — 10 years!**

**Up to 200 participants | 1-3 bands | 4-8 instructors
3-4 days and nights (depending where the 4th of July occurs)**

**SWINGdepenDANCE**

occurs over the 4th of July weekend and has been in existence since 2010.

Founders **Dabney & Karen Hopkins**, aka **The Lindy Hopkins**, hire 1-3 bands and 4-8 instructors to put on an 'Independence Day' dance event with lessons — Lindy Hop, Balboa, Charleston, Collegiate

Shag, contests with prizes, and lots of dancing to live music! And there's a pool party with fireworks!

Depending on where the 4th fits in the week or weekend determines the size and scope of the event. One thing is constant -- they always hold the **Arizona Swing Dance Championships** and crown the King and Queen of Swing. Dabney and Karen are looking forward to 2022, when the 4th is on a Monday. A mini-event may be planned for 2021.



Dabney also organizes the **Phoenix Lindy Exchange** that runs in conjunction with the **Classic Jazz Festival** in Chandler (San Marcos Resort) – a trad(itional) jazz music event. The Exchange began in 2000 (19 years) and attracts the regulars who attend **Kats Korner** and **Hepcats** -- Dabney & Karen's weekly dance events in Mesa.



Phoenix Mayor Kate Gallego



**April 29, 2021
PROCLAMATION**

Steve Conrad Day - AZ SWING JAM

**Suzy Guarino-Hall Day - TAP 24.7 THE SHOW |
NATIONAL TAP DANCE DAY CELEBRATION (May 25th)**

**Vanessa Ramirez Day - BALLET FOLKLORICO |
C.A.L.L.E. de ARIZONA MARIACHI & FOLKLORICO FESTIVAL**





Tucson Mayor Regina Romero



Lisa R Chow
ARIZONA DANCE
FESTIVAL



Mesa Mayor John Giles

Lisa R. Chow
is hereby awarded this
Certificate of Appreciation
For your commitment to sharing arts experiences with Mesa and
beyond through the annual Arizona Dance Festival.
April 22, 2021



John Giles
Mayor John Giles



Dabney & Karen Hopkins
SWINGdependANCE



Lynn Monson & Andrea Downing
AzDEO HIGH SCHOOL DANCE FESTIVAL

**Flagstaff Mayor Paul Deasy**

Gina Darlington
FLAGSTAFF DANCE FESTIVAL



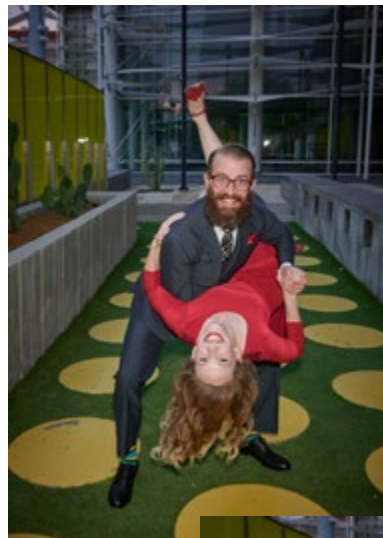
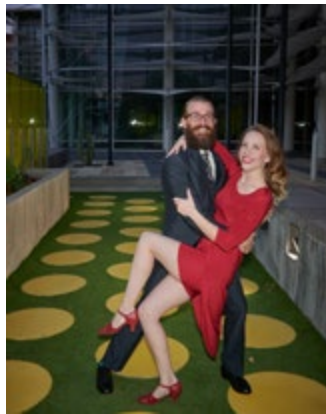


City North, Phoenix
Susan Bendix presenting to Suzy Guarino-Hall & Steve Conrad
 Photos by Elena Thornton, Wednesday, April 28, 2021



Canyon Dance Academy, Flagstaff
Dr. Hanna Ian & Leslie Baker
presenting to Gina Darlington
 Photos by Sean Openshaw, Wednesday, April 28, 2021





Mesa Arts Center
Susan Bendix presented to
Lisa R Chow, Lynn Monson,
Andrea Downing, and
Dabney & Karen Hopkins
Photos by Rick Meinecke
Wednesday, April 28, 2021



Ballet Folklórico Quetzalli-AZ Studio, Mesa
Krystyna Parafinczuk presented via ZOOM
to Vanessa Ramirez
Photos by Rick Meinecke, who also
brought the award!

Giselle, Vanessa's daughter, was a co-
conspirator in this surprise presentation.

Wednesday, April 28, 2021



La Frontera Board Room, Tucson
Krystyna Parafinczuk presented to
Chantal Ralls, Delfina Alvarez
and Grace "Mini" Alvarez



James Baker

Alfonso Dancil (royal blue shirt), Board Chair, Tucson International Mariachi Conference, was a co-conspirator in this surprise presentation at La Frontera. Photos by Daniel Buckley & Wednesday, April 28, 2021



ZUZI! Dance, Tucson
Krystyna Parafinczuk
 presented to
Kate Alexander &
Dr. Maribel Alvarez

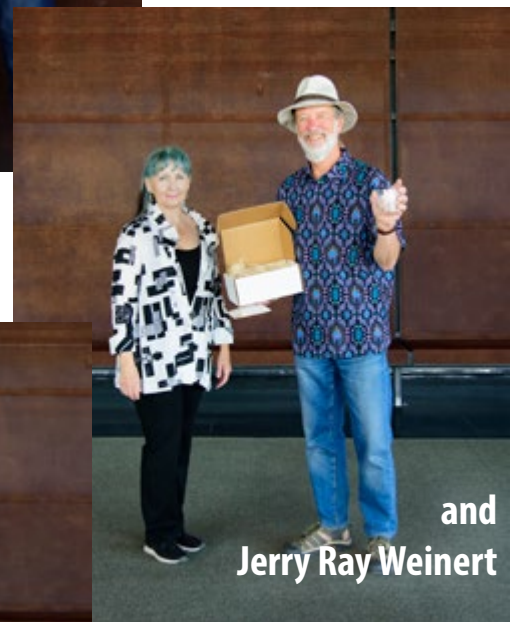


Phyllis Davies
& Judy Francis

Photos by
Ed Flores
Thursday, April 29, 2021



**Stevie Eller
Dance Theatre, Tucson
Krystyna Parafinczuk
presented to
Michael Williams**



**and
Jerry Ray Weinert**

**Photos by Ed Flores
Tuesday, May 4, 2021**



CONGRATULATIONS, DANCERS!

Yuma Ballet dancer [Mia Williams](#) (left) won a full scholarship with room and board to School of American Ballet (SAB) summer program in NYC. Congratulations, dancers!

Phoenix dancer [Paityn Lauzon](#) won \$3000 in the NSALAZ competition, with runners up Flagstaff dancers Rylee Keller and Eliza Moyer, 2nd & 3rd place, winning \$2000 and \$1000, respectively.

Mia Williams Receives A Full Scholarship to SAB, Including Room & Board

Ballet Yuma company dancer, Mia Williams, will be attending the School of American Ballet (SAB) in NYC this summer. Auditions were by submitted video. Mia was awarded a full tuition scholarship with room and board for the 5-week program. This is very prestigious as SAB has reduced the number of dancers in the program because of the pandemic. Only 60 students are allowed to dorm this summer. The rest have to find their own housing. Mia is 16 and a sophomore at Gila Ridge High School in Yuma, and has been a student at the Yuma Ballet Academy since age 10.

National Arts & Letters Society – AZ winner Paityn Lauzon

Paityn Lauzon will participate in the virtual NALS National Competition to be held June 3-4. Total prize money is \$40,000! Michael Cook, Paola Hartley and Sabrina Delafeld served as Arizona judges. Andrew Needhammer, RAD, ARAD, RTS is Honorary Chair of the Arizona Competition, Rebecca Needhammer RAD is Co-chair. Susan Silverman NSALAZ Dance Chair.

Read a little more about these dancers in our latest news post [here](#).



Film Festival Official Selections

Signes de Nuit International's Film Festival Paris

World Premiere (Oct 1-5, 2020)

Anatolia International Film Festival

Asheville Fringe Arts Festival

Montreal Independent International Film Festival

Golden Bridge Istanbul International Film Festival

Austria International Film Festival

Amsterdam Worldwide International Film Festival

Five Continents International Film Festival

Venezuela

Cift Festival of Toronto | New York Movie Awards

New York tri-State International Film Festival

New York Movie Awards

Druk International Film Festival - Bhutan

Bucharest Shortcut Cinefest

London Rolling Film Festival

Los Angeles Independent Shorts Award

Paris International Short Festival

Dubai Independent Film Festival

Cairo Indie Short Festival

Platartistic International Spring Dance Festival
(Barcelona)

Long Story Shorts (Romania)

White Nights Film Festival (Russia)

CONGRATULATIONS TO NICOLE ROMINE

on the Awards and Screenings Around the World
of her Dance Short Film **MISTRESS OF TEARS**

MISTRESS OF TEARS

stars Anisa Sinteral-Scott

View the TRAILER on [YouTube](#)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Tokyo International Film Festival

Honorable Mention

Indie Shorts Awards Cannes

Honorable Mention

Venice Film Awards - Finalist

White Unicorn International Film Festival India

Award Winner

Eastern Europe Film Festival

L'Age d'Or International Arthouse Film Festival

World Film Carnival Singapore

Best Director

Prague International Indie Film Festival

Best Director (Female)

New York Movie Awards 2021

Best Original Score

London Rolling Film Festival 2021

Best Music Score

Five Continents International Film Festival

Venezuela

Best Original Music | Best Choreography

Best Production | Best Costume Design

Special Mention Best Lighting

Best Cinematography

Audience Award

Arizona Dance Coalition Member Benefits & Perks

The ADC offers four types of memberships:

Individual \$20 • Organization \$50
Venue/Presenter \$100

Membership and affordable dues renew annually and ADC organizes an Annual Member Meeting in January to discuss the state of dance in Arizona featuring guest speakers. See the last page for details on joining. Membership entitles you to:

- ADC Membership Directory ~ inclusion and online access, plus a PDF document with live links
- Posting events on the ADC website Calendar of Events* which are then prominently featured in the *Arizona Dance e-Star** with a photo & live links
- *Arizona Dance e-Star* monthly e-publication received in advance of subscribers
- Member Spotlight opportunity in the *e-Star*
- Participation in a Member-to-Member Ticket Exchange and Discounts
- Posting classes: ADC website Class Page*
- Board Member Nominations (December) & Annual Membership Meeting Voting Privileges (January)
- ADC Lifetime Achievement Award Nominations
- Merchant Discounts
- Affordable Venue **General Liability Insurance** for 1-4 day performances. We have renewed our policy to continue this benefit for our members because we know the cost of insurance (\$400-\$500) would prohibit most individuals and small companies from producing in a professional theatre. Current fee is \$75/1 day; \$150/2 days.
- Discounted *Arizona Dance e-Star* Advertising Rates. Inquire for details.

* All postings of events are restricted to 501(c)(3) organizations with the exception of charitable and free events, community festivals, educational conferences and master classes. If in doubt, inquire.



The Arizona Dance Coalition is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) membership-based organization.

We work to connect and support the statewide dance communities through our website content, communications, and sponsorship of educational dance conferences and master classes.

Through our monthly publication, scholarships, and sponsorship of educational dance events, we inform, educate, and promote dance arts and their benefits to the general public.

JOIN ONLINE

AzDanceCoalition.org

or

send in **Application Form**



Event listings are posted by ADC members on the ADC website. Events are restricted to 501(c)(3) organizations with the exception of charitable and free events, educational workshops and master classes. All submissions are monitored.

Send news to: Krystyna@AzDanceCoalition.org



Paradise Valley Community College dance students are featured in CREATIVE VOICES IN MOTION. Program is still available for viewing. Details [here](#).



Estrella Mountain Community College dance students - DanceEstrella - are featured in ONE BY ONE. Program may still be available for viewing. Details [here](#).



Scottsdale Community College dance students are featured in KINETIC CONNECTIONS. Program may still be available for viewing. Details [here](#). bit.ly/SCCDanceYouTube



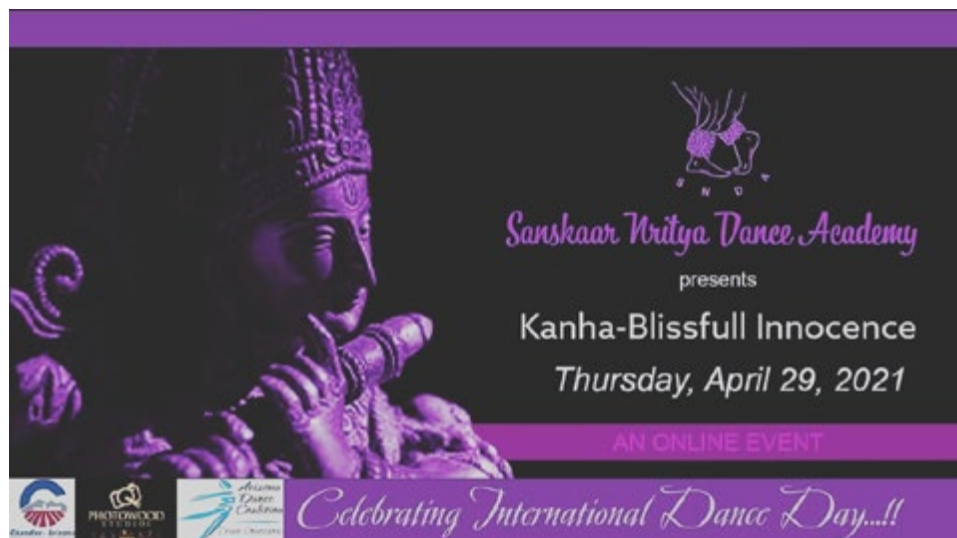
Scottsdale Community College Instinct Dancecorps Auditions. Details [here](#).



Scottsdale Community College dance students are featured in *THROUGH THE GLASS*. Program may still be available for viewing. Details [here](https://bit.ly/SCCDanceYouTube). bit.ly/SCCDanceYouTube



Ballet Arizona presents *The Four Seasons*— World Premiere at Desert Botanical Garden, May 18-June 5, Tuesdays-Saturdays, 8 pm. Details [here](#). This performance features innovative choreography from Ballet Arizona Artistic Director Ib Andersen, as well as all new set designs and multimedia elements that embrace the surrounding desert backdrop.



Sanskaar Nritya Dance Academy presents *Kanha-Blissfull Innocence* (Virtual Performance). [Link](#) to view the performance.



Recorrido Mexicano, inspired by Vanessa Ramirez, Artistic Director of **Ballet Folklórico Quetzalli-AZ**, is a 6-week virtual journey through Mexico featuring a new instructor each week presenting a lecture on the culture, traditions, history, dance, music and food of a specific state in Mexico. Ballet Folklórico Quetzalli-AZ dancers will perform the 6th week on the stage of the Chandler Center for the Arts showcasing the five states' folklorico dances.

The event is sponsored by a grant from the Chandler Cultural Foundation with the production assistance of Chandler Center for the Arts. The video lectures will be aired through the Chandler Center for the Arts Vimeo channel at 7 pm.

May 6th – Veracruz Huasteco with Maestro Miguel Angel Salgado Vargas
 May 20th – Guerrero with Maestro Francisco Pimentel Sotelo
 May 27th – Yucatan with Maestra Josely Evangelina Martinez Palomo
 June 3rd – Puebla with Maestro Miguel Angel Arellano Peña
 June 10th – Chihuahua with Maestro Jesus Martin Moreno Dominguez
 June 26th – Recorrido Mexicano with Ballet Folklórico Quetzalli-AZ Performance 7 pm

Details about the performance will be available closer to the date. For questions about the program, contact Vanessa Ramirez, vanessa@bfq-az.org, 480-579-3800.

Videos are posted on the Chandler Center for the Arts Facebook page. Here is the May 6th lecture by Maestro Miguel Angel Salgado Vargas on Veracruz Huasteco (English captioning): <https://fb.watch/5uDpk2YODu/>



One E Main St, Mesa
[Directions](#) to Mesa Arts Center



MESA ARTS CENTER reveals their upcoming season and these are the dance performances:

RIVERDANCE

February 9-13, 2022

**BALLET FOLKLORICO DE MEXICO
 DE AMALIA HERNANDEZ**

April 1, 2022

**ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN
 DANCE THEATER**

April 16, 2022



DEL E. WEBB CENTER

FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

FIND YOUR CENTER

Del E Webb Center for the Performing Arts in Wickenburg Dance Residency will host Canada's **RED SKY PERFORMANCE**. More details will be forthcoming. Learn about the company [here](#).


AUDITIONS & JOBS

BALLET ARIZONA

2835 E Washington St, Phoenix
602-381-0184

Employment & Auditions for **Ballet Arizona**

Human Resource Manager

Marketing Coordinator

Box Office Representatives | PT/Seasonal

Education & Community Engagement Internship

Visit [here](#) for details.



Ballet Theatre of Phoenix is looking for a **Community Coordinator**

Description: Primary contact for new and existing clients will be responsible for providing information for enrollment, welcoming and directing students to classes. Guide the Ballet Theatre of Phoenix Parent Guild, create income generating school promotions, and manages 2 fundraisers annually. Assist with company and school events and performances as needed and manage the social media platforms. PT 15 hrs/wk, morning-mid afternoon weekdays.
Jennifer@ballettheatreofphx.org | 602-957-3364 | 6201 N 7th St, Phoenix

Looking for a Dance Instructor? Choreographer?
Performer? Costume Designer? Artistic Director?
Administrator? Board Member? Grant Writer?

Send your **JOB POSTING** to:

Krystyna@AzDanceCoalition.org

Stories you may have missed in our News Posts

Welcome Debbie Polisky (Avondale) ADC Board of Directors



Debbie Polisky is a bi-lingual nutritionist and owner of Tango Nutrition. Argentine Tango is her preferred dance style. Read more [here](#).

Welcome Dr. Hanna Ian (Flagstaff) ADC Board of Directors



Dr. Hanna Ian is a naturopathic physician and avid dancer. She is the director of the newly formed The Tango Connection. Read more [here](#).



View the list of
AZ Dance Businesses
released March 8, 2021 [here](#).
550 statewide | 37 closed



Have you signed up yet to be on the **AZ DANCE PROFESSIONALS LIST** to participate in the Economic Impact Study? Be counted.
Read more [here](#) and sign up!



View the list of
**AZ Women-Owned/Managed
Dance Businesses** [here](#).

To view all the News Posts, go here:
<https://www.azdancecoalition.org/category/news/>



<https://www.arts.gov/grants>

<https://www.arts.gov/grants/grants-for-arts-projects/application-calendar>

Grants deadlines are in June and July, 2021

Make sure you are registered with SAM.gov



ARTS JOURNAL ~ Stories people talk about
a link to global dance news stories

<http://www.artsjournal.com/category/dance>

Subscribe to ADC's e-list for the occasional newsy email.

Consider becoming a **MEMBER: Individual, Organization, Venue/Presenter** | **Online** or **Download Application**
 Visit the Arizona Dance Coalition **website**: Dance Articles, Calendar of Events, Resources, Members-Only pages.



Arizona Dance Coalition, PO Box 64852, Phoenix AZ 85082-4852

AzDanceCoalition.org



ADC Group



@AZDanceCo



Pinterest



ADC



@AZDanceEvents

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Krystyna Parafinczuk, Treasurer (Southern AZ)

Krystyna@AzDanceCoalition.org, 520-743-1349