



# OHIO DANCE

A YEAR OF GROWTH & RESILIENCE

# 24 / 25



Annual report

FY-25

(July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025)

2025 OhioDance Festival Concert  
*Murmurs of A Stream (excerpts) (1984)*  
Choreographer: Michael Uthoff  
Regisseur: Ambre Emory-Maier  
Photographer: Jess Cavender



2025 OhioDance Festival Concert  
*ARGH!*  
Choreographer: Yaroque Dance Theatre  
Photographer: Jess Cavender

2025 OhioDance Festival Concert  
*bare*  
Choreographer: Kylie Karam  
Photographer: Jess Cavender

# Securing our Future, **Do It Like OhioDance**

Welcome to our Annual Report, a showcase of our achievements, progress, and commitment to securing the longevity of dance throughout the year.



# Table Of Contents

A Letter from the Executive Director	004	Ohio: State of Dance	022
Who We Are	005	Activations	024
Operations & Governance	008	Strategy	033
Membership	016	Partners & Sponsors	037
		Onward	040



# Letter from the Executive Director



*A top level view of  
our work here at  
OhioDance.*

# Leading with Vision, Inspiring Success

*Dear OhioDance Community,*

As we close out fiscal year 2025, I am delighted to welcome you to this year's annual report. It is with deep gratitude that we reflect on the passion and commitment of Ohio's vibrant dance community—our artists, educators, administrators, scholars, students, and supporters. We are also incredibly thankful for the steadfast leadership of the OhioDance Board of Trustees and Advisors, whose dedication continues to guide our mission and expand our impact across the state.

Over the past year, OhioDance has continued implementing key initiatives shaped by our strategic planning process and community surveys. We have built on our legacy with a forward-looking organizational strategy—one that strengthens our capacity to connect, empower, and activate our members, leadership, and wider community. This annual report reflects our ongoing commitment to securing a lasting and visible place for dance in Ohio's cultural landscape.

Inside, you'll discover highlights from 2024–2025 that showcase how OhioDance is fostering connection, celebrating impact, and championing the art of dance across the state. This year, we achieved important milestones:

- Sustained and expanded our membership network
- Deepened partnerships to amplify our mission
- Took meaningful steps toward justice
- Presented performances across Ohio—including at the Ohio Statehouse—to elevate dance and engage the public

- Strengthened our foundation through strategic planning
- Hosted the annual OhioDance Festival to educate, connect, and inspire
- Produced new creative works for the OhioDance Virtual Dance Collection, exhibited the collection at Ohio State University's Urban Arts Space including our documentary "Ohio: A State of Dance", and our podcast "A State of Dance"—all aimed at preserving and celebrating the richness of dance in Ohio

These accomplishments reflect the strength of our community and the power of collective action. We are especially grateful to our funders, including the Ohio Arts Council Board and staff, the DeWine Administration, and the Ohio state legislators who approved the largest-ever distribution of funding through the Ohio Arts Council. Their support has been instrumental in fueling our work and vision.

Looking ahead, we are excited to continue building on this momentum. In March 2026, we invite all members to join our virtual Membership Meeting as we approach a major milestone: the 50th anniversary of OhioDance. Let us know—what are your hopes and dreams for the future of dance in Ohio?

- Together, we move forward.

  
**Jane D'Angelo**  
Executive Director

# OhioDance Who We Are



2025 OhioDance Festival Concert  
Coé  
Choreographer: Glauco Araujo (Dancing Wheels)  
Photographer: Jess Cavender

*Delve into our history  
and our belief system  
to understand who we  
are.*



# Origin of OhioDance

Association of Ohio Dance Companies (AODC) was established in 1976 in response to a request by the Ohio Arts Council that dance companies in the state organize to provide a coherent channel of communication to, and within, the dance field.

Today, OhioDance presents the arts to the community through festivals, performance opportunities, a groundbreaking Virtual Dance Collection, educational resources, professional networking and a comprehensive website.



OhioDance  
Linda Yoder, Karen King Cavin, Vickie Blaine, Marlene Robbins; Columbus

1983 AODC Festival  
Ian Horvath teaching  
Photo by Herbert Ascherman Jr.



OhioDance  
Toledo meeting  
Doris Hering speaking, seated Elaine Valois, Marie Bollinger Vogt

Far left: Pamela Kelley, Melissa Obenauf, Center Tim Van Leer President of AODC 1985 far right Vickie Blaine, Daryl Kamer



# What We Do & What We Believe

**01** Purpose  
Keeping dance alive.

**02** Mission  
To secure the foothold of dance in Ohio through increasing visibility, firming viability, and elevating the position of dance in Ohio.

**03** Vision  
A communal physical space to share the power and joy of dance.

**04** Values  
Respect  
Integrity  
Love of Dance  
Intentionality of Cultural Expression  
Relationships, Connection, Community





# OhioDance Operations & Governance

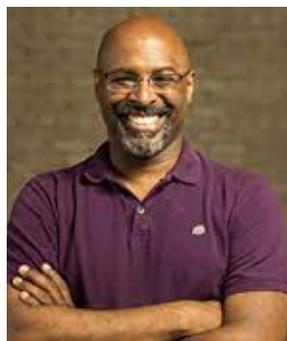
2025 OhioDance Festival Concert  
*Resurgence (Taandav)*  
Choreographer: Amisha Shah  
Photographer: Jess Cavender



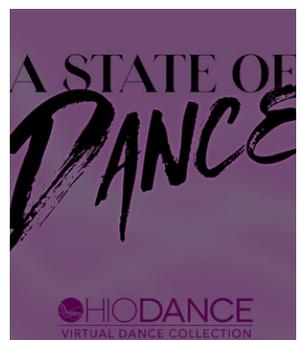
*Meet our operational  
and governing  
stakeholders who keep  
us lifted.*



# Who Make it Possible, Fueling Innovation



*Meet our dedicated staff and executive committee who have contributed their expertise, passion, and collaboration to drive our success.*





# Who Make it Possible

<b>STAFF</b>	<b>Jane D'Angelo</b> Executive Director	<b>Trezon Dancy</b> Program and Operations Manager	
<b>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</b>	Rodney Veal Board President	Damien Highfield Board Vice President Development Chair	
	Jessica Johnson, CPA Treasurer	Emily Stamas Secretary, Governance Chair	Stefan Thomas, Esq. Legal Counsel
<b>BOARD OF TRUSTEES</b>	Amber Emory-Maier A.R.E.A. Committee Chairperson		Kenneth Brown
	Talise Campbell	Mari Davies	Dennis Dugan
	Jeri Deckard Gatch	Richard Oaxaca	Elle Pierman, Ph.D.
	Brianna Rhodes	Sarah Rhodes	Daniel Roberts
	Aseelah Shareef	Mansee Singhi	Quianna Simpson
	Rose Sunila	Kerri Wilde	
		Kodee Van Nort (Ex- Officio)	



# We Thank Our **ADVISORY BOARD**

Ann Cooper Albright	Zelma Badu-Young, Ph.D.	Laurie Bell
Kelly Berick	Padma Chebrolu	Dr Geraldine P. Dapul
Lynn Deering	Melayne White Dixon	Janet Dziak
Joyelle Fobbs	Tina Gehres	John Giffin
Kim Gladden MD	Jefferson James	Suzan Bradford Kounta
Marlene Leber	Holly Handman Lopez	Jeanne Mam-Luft
Gill Wright Miller	Sarah Morrison	Melissa Pintar Obenauf
Gabrielle Stefura	Mary Verdi-Fletcher	Bobbi Wyatt





# Committees

**1**

**A.R.E.A.  
Committee**

**2**

**Development,  
Fundraising &  
Marketing  
Committee**

**3**

**Festival  
Committee**

**4**

**Membership  
Committee**

**5**

**Governance  
Committee**

OhioDance is committed to honoring, nurturing and advancing dance through the lens of justice in all aspects of its programming, services and organization.

OHIODANCE



# OhioDance Membership



2025 OhioDanceFestival Concert  
*Nueva tierra en mi andar*  
Choreographer: Griset Damas-Roche  
Photographer: Jess Cavender



*Discover our reach  
and the value we  
bring to our  
membership.*



# We Value our Membership

JOINED IN 2025

# 157

**INDIVIDUALS (45)**  
**ORGANIZATIONS (45)**  
**STUDENTS (67)**

Current Total: 157



2025 OhioDance Festival Concert

*More of us rising*

Choreographer: Zoey November; Score developed by the dancers

Photographer: Jess Cavender



# We Value our Membership

## REPRESENTED CITIES



**OHIO**

Ada, Akron, Athens, Berea, Broadview Hts, Canton, Chagrin Falls, Chardon, Columbus, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Dayton, Dublin, Fairfield, Fairview Park, Gambier, Galloway, Granville, Hamilton, Huber Hts, Kent, Lakewood, Lancaster, Liberty Township, Lima, Loveland, Mansfield, Mason, Medina, Mentor, Napoleon, New Albany, Newark, North Ridgeville, Novelty, Oakwood, Oberlin, Oxford, Powell, Plain City, Reynoldsburg, Richfield, Richmond Heights, Rocky River, Pepper Pike, Pickerington, Seville, Shaker Heights, So Euclid, Toledo, University Hts, Youngstown



# Benefits of Membership

---

**REPRESENTATION**

**MEMBERSHIP  
DIRECTORY**

**FISCAL SPONSORSHIP**

**SOCIAL MEDIA  
FEATURES**

**PROMOTION**

**QUARTERLY  
NEWSLETTER**

**BIWEEKLY EMAIL**

**FESTIVAL DISCOUNTS**

**DISCOUNTS**

**MAP IN MOTION**

**ADVOCACY**

**PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT**

**ANNUAL MEETING**



# Ohio State of Dance

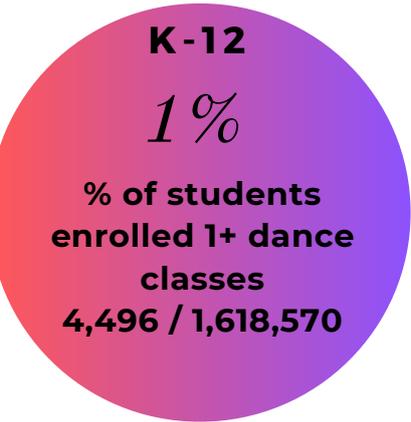


*Study how dance is  
currently positioned  
in the State of Ohio.*

2025 OhioDance Festival Concert  
*Ghosts of the Carnival Moon*  
Choreographer: Yinqi Wang  
Photographer: Jess Cavender



# Ohio-At-A-Glance



# 126+

dance companies

# 3

NO. OF DANCE ORG'S EMPLOYING 26-100 EMPLOYEES

TOP OUT OF 19 ORGS



# REVENUE

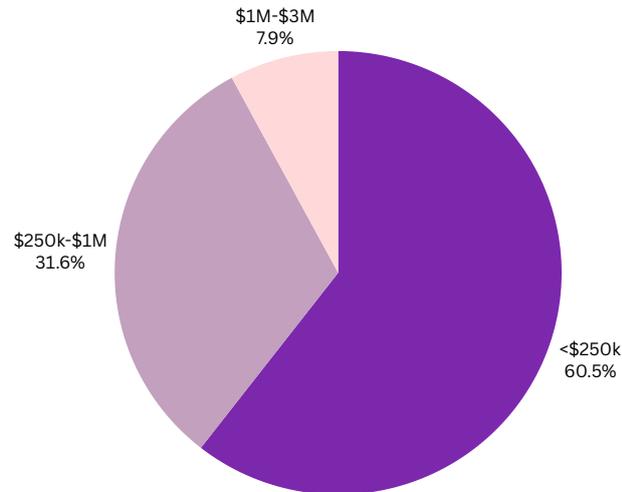
# \$9M +

Generated across 10 metro areas (non-profit dance organizations)

# 20



colleges + universities w/ dance program



Earned Revenue of 38 Organizations



# OhioDance Activations

2025 OhioDance Festival Concert  
*The Chase*  
Choreographer: Samuel McIntosh  
Photographer: Jess Cavender



*Delve into our  
programming to  
continue to secure  
dance in the State  
of Ohio.*



# OhioDance Festival

# 420

attendees

# 105

participants



2025 OhioDance Festival Concert  
*InPulse Dance Tech*  
Teacher: Trezon Dancy  
Photographer: Jess Cavender



2025 OhioDance Festival Concert  
*Ballet*  
Teacher: Gregory Robinson  
Photographer: Jess Cavender

16 CHOREO TALKS

# 4,615

FACEBOOK REACH

# 7,653

INSTAGRAM REACH



2025 OhioDance Festival Concert  
*Traditional West African Dance & Drum*  
Teacher: Obatiola  
Photographer: Jess Cavender

# 36

presenters

# 39

sessions

# OhioDance Festival

**21**

**Choreographic Works**

**122**

**performers in concert**

**12**

**counties represented**

**PROFESSIONAL CONCERT**



2025 OhioDance Festival Concert  
*The Kenny Clarke Caravan Idea*  
Choreographer: Lauren Squires  
Photographer: Jess Cavender



2025 OhioDance Festival Concert  
*The Twilight Serenade*  
Choreographer: Megan Perry  
Photographer: Jess Cavender

**PRE-PROFESSIONAL CONCERT**

**9**

**Choreographic Works**

**32**

**performers in concert**

**5**

**counties represented**

# 2025 OhioDance Festival Guest Artist

## CHRISTOPHER KAUI MORGAN (HE/HIM)



2025 OhioDance Festival Concert  
*Rice (2005)*  
Choreography, text and performance:  
Christopher Morgan  
Photographer: Jess Cavender

is a Native Hawaiian choreographer, arts administrator, facilitator, dance educator, and arts/native advocate based in San Diego, California... He crafts multi-disciplinary performances that synthesize dance, storytelling, original music, and multimedia design to explore identity, as well as social and cultural issues. His work has been performed in 22 countries across 5 continents. Sought as a speaker and grants reviewer for his informed and balanced perspective, he was nominated by President Biden to a 6-year term on the National Council on the Arts.

He is Artistic Director of Christopher K. Morgan & Artists, Malashock Dance, and the Program Director of the residency program Art Omi: Dance.

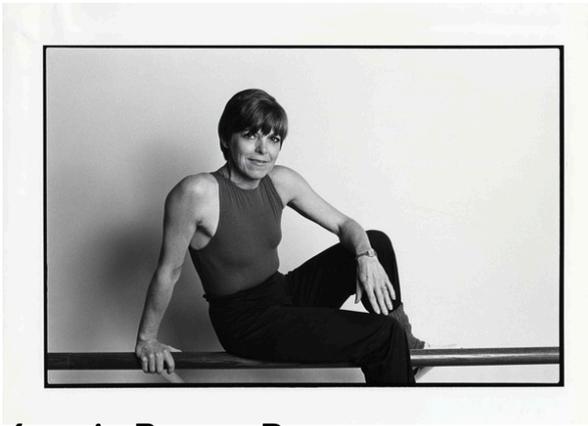
Under the Artistic Direction of Christopher K. Morgan, Malashock Dance illuminates the power of dance as an invaluable part of the human experience. It is a gathering place for artists to create new work, connect with audiences, and offer unique educational opportunities, grounded in the belief that dance belongs to everyone. Since 1988 Malashock Dance has been an active contributor to the vibrancy of San Diego's cultural life and provides professional concert dance performances, dance training for all ages, and educational outreach programming for thousands of individuals each year. Its incredible team of teachers, staff, and dancers have local, regional, and national impact and provide life-changing programs for individuals from all walks of life.



2025 OhioDance Festival Concert  
*Water and Sand*  
Choreographer: Khamla Somphanh  
(Malashock Dance)  
Photographer: Jess Cavender



# The OhioDance Award



*Maggie Patton Dance and OhioDance Outstanding Dance Student Award (2025)*



*Padma Chebrolu Dance Award and OhioDance Exceptional College/University Dance Student Artist Award (2025)*



STELLA ABAD

Generations PAC in Westerville OH

- 01** Outstanding Contributions to the Advancement of the Dance Artform:  
recognizes choreographers and dance artists dedicated to the creation of new work and preserving dance history for future generations.
- 02** Outstanding Contributions to the Advancement of Dance Education:  
recognizes dance educators dedicated to teaching dance and dance history as well as new, innovative dance techniques.

- 05** Padma Chebrolu Dance Award and OhioDance Exceptional College/University Dance Student Artist Award  
recognizes that dance can be learned or enjoyed by anyone in this world regardless of their age, race, and gender. It uplifts humanity and enriches lives.



KAYLA BLYTHE

Kenyon College Dance

- 03** Maggie Patton and OhioDance Outstanding Dance Student Award:  
given to a High School Senior dance student. Honor the passing of Maggie Patton, Columbus resident founder of DanceCentral.
- 04** Outstanding Contributions to Dance Arts Administration:  
recognizes dedicated administrators in the dance field.

# OhioDance

## Virtual Dance Collection

Bexley

Columbus

Dublin

Granville

Gambier

Athens  
Chillicothe

Interactive website that documents, and preserves the achievements of persons and institutions who have shaped the diversity of dance history and practice in Ohio.

42 FEATURED PAGES

Akron

Cleveland

Euclid

Novelty

Oberlin

Youngstown

Cincinnati

Dayton



# OhioDance Virtual Dance Collection Exhibit



## Ohio: A State of Dance | Urban Arts Space

May 13 - June 7, 2025

Urban Arts Space (Located in the historic Lazarus Building in downtown Columbus)

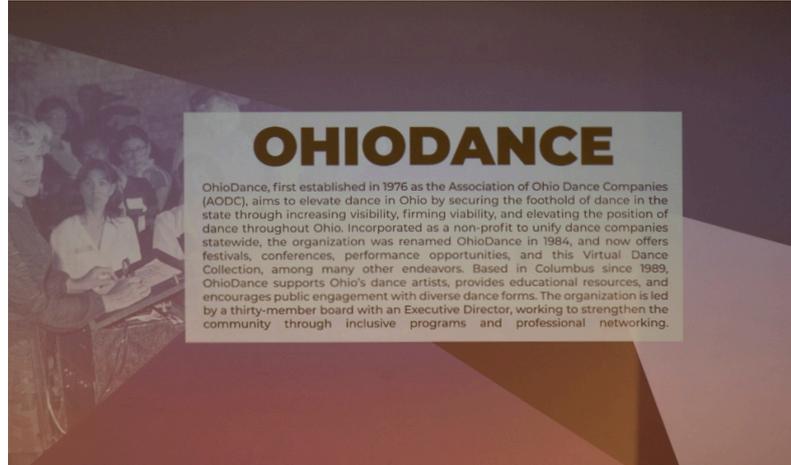
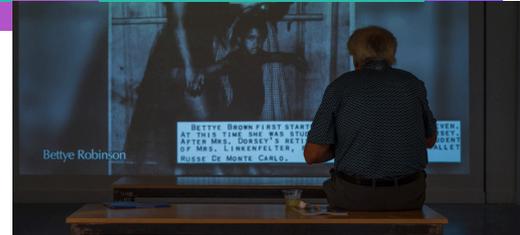
The OhioDance Virtual Dance Collection® is an interactive platform that documents and preserves the achievements of persons and institutions who have shaped the diversity of dance history within the state of Ohio. There were showings of the award-winning documentary film, Ohio: A State of Dance, and hands-on experience to interact with the gesture interface of the traveling exhibit.

Reception  
Friday, May 16

Artist Commune  
Friday, May 30

Live Podcast  
Saturday, May 31

Closing Performance  
Thursday, June 5





# OhioDance Virtual Dance Collection Film + Podcast



## EMMY NOMINATION

Ohio Valley Region

## TELLY AWARDS

43rd Annual: 1 Gold + 2 Silver Awards

## PBS AIRING

All Ohio Stations

### OHIO: A STATE OF DANCE

Film

"Ohio: A State of Dance" is based on The OhioDance Virtual Dance Collection's first ten selected dance developments that anchor the collection. Created by women, the documentary springs from an analytical perspective on the social and political climate of the times it features.

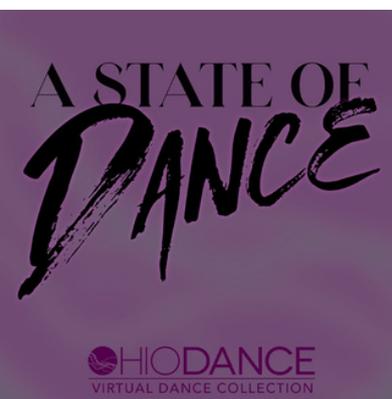
- **Oral Historian, Writer:** M. Candace Feck
- **Producer, Executive Director OhioDance:** Jane D'Angelo
- **Narrator, President OhioDance:** Rodney Veal
- **Editor, Videographer, Collections Coordinator:** Jessica Cavender
- **Videographer:** Megan Davis Bushway



### A STATE OF DANCE Podcast

"A State of Dance" is a six-part Podcast series. Season 1 2023 6 part series June - November 2023 Season 2 2024 6 part series June - November 2024 Season 3 2025 6 Part series June - November 2025

- **Host:** Rodney Veal
- **Executive Producer:** Jane D'Angelo
- **Editor and Audio Technician:** Jessica Cavender
- **Music Composition:** Matthew Peyton Dixon





# OhioDance Statehouse Performance

## PERFORMANCE STATS

**Performing Works**                    **17**

**Performers**                                **145**

## REPRESENTED REGIONS

**Columbus**

**Hilliard**                                    **Medina**

**North Royalton**                        **Plain City**

**Reynoldsburg**                         **Westerville**

# OHIODANCE

## 2024 Ohio Statehouse Holiday Festival and Tree Lighting

Thursday, December 5, 2024, from 5:30pm to 7:00pm (Free Event)

OhioDance presents:  
 Arts for Nations Center, Ballet Folclorico Xochihua, Generations Performing Arts Center, K Studio, Krutaanjali, Mahana Productions, Medina Centre for Dance Arts, Momentum, New Dance Artists, Rankin Holland Irish Dance Academy, The ML Dance Academy, The W.I.M., U Will Dance Studio, WhirlWind Dance





# Dancin' the American Dream

## Dancin' the American Dream: Discussions and Embodied Conversations around Representation and Change, Part 2

Performances by Wright State and DCDC2

Discussion moderated by Rodney Veal, Producer and Community Arts  
Liason, ThinkTV, Dayton.

### Panelists:

- Kevin Ward, Touring Director and Senior Artistic Advisor, Dayton Contemporary Dance Co.
- Brandon Ragland, Artistic Director, Dayton Ballet and
- Gregory Robinson, performer, teacher, and choreographer, Dayton

Followed by movement led by Gregory Robinson

Saturday October 5th 1:00PM - 3:30PM  
Wright State University DanceSpace  
The Creative Arts Center  
Fairborn, Oh

Topics center around, How the Pandemic Created Space to Reflect on  
Unsustainable or Harmful Dance Industry Norms.



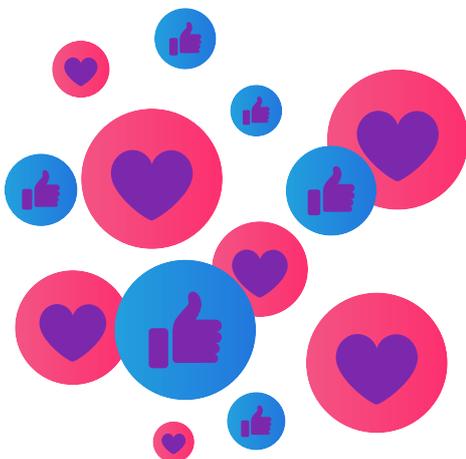
# Season by the Numbers

## VIRTUAL DANCE COLLECTION

Exhibits	42
Residencies	19
Documentary	1
Travel Exhibit	1
Podcast Series	3

## IN-PERSON AUDIENCE MEMBERS

Festival	420
Statehouse	600
Dancin' American Dream	30



## OHIODANCE PRESENTED WORKS

Choreographic Works	30
Statehouse Works	17
Dancin' American Dream	2

## PERFORMING ARTISTS

Festival Performing Artists	154
Festival Session Presenters	36
Statehouse Performers	145
Dancin' American Dream	10

## SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS

Facebook	1,800
Instagram	1646
LinkedIn	233
X	639
Youtube	90
Vimeo	21



# OhioDance Strategy



*See how we work to  
deliver our purpose  
and mission.*

2025 OhioDance Festival Concert

*Endangered Species*

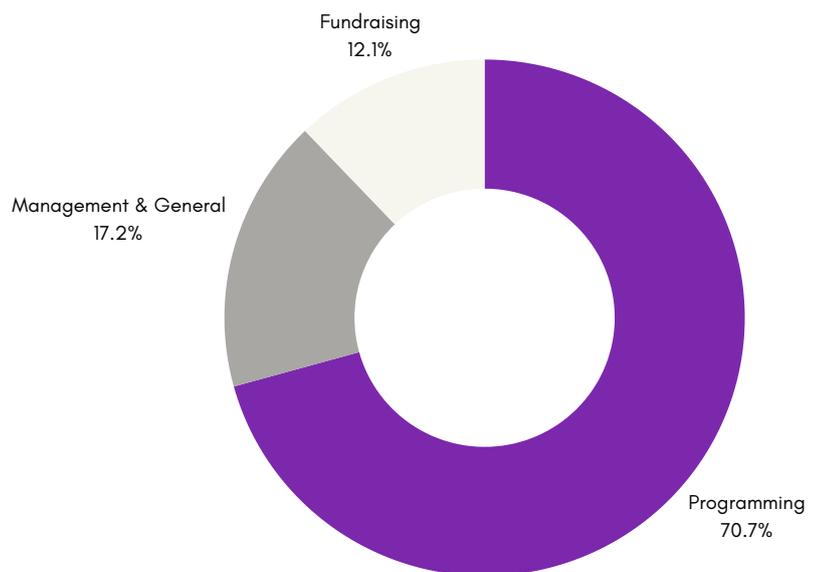
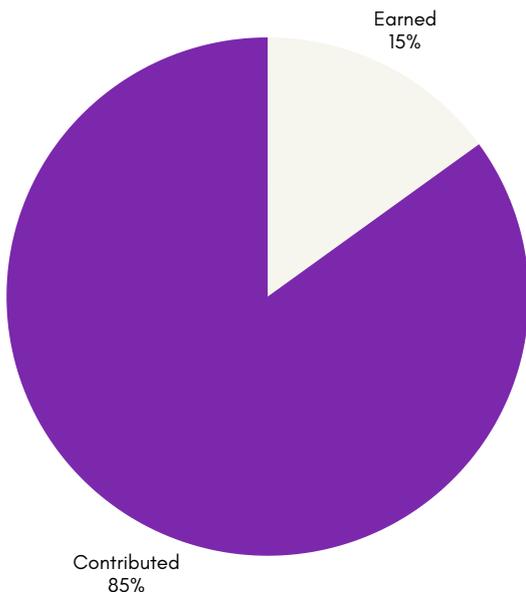
Choreographer: Candice Flows Igeleke in collaboration  
with the dancers

Photographer: Jess Cavender



# Financials

The fiscal health of OhioDance is **GOOD!** In FY25 there was a deficit for the first time in three years, in part due to the loss of NEA funding. Our budget is sustained through State, and Local funding, as well as foundations, corporations, membership dues, and programming fees. In FY25, earned income accounted for 15% and contributed income 85%. Expenses are holding steady: 70% Programming, 17% Management & General, and 12% Fundraising. OhioDance receives significant in-kind support through the generosity of board and community members.





# Celebrating Growth, Working Toward Progress

↑ **10%**

State Funds

↑ **60%**

Foundations & Trusts

↓ **Lower**

Membership Dues

↑ **20%**

Other Income

↓ **Lower**

Festival Income

↑ **3%**

In-Kind

↓ **Lower**

Total Revenue

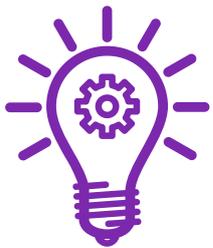


Celebrate our continued growth and achievements that have sustained our organization and move us forward.



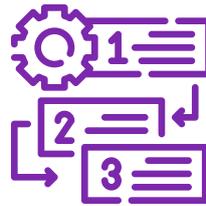
# Strategy Development

OhioDance continues working with our new strategic plan. The purpose of the strategy work is to *bring OhioDance to the fullness of its unknown and untapped potential* through clarifying direction, identifying objectives, and developing concerted activities to deliver value to its membership and the dance community of Ohio. A simple and focused strategy and correlating execution systems were created and now guide the intention of OhioDance and the effective utilization of resources. Among other things, OhioDance developed a strong belief system, identified the job to be done by OhioDance, and considered corresponding tactical plans.



## OUTCOMES

1. **Generated a simple winning strategy to unify stakeholders, synergize efforts and resources, and drive intentionality**
2. **Developed a belief system upon which stakeholders of OhioDance can ideate and generate benefits for its community**
3. **Identified and articulated the community of OhioDance to ensure value is delivered**
4. **Established boundaries to focus the energies and resources of OhioDance**
5. **Solidified a vision that can inspire efforts and bring us together**



## PLANS

1. **Created pool of acute and long-term tactics to deliver value aligned with strategy**
2. **Identified high-level correlating measurables to determine effectiveness of tactics**



### 01 SELECT

Select optimal tactics to deliver value to the OhioDance community and State of Ohio

### LEARN

### 02

Learn what is delivering value. Learn what is valuable to the OhioDance community

### 03 EXECUTE

Buildout Tactics + Deliver + Measure + Study



# OhioDance Partners & Funders



*Help us show  
gratitude to those  
who continue to  
support OhioDance.*

2025 OhioDance Festival Concert  
*Sandia (Pronounced Sahn-Dee-Ah)*  
Choreographer: Talise Campbell (Djapo Cultural Arts  
Institute)  
Photographer: Jess Cavender



# Grateful to Our Partners

-  **Ohio Arts Council**
-  **Ohio Alliance for Arts Education**
-  **The Ohio State University,  
Department of Dance**
-  **Ohio Statehouse**
-  **Arts Possible Ohio**
-  **Ohio Department of Education**
-  **Dance/USA**
-  **National Dance Education  
Organization**



# Grateful to Our Funders



DEPARTMENT OF **DANCE**



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES



**KETTERING FAMILY PHILANTHROPIES**



THE COLUMBUS FOUNDATION



AKRON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
ENRICHING LIVES SINCE 1955



# OhioDance Onward



*Let's look to the  
future together.*

2025 OhioDance Festival Concert  
*NightDream: Blitz'D and Open your Eyes (2022)*  
Choreographer: Trezon Dancy (InPulse Dance Co.)  
Photographer: Jess Cavender



# Let's Go Forward

Be on the lookout for new programming and activations and let us know your thoughts!

Help us grow and expand our reach. Tell your friends and colleagues about OhioDance!

Save the Date  
OhioDance Festival  
May 1 - 3, 2026

Let us know how you liked our annual report and what you would like to see next year!

2026 is the 50th anniversary of OhioDance

Help us continue to deliver our mission. Let us know what is important to you and your needs so we keep dance vibrant in Ohio!



# Gratitude, Connection, and Continued Success



We express our sincere appreciation to all of our members, funders, partners, sponsors, employees, trustees, advisors, and Ohio, for the continued support and dedication.



2025 OhioDance Festival Concert  
*Puritans of Prey*  
Choreographer: Jared Warren  
Photographer: Jess Cavender

2025 OhioDance Festival Concert

*Wash*

Choreographer: Joshua Manculich

Photographer: Jess Cavender

 [www.ohiodance.org](http://www.ohiodance.org)

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 [jane@ohiodance.org](mailto:jane@ohiodance.org)

 @ohiodance

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 OHIODANCE