



OHIO DANCE

A YEAR OF GROWTH & RESILIENCE

**Annual report
FY-26**

(July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026)

2026 OhioDance Festival Concert

Notturmo

Cincinnati Ballet 2

Choreographer: Yoshihisa Arai

Photographer: Jess Cavender



25 26



2026 OhioDance Festival Concert
Voguing
Presenter: Yidi Lin
Photographer: Jess Cavender



2026 OhioDance Festival Concert
Afro-Fusion
Presenter: Trezon Dancy
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.



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Letter from the Executive Director



A top level view of
our work here at
OhioDance.



Leading with Vision, Inspiring Success

Dear Friends of OhioDance,

As we close out fiscal year 2026, I am delighted to welcome you to this year's annual report. We reflect with deep gratitude 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 to implement 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 find highlights from 2025–2026 that showcase how OhioDance is fostering connection, celebrating impact, and championing the art of dance across the state. This year, we achieved several important milestones:

- Sustained and expanded our membership network
- Deepened partnerships to amplify our mission
- Took meaningful steps toward justice and equity in the field
- 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, held a four-day residency in Akron, and added new episodes to our podcast, A State of Dance — all in service of 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 our vision.

Looking ahead, we are excited to keep building on this momentum. On October 8, 2026, we invite all members to join us for our 50th Anniversary Gala — a major milestone in OhioDance's history. We'll also be unveiling a new website soon.

As we look to the future, we'd love to hear from you: what are your hopes and dreams for the future of dance in Ohio?

Together, we are moving forward.

With gratitude,

Jane D'Angelo
Jane D'Angelo

Executive Director

Who
We
Are

OhioDance



2026 OhioDance Festival Concert
Soñé con Guajiras en el Horizonte
Choreographer: Griset Damas-Roche
Photographer: Jess Cavender

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



Origin of OhioDance



1988 OhioDance Festival
Ohio Theatre Marquee
Photo by Joel Hauserman



2010 Hathaway Brown School
OhioDance Statehouse

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.



OhioDance
Pamela Kelley, Melissa Obenauf, Tim Van Leer
President of AODC 1985, Vickie Blaine, Daryl
Kamer

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.



Kaye Davis, Jane D'Angelo, Connie Hawk,
Dennis Dugan
2005 OD Festival University of Akron



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



2026 OhioDance Festival Concert

Echoes - Past-Present-Possible (A Kathak tribute to Ohio Dance)

Choreographer: Mansee Singhi

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

STAFF	Jane D'Angelo Executive Director	Trezon Dancy Program and Operations Manager	
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	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
BOARD OF TRUSTEES	Amber Emory-Maier Community Spaces Committee Chairperson	Emily Bass-Glinski	Kenneth Brown
	Talise Campbell	Mari Davies	Dennis Dugan
	Jeri Deckard Gatch	Yidi Lin	Richard Oaxaca
	Elle Pierman, Ph.D.	Brianna Rhodes	Sarah Rhodes
	Daniel Roberts	Aseelah Shareef	Mansee Singhi
	Rose Sunila	Samara Tillman	Kerri Wilde
	David Guion (Ex-Officio)	Kodee Van Nort (Ex-Officio)	



We Thank Our **ADVISORY BOARD**

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





Committees

1 **Community Spaces Committee**

2 **Development, Fundraising & Marketing Committee**

3 **Festival Committee**

4 **Membership Committee**

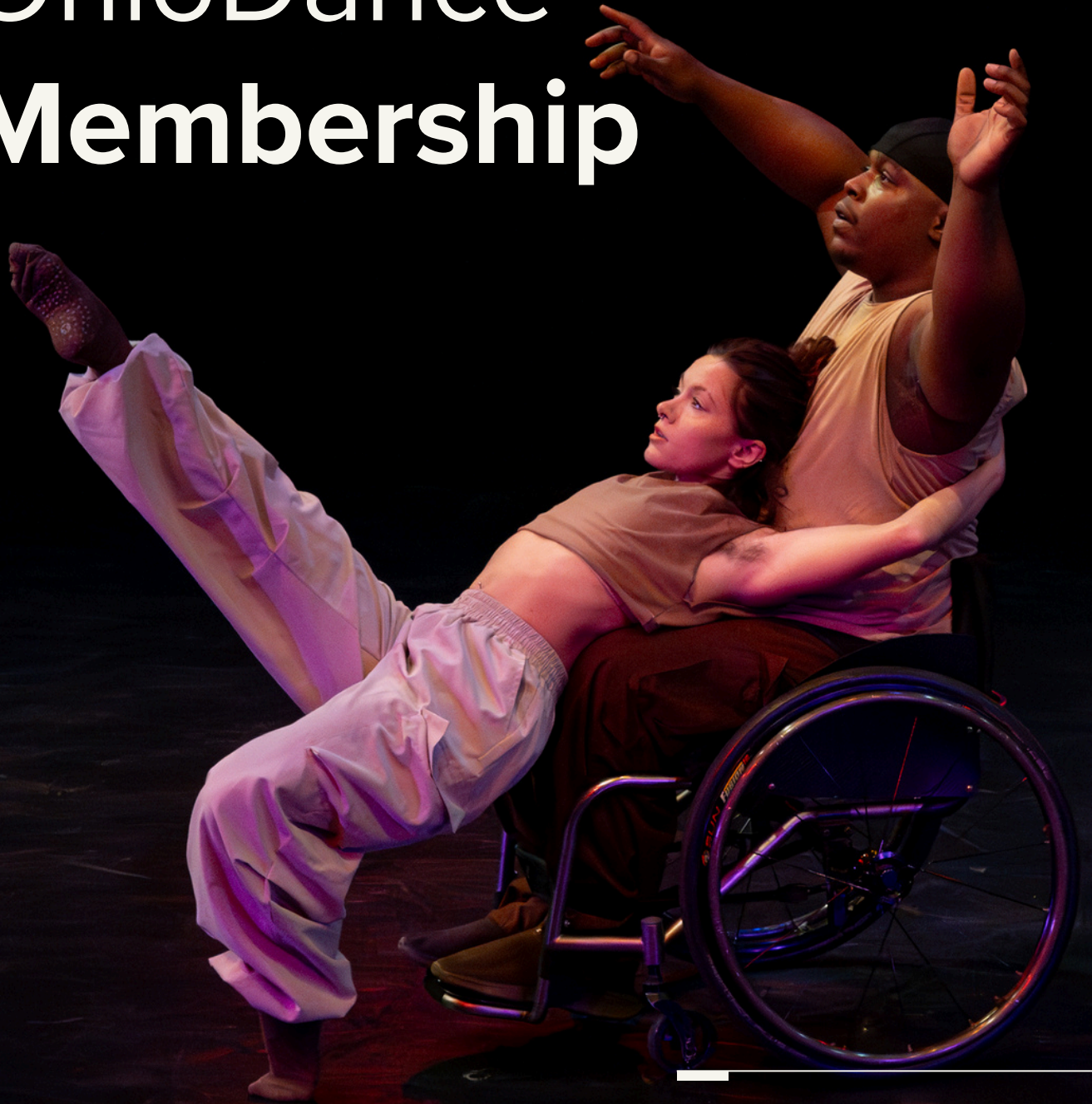
5 **Governance Committee**

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



2026 OhioDance Festival Concert
We hold us
Choreographer: Angelina DiFranco
Photographer: Jess Cavender



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



We Value our Membership

JOINED IN 2026

128

INDIVIDUALS (56)
ORGANIZATIONS (21)
STUDENTS (51)

Current Total: 128



2026 OhioDance Festival Concert
One Day I Will Be On Time
Choreographer: Charlotte Stehmeyer
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



OhioDance State of Dance

2026 OhioDance Festival Concert
Murmurs of Mural
Choreographer: Tingyu Xie
Photographer: Jess Cavender



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



Ohio-At-A-Glance

K-12

1%

% of students
enrolled 1+ dance
classes
4,496 / 1,618,570

126+

dance companies

3

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

**TOP OUT OF 19
ORGS**



REVENUE

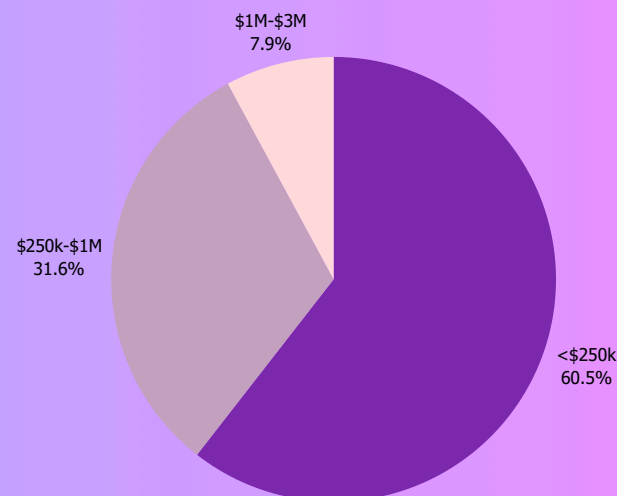
\$9M +

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

19



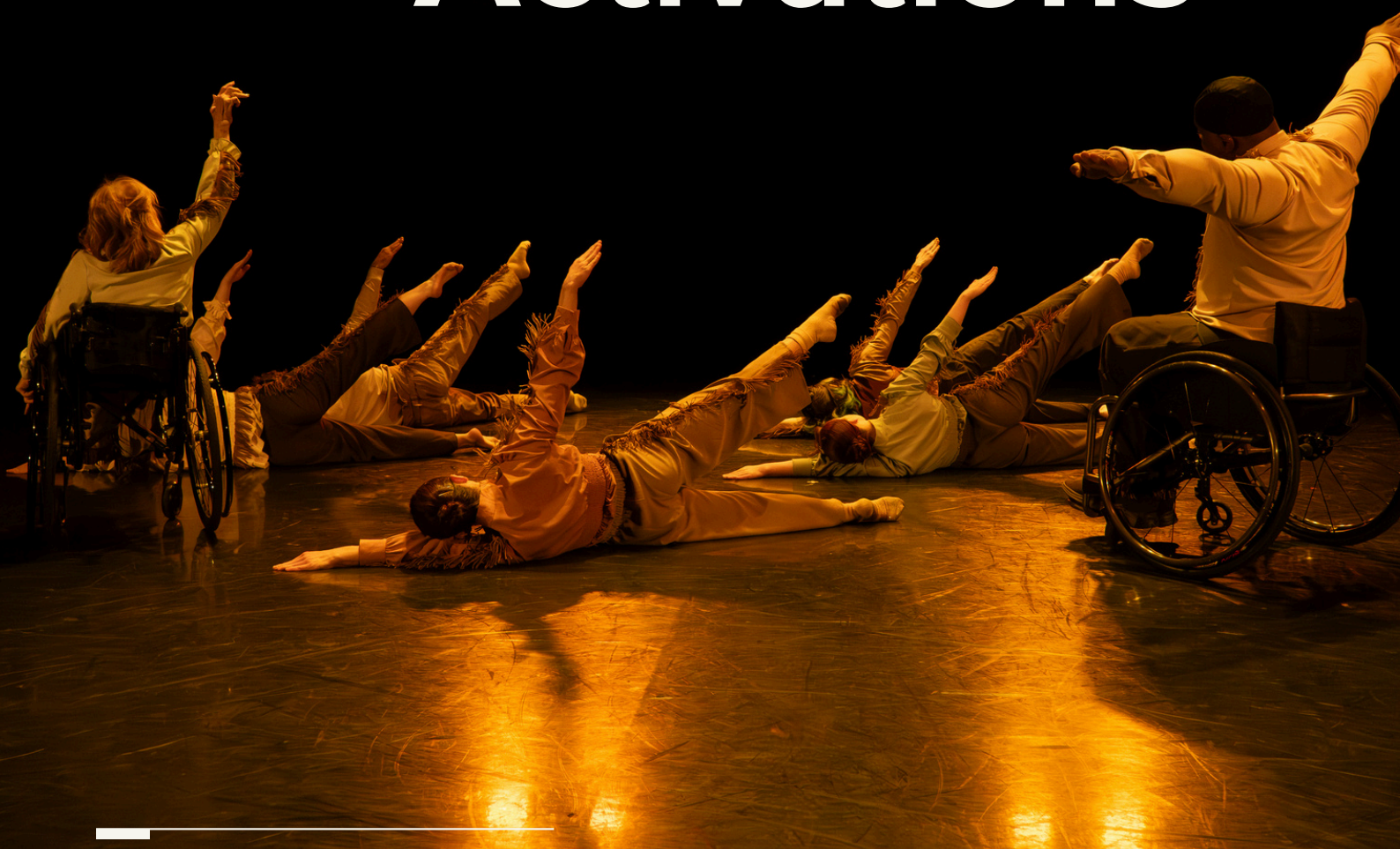
**colleges + universities
w/ dance program**



**Earned Revenue of 38
Organizations**



OhioDance Activations



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

2026 OhioDance Festival Concert
Little Sure Shot

Dancing Wheels Company
Choreographer: Catherine Meredith
Photographer: Jess Cavender



OhioDance Festival

350 attendees

37 presenters

105 participants

30 sessions



2026 OhioDance Festival Concert
Ballet
Guest Artist: Cervilio Miguel Amador
Photographer: Jess Cavender



2026 OhioDance Festival Concert
Polynesian (Hula)
Presenter: Aizel Cabungcal
Photographer: Jess Cavender

10 CHOREO TALKS

1,698

**FACEBOOK
REACH**

3,397

**INSTAGRAM
REACH**



OhioDance Festival

18 Choreographic
Works

90 performers in
concert

9 counties
represented

PROFESSIONAL
CONCERT



2026 OhioDance Festival Concert

Illuminate

Choreographer: RonDale Simpson

Photographer: Jess Cavender

PRE-PROFESSIONAL
CONCERT

9 Choreographic
Works

54 performers in
concert

7 counties
represented



2026 OhioDance Festival PreProfessional Concert

Summer Flowers

Beck Center for the Arts

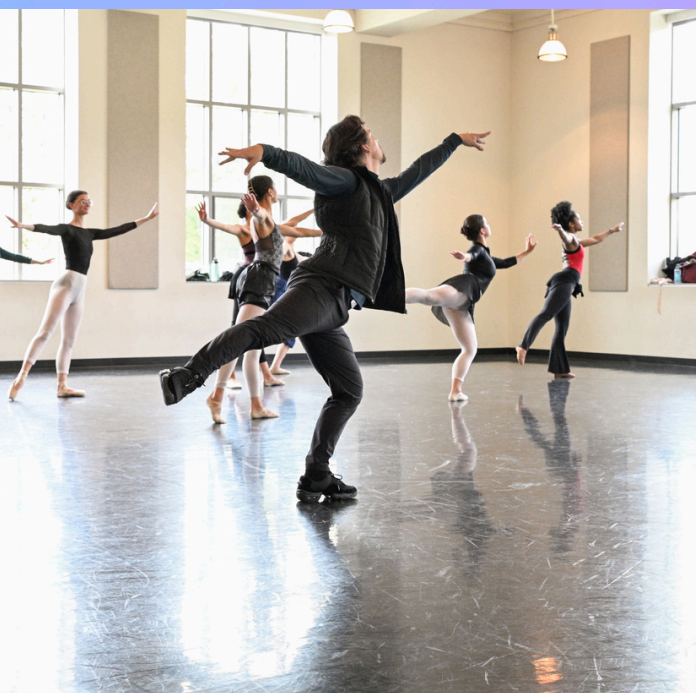
Choreographer: Melissa Yarur

Photographer: Jess Cavender



2026 OhioDance Festival Guest Artist

CERVILIO MIGUEL AMADOR



2026 OhioDance Festival Concert

Ballet

Guest Artist: Cervilio Miguel Amador

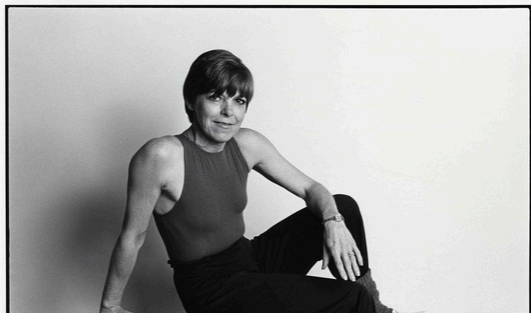
Photographer: Jess Cavender

Guest artist Cervilio Miguel Amador, the Artistic Director of Cincinnati Ballet.

Cervi is a multifaceted artist, entrepreneur, and transformative figure in the dance world. He received his education and training at the Vocational Ballet School in Camagüey, Cuba, and the National Ballet School of Cuba. Cervi began his professional career with the National Ballet of Cuba, starting as a Corps de Ballet dancer and later advancing to the role of Corifeo (demi-soloist). In 2004, he joined Cincinnati Ballet as a Soloist, and in 2006, he was promoted to Principal Dancer, becoming one of the youngest in the company's history. Over his 16-year tenure as Principal Dancer, Cervi performed in numerous world premieres by acclaimed choreographers, including Victoria Morgan, Adam Hougland, Travis Wall, Val Caniparoli, Jessica Lang, and Luca Veggetti. Alongside his artistic achievements, Cervi represented Cincinnati Ballet dancers as a union delegate for over a decade.

In September 2023, the Cincinnati Ballet Board of Trustees appointed Cervi as Interim Artistic Director. In this capacity, he actively planned the repertoire for upcoming seasons, curated and commissioned new works, and collaborated with the leadership team to shape his artistic vision for the company. Cervi has been instrumental in fostering community partnerships and broadening the reach of the art form both locally and internationally. He was a finalist for the 2024 CreativeOhio Champion Advocacy Award in the Artist Champion category. The Cincinnati Ballet Board of Trustees appointed Cervi as permanent Artistic Director in December 2024.

The OhioDance Award



Maggie Patton Dance
and OhioDance Outstanding Dance
Student Award (2026)



Padma Chebrolu Dance Award
and OhioDance
Exceptional College/University
Dance Student Artist Award (2026)



SUDESHNA NAIDU

Sreemayuri Dance
Academy Strongsville, 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.



AMELIA SKOWRON

Kent State University

- 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.
- 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.



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

Cincinnati
Dayton



Akron
Cleveland
Euclid
Novelty
Oberlin
Youngstown



OhioDance Virtual Dance Collection

tones in Ohio's Dance History



Milestones in Ohio's Dance History





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 to

Season 4 2026 6 Part series June - November

- **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 **18**

Performers **181**

REPRESENTED REGIONS

Columbus

Hilliard

Novelty

Lewis Center

Medina

Plain City

Westerville



2025 Ohio Statehouse Holiday Festival and Tree Lighting
Thursday, December 4, 2025, from 5:30pm to 7:00pm (Free Event)

OhioDance presents:

Rankin Holland Irish Dance Academy, Anjali Dance Center, Arts for Nations Center,
RuthDance Chinese Dance Group, Momentum-Excellence, Natyapriya Dance,
Generations Performing Arts Center, Medina Centre for Dance Arts, Fairmount Center for the Arts,
K Studio, The Dance Space @ iYooWee, Krutaanjali, Sugar Foot Follies, BalletMet 2,
U will Dance Studio, Mahana Polynesian Dancers





Dancin' the American Dream

WSU Dancing' the American Dream - Full Event

OhioDance



WSU Panel - Dayton Contemporary Dance Company 2 Performance

OhioDance

Dancin the American Dream: Discussions and Embodied Conversations around Inclusion and Change

Presentation at the National Dance Education Organization
(NDEO) Conference
On Sunday, October 4, 2025 in Detroit Michigan

Facilitators: Ambre Emory-Maier, Aseelah Shareef, Rodney
Veal, Jane D'Angelo

This work is lead by the Community Space Committee (CSC)
The CSC is dedicated to creating respectful, welcoming spaces to
encourage full participation.

<https://ohiodance.org/resources/community-space-committee/>

Panel Discussions have been held at Kent State
University-March 17, 2024 and Wright State University,
Dayton-October 5, 2024.

Each discussion began with a local performance and
ended with a movement session.





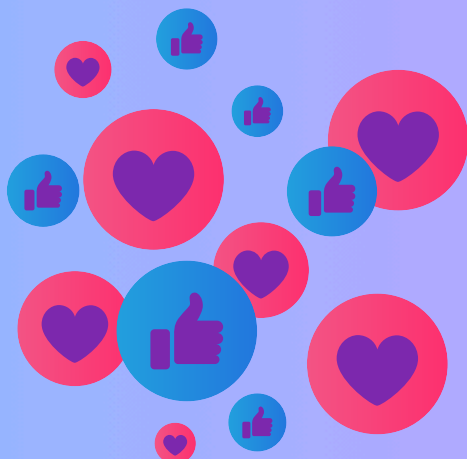
Season by the Numbers

VIRTUAL DANCE COLLECTION

Exhibits	44
Residencies	20
Documentary	1
Travel Exhibit	1
Podcast Series	4

IN-PERSON AUDIENCE MEMBERS

Festival	350
Statehouse	650



OHIO DANCE PRESENTED WORKS

Festival Choreo Works	27
Statehouse Choreo Works	18

PERFORMING ARTISTS

Festival Performing Artists	144
Festival Session Presenters	30
Statehouse Performers	181

SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS

Facebook	1900
Instagram	1965
LinkedIn	245
Youtube	91
Vimeo	21



OhioDance Strategy

2026 OhioDance Festival Concert
Stuck on Repeat
Cleveland Ballet
Choreographer: Theresa Holland
Photographer: Jess Cavender

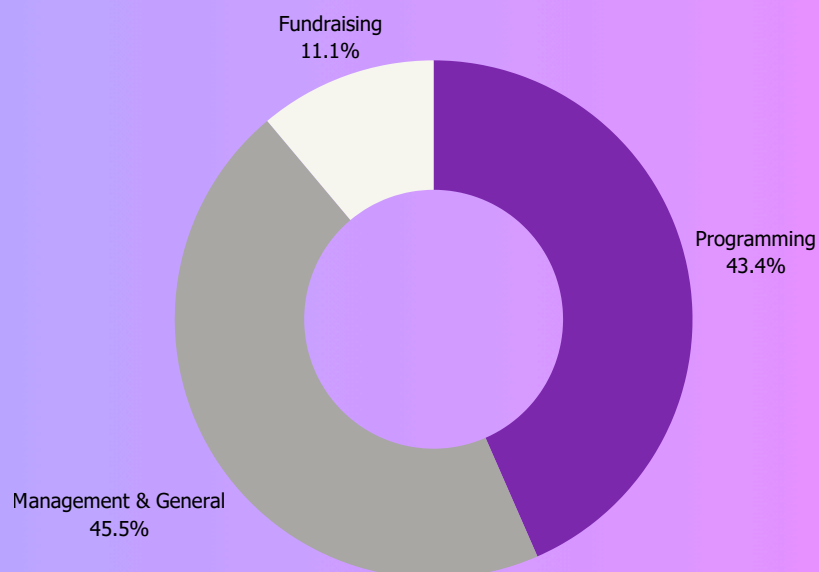
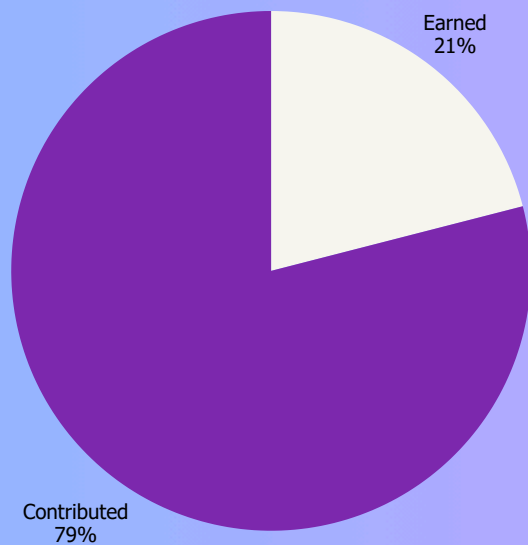


See how we work to
deliver our purpose
and mission.



Financials

The fiscal health of OhioDance is **GOOD!** In FY26 OhioDance was in the black. Our budget is sustained through State, and Local funding, as well as foundations, corporations, membership dues, and programming fees. In FY26, earned income accounted for 21% and contributed income 79%. Expenses are holding steady: 43% Programming, 45% Management & General, and 11% Fundraising. OhioDance receives significant in-kind support through the generosity of board and community members.





Celebrating Growth, Working Toward Progress

↑ **20%**

Government, State
and Local Funds

↑ **60%**

Individual Giving

↓ **Lower**

Foundations

↑ **26%**

Membership Dues

↓ **Lower**

Festival Income

↑ **20%**

Corporate

↑ **Higher**

Total Revenue

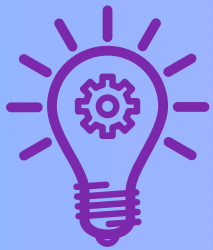


Celebrate our continued growth and achievements that have sustained our organization and move us forward.



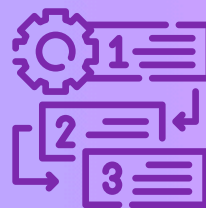
Strategy Development

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 valueable to the OhioDance community

03 EXECUTE

Buildout Tactics + Deliver + Measure + Study



OhioDance

Partners & Funders



2026 OhioDance Festival Concert

Ad Astra

BalletMet 2

Choreographer: Remi Wörtmeyer

Photographer: Jess Cavender



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



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**





OhioDance Onward



Let's look to the
future together.

2026 OhioDance Festival Concert

It's Lonely at the Top

Choreographer: Morgan Sandlin

Photographer: Jess Cavender



Let's Go Forward





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.



2026 OhioDance Festival Concert
The Avatars Of Maya
Choreographer: Madhavi Sudhir
Photographer: Jess Cavender



OHIO DANCE



 www.ohiodance.org

 614-224-2913

 jane@ohiodance.org

 @ohiodance

 77 S High St, Columbus,
OH 43215

2026 OhioDance Festival Concert
Mayim

Inlet Dance Theatre

Choreographer: Bill Wade

Photographer: Jess Cavender