DANCEONTARIO

ANNUAL REPORT **2023-24**

A MESSAGE FROM
SAMARA THOMPSON, CHAIR

Dance Ontario's 40th year was productive and exciting, filled with fabulous dance and important initiatives!

Our organization has a unique and indispensable role in the Ontario dance community. We serve dance professionals, students, studios, companies, scholars, enthusiasts, and many other dance-related professions and activities. This past year, Dance Ontario continued to serve our membership by offering dance performances, workshops, and resources, among many other undertakings.

Our reach continued to be far and wide with over 6000 attendees at events, 21 000 social media followers, nearly 200 000 views on our website!

Our biggest event of the year, DanceWeekend, was a huge success! We celebrated its 30th anniversary on-line and in-person and presented over 350 dancers, a retrospective video, films, workshops, and commissioned new works by BaKari I. Lindsay and Madeleine Twynman.

It was a year of transitions for our Board of Directors. We welcomed Newton Moraes and Emod Vafa to the Board. Anuschka Roes, Robert Galbraith, and Suzan Richards left our Board to pursue other opportunities. A huge thank you goes out to them for their time and dedication to Dance Ontario.

Sadly, Lola Ryan, Board member and former Chair of Dance Ontario, passed away this year. Lola sat on the Board for over two decades and selflessly gave her insight, knowledge, and time to help develop many of our offerings. She is greatly missed and her passing is loss to the Board and to the dance community.

A sincere thank you to those who were a part of Dance Ontario's continued success this past year! Amy Hampton, our Executive Director, continues offering excellence in all she does for Dance Ontario and the dance community. Her insight, foresight, and tenacity are very much appreciated. Thank you for the continued invaluable work of Alan Faigal, our Project Coordinator. Thank you to our Network Coordinators, volunteers, interns, and Youth Committee for their hard work and commitment. Heartfelt gratitude is also extended to our fabulous Board of Directors, who gave freely of their time and are passionate ambassadors of Dance Ontario's endeavours, furthering the success of our organization.

As we enter our 41st year, I foresee another year that will have us dancing with joy, as we provide rich and valuable services while broadening our offerings to our members. On behalf of Dance Ontario, I thank you for your membership. We look forward to working with you in dance throughout the coming year and invite you to come dance with us!

A MESSAGE FROM
AMY HAMPTON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This year was a pivotal one for our organization. We embarked on important projects with the long-term health and sustainability of the Association at the forefront of our vision. With the support of Community Services Recovery Fund, administered by the Red Cross, we were able redesign our internal processes and digitize our systems. This was large scale project that has transformed our work, allowed us to purchase office equipment and to ensure data privacy for our members. Automation of many of our of services helps us support our membership.

Looking to the future, we brought five bright and talented young people on board as the new Youth Advisory Council. The YAC has offered valuable insights and fresh ideas on how to reach and best support a younger demographic.

We celebrated the 30th anniversary of DanceWeekend, our flagship event. This was a very special edition of the festival marked by a special look back at 30 spectacular years. With the support of the Ontario Trillium Foundation, we were able to add digital equipment to support our volunteers and audiences at DanceWeekend. The festival brought 350 artists to the stage, shared 10 dance films and offered 3 workshops to the community. Two world premieres commissioned through our Creative Partnerships program by Madeleine Twyman and BaKari I. Lindsay. The Jacque Foesier Youth Award was given to Tristyn Murray in a special onstage presentation. Audiences joined the event both in-person and online. Wonderful feedback from artists and audiences confirmed the vitality and special place this event holds in our community.

Our International Dance Day celebrations included a special message from Diana Lopez Soto and a Dance Party attended by 2500 participants.
We partnered with the Urban Alliance on Race Relations and the Career Foundation to create work opportunities for four young people for underserved communities.

Our online community continues to flourish. Our Facebook group reached over 12k members and is an active and engaged community. We offered a DanceON series workshop called Social Media 101 to support our members in growing their following as well. We introduced DanceON Chats, an online series highlighting our members with over 1000 views.
We continued to advocate for our community and seek out member benefits that support our community.

Thank you to Samara Thompson, our exceptional Board and Committees, Networks Coordinators, Youth Advisory Committe, volunteers, collaborators, partners, funders and sponsors and to you our members for keeping our dance community dancing!

2 COMMISSIONED WORKS

3 SHORT FILMS PRODUCED

8 WORKSHOPS OFFERED

35 COMPANIES/CHOREOGRAPHERS PRESENTED

10,000 VIEWS FOR ONLINE FILMS

21,000 SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS

195,000 PAGE VIEWS ON DANCEONTARIO.CA

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FROM
JENNIFER WATKINS, TREASURER

DANCE ONTARIO ASSOCIATION
Statement of Financial Position
As at March 31, 2024
(Unaudited)

	2024	2023
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash	**$ 17,603**	$ -
Accounts receivable *(Note 3)*	**2,297**	10,072
Harmonized Sales Tax recoverable	**12,823**	5,143
Prepaid expenses	**2,657**	1,544
	$ 35,380	$ 16,759
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
Bank indebtedness *(Note 3)*	**$ -**	$ 8,997
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	**26,047**	12,493
Deferred revenues *(Note 4)*	**22,274**	12,200
	48,321	33,690
DEFICIT		
UNRESTRICTED	**(12,941)**	(16,931)
	$ 35,380	$ 16,759

ission purposes only

ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE

Creative Partnerships Program Commissioned Artists:

Madeleine Twyman

BaKari I. Lindsay

DanceWeekend'24 30th Anniversary Edition

COME DANCE WITH US participatory film choreography by Yvonne Ng

Film Series

Karen Kaeja/Kaeja d'Dance

Candance Kumar

Nova Dance

Dance Together Project

The Chimera Project

Melanin Mosaic

Fareh Malik

Dawson Lloyd

Tavia Christina

DanceWeekend 24 Artists:

Ritmo Flamenco (Flamenco)

Newton Moraes Dance Company (Brazilian/ Contemporary)

dance Immersion presents CinnaMoon Collective (Contemporary)

The Creative School, Toronto Metropolitan University (Contemporary Ballet)

Creative Partnerships Commissions: Madeleine Twyman (Contemporary)

& BaKari I. Lindsay (African – Contemporary)

Mi Young Kim Dance Company (Traditional Korean)

ten ten + kiyo (Japanese Inspired Flamenco)

Little Pear Garden Dance Company (Chinese Contemporary)

Nina Milanovski (Contemporary)

Ballet Jörgen (Ballet)

Audience Activations in partnership with Culture Shock Canada

Jade 's Hip Hop Academy Performance Company (Hip Hop and Street Dance)

Kaha:wi Dance Theatre (Indigenous Contemporary)

Canadian Contemporary Dance Theatre (Contemporary)

Yasmina Ramzy Arts (Middle Eastern) Blue Ceiling Dance (Contemporary)

¡Arte Flamenco! (Flamenco)

Creative Partnerships Commissions: Madeleine Twyman (Contemporary)

& BaKari I. Lindsay (African – Contemporary)

Sampradaya Dance Creations (Bharatanatyam)

ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE

Tracey Norman Dance (Contemporary)

Unapologetic Dance Company (Contemporary)

Dance Workshops with

Esmeralda Enrique

Chris Locko

Joanne Baker

DanceWeekend Discussions with Suma Nair, Santee Smith, Carmen Romero, Lucy Rupert, Nova Bhattacharya, Candace Kumar and Malgrozata Nowacka-May hosted by Samata Thompson

Jacque Foesier Youth Dance Award Presentation: Tristyn Murray

DanceON Series Workshops:

Social Media 101 with Tayyaba Shazhad

Campaigns 101 with Asra Khan

DanceON Series Chats:

Diana Lopez Soto

Emily Cheung

Karen and Allen Kaeja

Madeleine Twyman

International Dance Day Message from Diana Lopez Soto in partnership with Dance Umbrella of Ontario

International Dance Day Party in partnership with Culture Shock Canada

Canadian Opera Company Free Concert Series Presentation:

Madeleine Twyman

Little Pear Garden Dance Company

Ten ten + Kiyo

REGIONAL NETWORKS

HALTON DANCE NETWORK
Coordinators: Alan Faigal

WINDSOR & REGION DANCE
Coordinator: Mary Jo Mullins

THE SOO/ALGOMA DANCE NETWORK
Coordinator: Valerie Calam

LONDON DANCE NETWORK
Coordinator: Bizz Varty

DUFFERIN DANCE NETWORKS
Coordinator: Catherine Carpenko

DANCE ONTARIO ASSOCIATION

Dance Ontario Association was founded in 1976 and incorporated not-for-profit (1985) We are a dynamic cross section of Ontario's dance sector from internationally renowned companies to individual dance artists.

STAFF 2023-24
Amy Hampton, Executive Director
Alan Faigal, Project Coordinator
Jaedyn Richards, Administrative Assistant
Asra Khan, Urban Alliance on Race Relations Fellow
Tayyaba Shazad, Urban Alliance on Race Relations Fellow
Jenisha Jeyakumar, Marketing Assistant
Leyla Osman, Communications Assistant

SUPPORT
Karen Bennedsen, Bookkeeper
Richard Munter, Web Developer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2021-22
Samara Thompson (Chair) Lee Sela (Vice Chair) (Secretary) Jennifer Watkins (Treasurer) Lola Ryan (Past Chair) Emily Cheung Rob Galbraith Jane Gardner Debra Kapp Patrick Parson Suzan Richards Dr Lisa Sandlos, Newton Moraes

2023-24 SPONSORS
The Dance Current
Pivot Dancer
The Respect Group
Front Row Insurance
Loft Cycle Club
City Dance Corps
Salsa in Toronto/Univision
Made to Move
Culture Shock Canada
Christie Lites
Human Kinetics
Revolutionnaire Dancewear

Photo credits: Sofi Gudino by Cylla von Tiedemann, Amy Hampton by Cylla von Tiedemann, CCDT by Canadian Contemporary Dance Theater, Halton Dance Network, Julie McLachlan by Cylla von Tiedemann

DANCE ONTARIO IS GENEROUSLY FUNDED BY:

Canada
ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL
CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO
an Ontario government agency
un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario
Ontario Trillium Foundation
Fondation Trillium de l'Ontario
An agency of the Government of Ontario
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