NDEO | Ruth Lovell Murray Book Award

DESCRIPTION
The NDEO | Ruth Lovell Murray Book Award recognizes book-length publications of excellence in dance education and is awarded to authors who conduct exemplary inquiry that advances the field of dance education. Established in recognition of Ruth Lovell Murray (1900-1991), a pioneer in the field of dance education, the annual award honors books published in the English language during the last two calendar years. The Ruth Lovell Murray Book Award, NDEO’s inaugural book recognition honor, contributes significantly to the visibility of dance education professionals and their work, as well as the vitality of outstanding research and publication excellence in dance education. Nominations from the NDEO membership are welcomed (see details below).

Ruth Lovell Murray, a native Detroiter, born on October 20, 1900, attended Teachers College, Columbia University and earned her master's degree from that university in 1933. Professor Murray served on the faculty of Wayne State University for 46 years, many of which she served as dance program director. Her pivotal book, Dance in Elementary Education, published in 1953 by Harper and Row, remains one of the most influential texts in the field of dance education. A staunch advocate for dance education in public schools, Murray served on numerous prestigious committees and received many awards for her research and dance education activism, including the Hetherington Award from the American Academy of Physical Education, the Arts Achievement Award from Wayne State, and the Heritage Award from the National Dance Association in 1969. The Ruth Lovell Murray Endowed Scholarship in Dance was established in her name at Wayne State University in 1980.

ELIGIBILITY
In the spirit of Murray’s achievements and legacy, eligible books for nomination should comprise research-informed texts that encompass a range of theoretical and practical application of knowledge in dance education, teaching, pedagogy, curriculum, and artistic praxis. Examples of eligible dance education texts comprise:

- Inquiry-based monographs (sole author or multiple authors),
- Innovative teaching texts (author/co-authors, editor/co-editors or contributing authors)
- Original edited volumes and collections, and multiple-contributor volumes that address numerous and complex facets of dance education. (editor or co-editors)

Books consisting of previously published essays, reviews, or articles are ineligible.

Authors, editors, and contributing authors may self-nominate or may be nominated from NDEO members in the field. In order to be nominated, books must have been published in the current or previous year. Nominated books that do not receive the Ruth Lovell Murray Book Award may be re-nominated once within the designated time schedule. Author nominees are responsible for securing copies of their book for reviewers (e-books are accepted) and send them directly to review committee members. Most publishers provide gratis copies when a book is under consideration for a national or international award.
ESTABLISHMENT
The recognition award, named in honor of Ruth Lovell Murray, was established as an endowed, planned gift by an anonymous donor to the National Dance Education Organization. The planned gift represents the donor’s fervent commitment to dance education scholarship, research and publication, now and into the future. Upon the donor’s passing, the spouse and children of the donor will administer the estate in a continuing philanthropic relationship with NDEO.

AWARD ADMINISTRATION
The NDEO | Ruth Lovell Murray Book Award will be administered by the National Dance Education Organization through a special committee structure chaired by the NDEO Advisory Board’s Director of Research. Committee members shall include:

(1) NDEO Advisory Board: Director of Awards;
(2) Journal of Dance Education Editor, or the Editor’s designee selected from the journal’s executive editors;
(3) The 2022 recipient of the NDEO Outstanding Dance Education Researcher Award.
(4) The 2022 recipient of the NDEO | The Ruth Lovell Murray Book Award, and so on in perpetuity.

The NDEO office will issue and disseminate the award’s annual Call for Book Nominations on or before February 10, 2023. The award description and nomination procedures shall be posted and made permanently available on the “Awards” page of the NDEO website and updated annually as needed, with previous award recipients. Nominations will close on March 1, 2023.

There will be three rounds of evaluation:

Round 1: 2/10/2023-3/1/2023

After initial submission, the review committee will determine if the nominations are eligible to move forward.

Round 2: 3/20/2023-3/31/2023

During this round, reviewers may ask for additional information from you including but not limited to a formal recommendation letter.

Round 3: 4/1/2023-6/1/2023

The review committee will thoroughly read each nominated book

Review Process
Committee members will review each nominated book as they receive their review copy (electronic copy, softcover, or hardcover copy). It is critical that each book is reviewed in a timely fashion. Therefore, reviews must be submitted to Kaitlynn Schultz, Member Services Coordinator at bookaward@ndeo.org, within four weeks of receipt of the book. In the event a
committee member is associated with a nominated book as an author, co-author, contributor or editor, the member shall recuse them self from review and discussion of that book.

For committee members use, an evaluation rubric will be utilized for the committee members to evaluate the merit of each nominated book. Throughout the review period, the NDEO administrative assistant will record review scores of committee members as they are received. On or before June 1, 2023, the NDEO administrative assistant, in consultation with Review Committee Chair, will schedule and convene the review committee electronically to review book submission evaluations and determine the award recipient. Announcement of the award should occur on or before July 1, 2023.

**Award & Recipient Selection**
Because book-length publication in dance education continues to grow exponentially each year, it is anticipated that the award committee may, in any given year, determine two exemplary texts that are deserving of the award. Therefore, at the discretion of the NDEO executive director and the review committee chair, more than one book may receive the Ruth Lovell Murray Award in any one given year. It is recommended that awards *do not exceed two recipients* in one year.

In the future as NDEO develops additional book and publication awards and/or acquires planned gifts for such (e.g. “Author’s first book award”; “Outstanding Dance Education Textbook”; “Best Dance Education Research article”), the number of annual recipients for NDEO | Ruth Lovell Murray Book Award may be revisited.

**NOMINATION PROCEDURES:**

**Nominator Responsibilities:** Persons making nominations must be an NDEO member in good standing to submit a nomination, but individuals nominated for awards need not be NDEO members. Nominators, using the e-nomination form, must submit a letter detailing why the nominee’s book is being put forward for the award; the nominee's curriculum vitae. If the nominators has access to additional relevant materials to support the nomination (e.g., published book reviews and commendations), please include these documents, as well as your relationship to the nominee.

To nominate a book for the NDEO | Ruth Lovell Murray Book Award: please complete the nomination using [this form](#). If you have questions, please contact: Kaitlynn Schultz, Administrative Assistant at bookaward@ndeo.org.

The nomination forms asks the nominator to briefly describe why the book deserves being nominated. Include relevant information to support the nomination, including your relationship to the candidate. In the subject line, enter “Ruth Lovell Murray Book Award Nomination.”

**Nominated Author Responsibilities:** Each nominated author is responsible for securing and providing an E-copy of the book for each award review committee member. Authors are strongly encouraged to contact their publisher for assistance in securing and providing book access for all reviewers.

**NOTE:** Do not send books to the NDEO national office.
Deadline for Nominations: March 1, 2023

Award Review Committee Members

**Gabriela Estrada**, Review Committee Chair
NDEO Advisory Board: Director of Research

**Yauri Dalencour**, NDEO Advisory Board: Director of Awards

**Karen Schupp**, Editor, JODE (or Editor’s designee from JODE executive editors)

**Ofosuwa M. Abiola**, 2022 Recipient of the NDEO Outstanding Dance Education Researcher Award

**Lindsay Guarino**, 2022 Recipient of the Ruth Lovell Murray Award