Welcome to the NDEO SA Newsletter, August Edition! Fall is just around the corner, and we are slowly settling down to our back to school and studio routines. In February, I started my tenure as your State Affiliate Director, and it has been an amazing experience so far to learn about your accomplishments in the pandemic and post pandemic future. This newsletter will highlight some great achievements by our selected state affiliates. It is remarkable to see the positive transformation in the wake of uncertainty, and this edition is dedicated to celebrate that resilience, sustainability, and inclusive growth of your organizations dedicated to the cause of promoting dance education in the arts.

Arizona Dance Education
- To build networks, AzDEO worked on expanding social media networks, maintained databases of local studios, K-12 teachers, artists, dance classes, and so on.
- AzDEO events provided opportunities for educators to network and share information.
- Provided high quality services, programs, professional development to Arizona’s dance educators and their students.
- Developed Dance Program of Excellence Award to promote dance programs.

Arkansas Dance Education
- Successfully gave THREE scholarships
- Encouraged involvement of the NHSDA chapters in Love you Body Week, Thank a Dance Teacher, National Dance Day and Dance a Difference Week
CALIFORNIA DANCE EDUCATION ORGANIZATION

- Provided equity learning opportunities for CA dance educators throughout the pandemic.
- Successfully offered two professional development workshops for members and non-members. “Dance Teacher Day” provided two dance workshops, and a dance educator social hour in early February 2021.
- Hosted workshops like, Racial Equity Through Dance, Part II, featuring dance educators: Nicole Robinson, Mark Travis Rivera, & Nia Womack–Freeman. These events were FREE to members and non-members.
- Reviewed and updated organizational mission and by-laws to reflect the commitment to the cause of diversity, equity, and inclusion in the dance arts.
- CA Dances brings performers of elementary-college age together to share dance works. In 2021, CDEA transitioned this event to an online platform for the first time. They received a lot of interest in the event, so much so, that they had to hold two different showcases that spotlighted student performances.

DANCE EDUCATORS OF GA SOCIETY

- Developing hybrid strategies and social-emotional learning needs of students in all settings.
- Organized multiple social events online and increased our social media presence.
- Decompression sessions for teachers focusing on self-care, mental health and restorative practices.

DANCE NEW JERSEY

- Professional development opportunities and virtual Connection Calls that address the specific needs of K-12 is popular among NJ educators.
- DNJ had our annual festival, offering theater dance with Al Blackstone, alongside workshops in virtual dance education, self-care, and a workshop with Dance Ed Tips.

DELAWARE DANCE EDUCATION ORGANIZATION

- Offered workshops that were an extension of the summer workshops addressing the theme of racism and other isms in our society. Workshops included: Choreography, Repairing the tears in our Society through collaboration in the arts, taking Jazz teaching to the next level, and an Interdisciplinary Project Webinar focusing on the work of MaryAnn Shadd Cary.

ILLINOIS DANCE EDUCATION ORGANIZATION

- With the amazing responsiveness from ILDEO’s professional development pairing, they grew the ILDEO members by offering presenters a free year of membership.
- Created NHSDA Instagram page managed by student representatives to share and promote student work and regular performances.
- Hosted zoom events on DEI parameters.

FLORIDA DANCE EDUCATION ORGANIZATION

- Produced a hybrid of live and Zoom
- Organized “Day of Development” for teachers around the state for very low cost as a way to ‘give back’ to educators. Teachers were thrilled that there was something in place for assessments, even if it was virtual.
- Switching conference to a one-day development offering both in person and zoom was successful in 2021.
- Florida Merit Scholarships awarded to a winner and runner-up in high school and middle school.
NORTH CAROLINA DANCE EDUCATION ORGANIZATION

- Formed the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access Committee, and launching a professional development mini-grant.
- Partnered with promoting SEL webinars hosted by Department of Public Instruction Arts coordinators and Ohio Dance for a virtual discussion about teaching in the arts
- Awarded the state NHSDA Artistic Merit, Leadership, and Academic Achievement Awards.

NEW YORK STATE DANCE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

- Implementing Regional Representatives to better communicate with members.
- Offered a series of virtual mini conferences every other month where two sessions were presented to members and dance education guests. The theme of the conference was: Beyond Buzzwords: Tools for Dance Educators.

MARYLAND DANCE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

- Offering Special Topics Workshops (STW) focused on member identified needs.
- Offer virtual dance festivals for Middle and High School NHSDA chapters.
- Increased interaction with members by improved website, social media, and newsletters.

MISSOURI DANCE ORGANIZATION

- Work on the acceptance of dance as a certifiable teaching profession in the state of MO
- Strong campaign to bring on new board members
- Morph our yearly conference into three Zoom presentations open to members
- Organized diversified workshops

MASSACHUSETTS DANCE EDUCATION ORGANIZATION

- Added members with diverse teaching experiences from the state.
- MADEO supported the Massachusetts High School Dance Festival at Salem State University, hosting a table and offering a teachers workshop, as well as participated in NHSDA’s Love Your Body Week.

UTAH DANCE EDUCATION ORGANIZATION

- Conducted first in person event in November with their fall conference. They accommodated those not ready with a smaller virtual option.
- Started the Dance for a Cause fundraiser at State Festival.

WISCONSIN DANCE COUNCIL

- Organized mini dance festival and collegiate auditions.
- WDC continued to host town halls online throughout 2021 and partnered with Wisconsin Arts Board (WAB) and Arts Wisconsin (AW) to host listening sessions with creatives in the states to discuss resources and supports needed.
- Added a committee to its operating code that focuses on justice, equity, diversity, and inclusivity (JEDI).
- The Awards Ceremony in November included a focus on NHASDA schools and studios including induction.
- Hosted an in-person awards ceremony as part of the November 6 conference and celebrated 4 exceptional artists and educators who have dedicated their careers to enhancing the field of dance education.