

2022/2023 annual report

This report highlights the remarkable accomplishments achieved by Lamondance Arts Society during the period between 2022 and 2023. The season of 2022/2023 stands as a significant milestone, solidifying a dream that began 14 years ago. Lamondance has not only impacted the lives of many dancers but has also played a crucial role in the vibrant Vancouver dance community. Additionally, this period marked the celebration of my 10th anniversary as the company's artistic director.

When I started with Lamondance years ago as a dancer, I never thought that my dream of providing a place for all to follow their dreams would solidify here at Lamondance. Today, as the voice of the Organization, I envisioned an inspiring professional environment that would provide dance training to young emerging artists, providing them with low-cost, diverse dance training focused on contemporary ballet, creating a better world with arts accessible for all.

Today, our work on creating a safe, inclusive and collaborative environment has widespread critical importance in our community and around the globe. I am incredibly proud of our achievements in 2022/2023 Season 14.

Launching our Annual Report is one of the moments I always look forward to the most. It's the moment we reveal the positive impact that Lamondance has had during season 14, mainly operating with a low budget and all the difficulties that the world imposes on us.

This Annual Report highlights the work in 2022/2023 by sharing our efforts, knowledge, and finances for a common and vital cause. I am profoundly touched and proud of all we have achieved, including and beyond making dance accessible to all. This report brings hope in these difficult times, showing why I remain optimistic about our future.





A distinguished contemporary dance voice in Vancouver since 2009, Lamondance established itself to promote and expand the contemporary dance vocabulary throughout training dancers and creating unique and unmistakable shows that will evoke the audience's senses.

Our Mission and Vision is to bring our community together through the art of dance by offering a place where movements, expressions, and creativity are explored through physical language and collaboration that brings our community together, having a conversation about dance in a very positive and inclusive way place. Social art interventions to inspire, activate, and sustain behaviour dance around our community and Globe, by nurturing dancers that are known as being passionate dancers who are well versed in the techniques of ballet and contemporary dance;

Lamondance is here to facilitate the evolution of contemporary dance as an art form by supporting young emerging artists to make their transition to the professional world.

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A STEP TO THE FUTURE

Lamondance is here to facilitate the evolution of contemporary dance as an art form by supporting young emerging artists to transition to the professional world.

As Lamondance Arts Society commemorates the solidification of a dream that started 14 years ago, it is evident that the society has profoundly impacted the lives of many dancers and the vibrant Vancouver dance community. By providing dancers with invaluable opportunities, expanding dance options for the community, and celebrating my 10th anniversary of directing, Lamondance has continued to thrive and achieve exceptional artistic milestones.

To create a healthy environment where the foundation is based on education and creation, we need a strong team of educators, collaborators and dancers. Lamondance has been nurturing its dancers for the past 14 years with eagerness and a specific direction based on its mentor's expertise and is always focused on what the present time requires.

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The process of training the group of 18 young dancers consisting of a mix of Canadians and Brazilians has continued to make our training program unique.

This season, we were very grateful to receive the Annual Programming Support (Major Funding Stream) grant from the Programming & Project Assistance created by and supported by the Arts & Culture Grants, North Vancouver Recreation & Culture.

As well as the incredible support for Deux Mille Foundation and The Hamber Foundation. We had support from Community Gaming Grants, the Canada Arts Council and the BC Arts Council, which positively changed our art form's direction.

We continued to create opportunities to bring the community together and strengthen our training and apprentice programs with this support from our supporters.





Supported by the Province of British Columbia







Canada Council Conseil des arts du Canada for the Arts

TRAINING PROGRAM



Claire Viitaniemi









Paris Litnosky Sydney Poulton

Benedict Quedenbaum













Francesca Vergara

Daryk Richards

Payton Kennedy

Dania Grant

Melodie Lienhard

Brianna Lannard

Arianna Savady

Nali Richards

DANCE COMPANY



Oksana Maslechko.

Lazaro Silva

Nancy Li















Madison Araiza

Grace Willock

Isabella Costantino

Noah McKimm





In October, we proudly launched our Traditional Virtual Open House, showcasing the incredible works of our esteemed Training Program and Professional Dance Company. Our main objective was to provide our cherished audience with an exclusive glimpse into the awe-inspiring pieces we have been diligently crafting since the start of this season.



Our spectacular event commenced with the enthralling performance of "Wood Steps," masterfully choreographed by the exceptionally talented Alex Neural, all the way from Brazil. This was followed by a mesmerizing presentation of "A Simple Song" by the gifted Nicolas Ventura and "Vérita" by the extraordinary local choreographer Cristina Bucci. These artistic marvels are integral parts of our eagerly anticipated new show, devoted entirely to our esteemed professional contemporary dance company, aptly named "Triple Bill."

HIMUSE

Further captivating our virtual attendees, we treated them to an enticing trailer of "A Winter's Twist" and a captivating excerpt from "How it Ends," both powerfully executed by members of our esteemed contemporary training program.

None of this would have been possible without our community's outstanding generosity and support. We sincerely requested their kind donations with a goal of \$2,000 to cover essential workshops. However, words cannot express how overjoyed and grateful we were to witness their incredible response as they not only met but surpassed our target! This selfless gesture has genuinely left us elated and filled with boundless gratitude, providing us with invaluable support for the months ahead.



We remain deeply committed to delivering exceptional performances that inspire, uplift, and fuel passion within all who experience them. Thank you for joining us on this exhilarating journey!"

TRIPLE BILL

November anticipated the premier of our Triple Bill. A captivating showcase featuring works by talented guest choreographers.

> Our company embarked on a journey of remounting "A simple song" crafted by the brilliant choreographer Nicolas Ventura in collaboration with the dancers. The dancers embodied the raw emotion and vulnerability this deeply poignant piece evoked. In "Wood Steps," The dancers effortlessly navigated through intricate movements, seamlessly blending athleticism and grace in a mesmerizing piece choreographed by the acclaimed Brazilian choreographer Alex Neural.

Finally, we were honoured to present "Verita" by the immensely talented local choreographer Cristina Bucci. Who created a world of rich storytelling as the dancers brought Bucci's innovative choreography to life, beautifully weaving together contemporary and classical dance elements. "Triple Bill" brought an extraordinary evening of artistry and innovation, pushing the boundaries of what dance can be. We celebrate the collaboration between our remarkable professional dance company and these exceptional guest choreographers.

In December, we returned with "A Winter's Twist, a reimagined contemporary work and breathtaking spin inspired by the beloved classic "Romeo and Juliet" for the holiday season. With new ideas and a few changes, our dancers from the training program and guests from the dance schools from Vancouver embarked on a journey of re-creating a magical, joyful and inclusive show. An essential part of our holiday celebration was the inclusion of dancers ages 9 to 13 from other studios in Vancouver, such as Pulse Dance Centre, RNB Dance, Fusion Force Studio, Deas Island Dance and Essence of Dance.

Integrating these young dancers into our show was a remarkable experience for our dancers, where they shared our ideas, philosophy and passion, creating an environment of learning, caring and excitement for all.

A Winners Twist

In the past, we dealt with the virus Omicron that was spreading fast and forced our theatres to operate at 50% capacity, making it a financial loss by reducing our ticket sales to half. Last December the, mother nature challenged us with a snowstorm. To keep all safe, Capilano University, where the theatre is located, closed the university, cancelling our second night. The show's cancellation once again challenged us financially with the production costs.

Our AMAZING audience members kindly donated their tickets to us in solidarity with the show cancellation.

A Winter's Twist

COMMUNITY IMPACT

The 11th presentation of our annual community show, "Lamondance & Friends," was a special one, with the participation of Kendall Gender, a finalist of Canada's Drag Race, as the host of our community show. The Lamondance & Friends Gala goes beyond simply presenting a show; it is a testament to the power of unity and collaboration within the dance world. With no competition or judgement, the gala aims to foster a sense of togetherness, nurturing connections and showcasing Vancouver's incredible talent.

The gala serves a dual purpose, supporting Lamondance's scholarship and bursary program while contributing to other shows' production. At Lamondance, we firmly believe in the power of sharing, and that diversity is a strength. The dance community truly shines through each individual's collective efforts and unique contributions.

LMDF vol.11

Here were the most valuable friends that shared the stage with us at LMDF 2022 Vol.11

Affinity Dance, Brentwood College School, Ballet Block Canada Deas Island Dance, Fraser Valley Academy of Dance, Coastal City Ballet, Harbour Dance Centre's ITP (Intensive Training Program), North Shore Academy of Dancing, Driftwood Dance Academy, Pulse Dance Centre, RNB Dance, Royal Principal Ballet Academy, Spiral School of Dance, The Source, Victoria Academy of Ballet, Dance Co, Defy Gravity Dance Company Inc.

ARTS IN THE GARDEN

We were thrilled to be guests again performing at Arts In the Garden, produced by North Van Arts.

Many studies have found a connection between the sense of smell and powerful memories for life. Among roses a secret garden with a beautiful pond and trails to walk and run on. Our dancers performed an excerpt of "Still" by guest choreographer Anya Saugstad, enriching the memories and experience of all the audience members in the garden.

Learn more about it, Click HERE

#explorenorthshore

Photo by Adrian Ortega

DISCOVER DANCE by The Dance Centre BC

Our professional Dance Company began a new project with Indigenous Toronto-based choreographer Jera Wolfe. One's Own was created during a 2-week process.

> "I wanted to explore what happens when people experience the same event and how they are affected by that event differently. What matters is the interpretation of one's experience."

> > - Jera Wolfe.

The full length of One's Own was performed at the Discover Dance Series at @thedancecentrebc on April 20th, 2023. The performance also featured How it Ends, a work by Artistic Director Davi Rodrigues, which explores the subject of addiction performed by our Training program. Lamondance respectfully recognizes the support of the BC Arts Council, supported by the Province of British Columbia, Metro Vancouver and the Canada Arts Council. We are grateful for their support in creating One's Own by Jera Wolfe.

The company members participated in the Q&A about "One's Own" by Jera Wolfe Discovery Series

WATCH NOW CLICK HERE

FREE

THE POWER OF ART

Art has the power to move individuals to social action, manipulate and influence, entertain, and educate.

Payton Kennedy shared her experience learning "How it ends," a creation made in 2018 inspired by the subject of "addiction" and now being remounted for Lamondance Season 14.

WATCH NOW CLICK <u>HERE</u> FREE

The Things That Dreams Are Made Off

To close our 14th season, we presented the show "The Things That Dreams Are Made Of," with New Works by Anya Allegra, CAMP Collective, Jera Wolfe, Margarida Macieira and Davi Rodrigues.

Yet, one of the most memorable shows in 14 years.

Our dancers worked hard to bring the show to life; The Things That Dreams Are Made Of was a collective of contemporary dance works that traced linear and non-linear stories based on facts, reality, fiction, spirituality, emotions and feelings, all part of the Human DNA. A spectacular performance combining poetry, stagecraft and daring dance explores the delicate balance between reality and illusion, dreaming and achieving, the world we all share. The show allowed the audience to join in a world of possibilities, inspired by different dance stories, transforming their senses.

Works by Anya Allegra, CAMP Collective, Jera Wolfe, Margarida Macieira and Davi Rodrigues.

"The Things that Dreams are made of" show not only delivered an enchanting and memorable experience to its audience, but it also served as a momentous celebration of an incredible milestone. The production marked the 10th anniversary of our esteemed Artistic Director, Davi Rodrigues, directing our company. Starting as a dancer since its foundation in 2009, Davi's leadership and determination have proven instrumental in building a vibrant, inclusive, and forward-thinking dance community. His transformative leadership, dedication to inclusivity, scholarship programs, and passion for fostering emerging artists have left an indelible mark on our Organization. As we move forward into the future, we stand grateful for Davi's influence and look forward to the continued growth, inspiration, and artistic excellence that he will undoubtedly bring in the years to come.

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Claire Viitaniemi and Payton Kennedy.

We look forward to seeing their achievements as new emerging artists in our community and around the globe.

Claire Viitaniemi





GRADUATES

Payton Kennedy

We celebrate the graduation of our dancers, sending them to the world of dance. We are very proud of their achievements throughout seasons 13 and 14.

OAND YOU HELPED! Т М М

Alison Viitaniemi, Annaliza Sevostiyanov, Brennan Finley, Brian Peterman, Charmaine Hrynkiw, Cristina Bucci, Debra Akhurst, Emily Chowne, Flora de Montreuil, Gloria Viitaniemi, Heidi Surman, Honor Baldigara, Ian Thomas, Jacqueline Cooke, Jennifer Latham, Jennifer Savady, Jeremy Goldstrom, Joanne Holliday-Scott, Jodine pratt, Lee Boyd, Lee Bridgen, Martin Poulton, Mary Robinson, Melinda Himbeault, Michael Edgson, Michelle Rivard, Mike Kennedy, Murray Grant, Nadine Quedenbaum, Nicole Lannard, Paola Barrios, Pat Simpson, Renee Richards, Renee Willock, Stephanie Daniels, T.J Cooke, Tina Thomas, Vicky Grant.

Foundation:

The Hamber Foundation + Deux Mille Foundation

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APROFOUND THANK YOU

TO ALL SPONSORS, DONORS, AND ATTENDEES. AND TO ALL OF THE DANCERS, STAFF AND CREATORS OF LAMONDANCE, AND ALL GUEST PERFORMERS FOR THEIR TIME, ENERGY, AND GENEROUS SUPPORT.

THANK YOU FOR BEING SUCH AN IMPORTANT PART OF WHAT WE ACCOMPLISH YEAR AFTER YEAR! Thanks to all of you, Lamondance raised the amount of \$ 6,225 from Donations, fundraising and contributions.

All contributions from corporations and foundations, as well as donations from individuals, go directly to Lamondance's programs.

SOURCES OF FUNDS

Revenues

Tuition, Admin fees,

Shows and Performance

Merchandise and Advertising

\$157,495

<u>Grants</u>

Federal, Provincial, Municipal

Donations and other

\$83,059

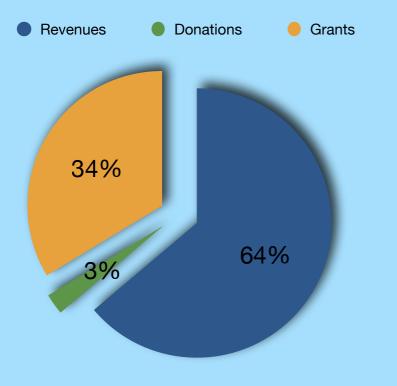
Donations and Other

Donations, Fundraising,

Miscellaneous

\$6,225

\$246,779



USE OF FUNDS

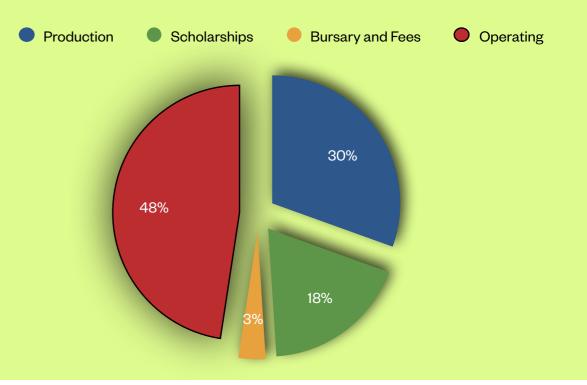
Program Expenses

*Scholarships, Production,

Bursary and fees \$115,770

Operating expenses \$109,772

\$225,542



THE LIST BELOW IS A GLIMPSE OF THE VISIONARY COMMUNITY WE HAVE THE PRIVILEGE OF COUNTING ON.

Artistic Support

RNB

Programming & Project Assistance





CAPILANO



Supported by the Province of British Columbia



Canada Council Conseil des arts for the Arts du Canada

Community Partners

Adrián()

milesclarkphoto

P H O T O G R A P H Y

Performance + Wellness Erika Mayall, Physiotherapist

GRO

Board of Trustees

2022/2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lamondance's Board of Directors is composed of community members who have each demonstrated a strong commitment to the cause of supporting Lamondance with its mission.

Board members cover a broad range of expertise and provide advice and counsel to Lamondance's Artistic management team on a wide range of policies and strategic matters.

Lamondance rigorously applies best practices of good governance in compliance with the principles of accountability, integrity, equity, and transparency.

Amber Poulton, Andrew Willis, Carli Kennedy, Charlotte Aurela Edgson, Erik Whyte, Mark Lawrence.



TOGETHER, LET'S CONTINUE TO MAKE DANCE ACCESSIBLE TO ALL, TRANSFORMING DREAMS INTO REALITY.