

CANADIAN DANCE TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION



Newsletter

HELLO
Spring



Welcome to CDTA's Newsletter #3, 2024-25 Season!

Dear CDTA Members,

As we dive into the midst of the competition season and eagerly prepare for dance recitals ahead, I would like to extend my warmest wishes for continued success and fulfillment in all your endeavors.

Amidst the whirlwind of rehearsals and performances, we encourage you to remember the importance of taking moments for yourself to relax and rejuvenate. With the Easter break upon us, we hope you find time to unwind and cherish precious moments with your loved ones.

May this season be filled with joy, inspiration, and the beauty of dance. Wishing you all a wonderful Easter break and a successful continuation of your dance journey.

Warm Regards

Julie Dionne

Honourary Member

CDTA Website/Media Director

Public Relations



HELLO

*from our
CDTA
Ambassador*



Katie Tofinetti has attended DanceCanada competition, Lakehead Festival of Music and the Arts, LNK by Dancefest competition and Artists Simply Human (ASH) dance convention thus far. She has won all of her solo and duet/trio categories at every competition. She was chosen as the recipient for the Senior Excellence in Lyrical award at the Lakehead Festival, and received 2 near perfect scores at festival as well. Katie placed 3rd top senior soloist at Dance Canada and won both the 1st and 2nd top duet/trio awards as well. Her trio won the top choreography award and first place duet trio at LNK at ASH, her acro solo (self choreographed) won a stand out routine accolade from the judges and was chosen as both a member of the ASH the COMPANY intensive and the ASH apprentice scholarship recipient, having auditioned for both. These earned her 2 opportunities to perform in the convention closing show with the faculty. This summer she will be assisting at both the CREO dance movement and SOL force Intensive conventions. Katie will be representing the CDTA at the Toronto Dance Teacher Expo in August 2025.

In Memoriam

*Remembering those
who have left us.*



It is with heartbreaking sadness that we announce the passing of Laurel Unger a CDTA Lifetime Member on March 26, 2025. She was the beloved wife of late Gerald Unger, loving mom of Laurie Bradley and Brent Unger, and proud grandmother to Jordan Bradley, Justin Bradley, Jenisse Bradley, Cody Unger, and Taylor Unger. She will be missed dearly by her dance family who she shared her love of dance with. Her spirit, like a dancer's grace, will never truly leave. It remains in the way we move, in the way we live, and in the way we love. A Celebration of Life will be held for her on May 31st, 2025.



Members with Employment Opportunities

Bridgewater, Nova Scotia Kinship Performing Arts Centre [Click here for more information](#)

Across Ontario The Dance Ability Movement [Click here for more information](#)

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan SaskExpress Saskatoon [Click here for more information](#)

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan Studio One [Click here for more information](#)

Estevan, Saskatchewan Drewitz School of Dance [Click here for more information](#)

Yorkton, Saskatchewan Dance Innovation [click here for more information](#)

Vancouver, British Columbia Arthur Murray Dance Centers [Click here for more information](#)

Quesnel, British Columbia Gold Pan City Dance [Click here for more information](#)

Nanaimo, British Columbia Harbour Dance Studios [Click here for more information](#)



Disclaimer: The association's quarterly newsletter serves as a platform to promote employment opportunities and job listings available to our members. While we strive to provide accurate and up-to-date information, it is important to note that the association does not guarantee the availability or accuracy of jobs listed. Members seeking employment are advised to verify job postings independently and to exercise caution when sharing personal information with potential employers. Employers are advised to verify certifications and ability. Asking to see some of their previous work is always helpful.



Job Seeking Members

Brenda Bennett	Available to Adjudicate/Judge	brenben@me.com	306-220-8102	Resume and/or Bio will be provided upon request
Julie Dionne	Available to Adjudicate/Judge Clean Choreography via Video	juliedionne@icloud.com	403-350-8910	Resume and/or Bio will be provided upon request
Maddison Hoffos	guest choreography and teaching opportunities this summer.	mwhoffos@telus.net		click here for resume

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Intro to Chinese Dance Webinar



Considering Gender Diversity and Inclusion in Dance Spaces Webinar



Walking the Teen Talk Tightrope Webinar



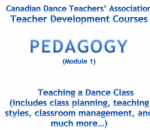
Terminology Tutorials



Ballet Beyond the Barre Webinar



Teacher Development Courses



Respectfully Teaching the Culture of Hip Hop Dance Webinar



Syllabus Intensives



The Executive Committee has been diligently working to provide our members with insurance options that suit your personal and/or studio needs. Carrying proper coverage is crucial for your teaching, competitions, workshops, and more. Our goal is to provide tools to assist you, our Members, in making an informed decision regarding insurance coverage.

1. MKS Financial created a health/dental package exclusively for CDTA members. Obtaining coverage before illness is key, as insurance costs surge when pre-existing conditions exist.

The link for health/dental benefits is provided below. Please keep our email address on hand in case you encounter any issues. We are happy to provide support as needed during this early enrollment period.

[Link to MKS Information](#)

2. For our Members that are teachers but not studio owners, you might want to consider purchasing liability insurance. The Hub has a quick and easy online process that might work for you.

[Link to Hub Information](#)

3. For our Members that are studio owners, “The Shepherd Group” is recommended to explore options that could benefit your business and ensure you have appropriate insurance coverage.

toll free number: 1-866-565-6955

email: info@theshepherdgroup.ca



Springtime greetings to all members!

Our 3rd year of conducting examinations under the “national” umbrella is almost complete. The May/June session of exams promises again to be a very full one, with 48 studios entering over 1200 students.

Best of luck to all teachers who are preparing their students for these exams!

We will also be conducting 4 professional exams from now to June.

Our next deadlines for exam entries are:

* 6 weeks prior to requested exam date - for exams to be held Jul 1-Oct 15.

* September 1 - for exams to be held from Oct 15-Nov 15.

A few reminders when entering...

Please make sure to submit both Part A and Part B 2024 entry forms when entering exams. Also, remember to read over the August 2024 edition of our CDTA Student

Examinations Handbook and for professional exams, the CDTA Professional

Examination Handbook. There is lots of important info in each.

We will be reviewing these documents and fees in July. The “August 2025” edition and paperwork will be released beginning of August and will come into effect September 1.

Note to Teachers from all Examiners...

Please read your Examiner Comment sheets and make any corrections given.

NEWSFLASH #1!!

We are currently revamping our website. With this, the goal for next year is to have all exams entered directly on the website. This means that deadlines will need to be adhered to and no extensions will be given.

More info to follow before next year.

NEWSFLASH #2!!

We are currently finalizing a couple of options to our regular examination system. More information regarding these “Inclusivity in Dance” initiatives with “Adaptive Assessments” will be available to teachers before the end of the year to help you prepare for the 2025-2026 dance year and exam season.

If you have any questions, please email me at exams@cdtanational.ca

I am always here to help!

Wishing you a fantastic end to your 2025 dance season
and a restful, but rejuvenating, summer ahead!!

Melody L. Drewitz-Van Veen, CDTA-HM, B.ED., RAD RTS
CDTA Exam Registrar
National Past President



June 22
*Career Path
for Dancers*

July 6
*Annual
General
Meeting
for all members*

July 9 & 10
*Alberta
Dance
Educators
Expo*

August 7 & 8
*Toronto Dance
Teacher Expo*

Oct. 5
*Dance
Jam*



Great OPPORTUNITY

**FOR OUR MEMBERS AND
THEIR SENIOR DANCERS**

CAREER PATHWAYS FOR DANCERS

**WITH P. MEGAN ANDREWS FROM
THE DANCER TRANSITION RESOURCE CENTRE
DTRC.CA**

**STUDENTS & TEACHERS
WELCOME!**

**1 HOUR WEBINAR
SUNDAY, JUNE 22**

9:30 am British Columbia
10:30 am Alberta & Saskatchewan
11:30 am Manitoba
12:30 pm Ontario & Quebec
1:30 pm Maritimes
2:00 pm Newfoundland

**\$40/CDTA MEMBER & \$50/NON-CDTA MEMBER
ON BEHALF OF
THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**



Registration Information to follow



COMING TO SASKATOON... **DANCE JAM 2025** SUN OCT 5/25



SAVE THE DATE!

www.cdtanational.ca
events@cdtanational.ca



SAVE THE DATE
August 6th and 7th, 2025

**See you there!
More info to
follow**



SAVE THE DATE
July 9 & 10, 2025



alberta
dance
teachers
convention

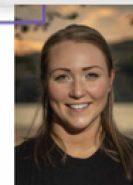
Looking forward
to seeing you there!



CDTA will be attending as Expo Exhibitors and
Presenters - Facebook Post



**JAZZ(no tricks/no jumps) just good
old JAZZ!!! Movement class and
discussion on transition steps.**
with Julie Dionne



**Hip Hop Technique,
Foundations
& Combo**
with Olivia Robertson

More Information to Follow

Health & Wellness Committee Update:

Recent Webinars & Workshops

Lina Lewis led a fantastic session on Mentally Preparing Dancers for Competitive/Examination Season in February – thank you, Lina!

Band App Challenges – Let's Step It Up!

April's back-to-basics Steps Challenge is on. Easy to join, easy to report about. Share your updates in the app or comment in the social media posts. We're up to 43 members in the BAND group - join us!

Spotlight on YOU

Our Member Spotlights continue! JodyKym Hanson was featured in February/March and our April nominee will be announced soon. Please continue to use the Google form to nominate CDTA members who deserve a spotlight!

Professional Development Committee Update

The Professional Development Committee has been hard at work organizing engaging and valuable opportunities for CDTA members. Here's a look at what's been happening and what's coming up:

Upcoming Pointe Shoe Readiness Webinar

We're preparing a session on Pointe Shoe Readiness featuring a collaborative presentation from Dr. Stephen Gray and a registered massage therapist/pointe shoe fitter. Topics will include training requirements, injury prevention, assessment tools, and fitting troubleshooting. We're aiming for a September date to avoid the busy spring season. Stay tuned!

Nutrition for Dancers

Allison Tannis presented Nutrition for Dancers: Building Strength, Stamina, and Resilience. The session was a big hit for teachers looking to provide their dancers information who are looking to fuel their bodies the right way for success! It's available for purchase & download for those who missed it from the CDTA Education Centre.

Career Pathways for Dancers

A webinar presentation is in the planning stages with the Dancer Transition Resource Centre (DTRC). The webinar hopes to support teachers guiding students into the diverse professional roles available in the wider dance world, and will also be open to senior students to attend too. Stay tuned for an announcement soon on a date.



COMING SOON COM
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CDTA

COLLABORATE

COMMUNITY
BUILDING



SUPPORT

STUDIES

ENGAGEMENT

ELEVATE YOUR TEACHING

September 2025-August 2026

cdtanational.ca

Announcing the CDTA Hip Hop Studies Crew!

 *Calling all dance educators and hip hop enthusiasts!*

The CDTA Hip Hop Studies crew is launching Sept 2025, and we want YOU to be a part of it!

What is it?

A collaborative community for dance educators looking to expand their hip hop knowledge, refine their teaching, and engage with like-minded professionals.

What's Included?


- ✓ Monthly meetups to discuss hip hop education and industry trends
- ✓ At least 5 exclusive workshops per year with top hip hop experts
- ✓ A supportive network of educators passionate about hip hop
- ✓ The opportunity to help shape the future of hip hop dance training within the CDTA


Who Can Join?

- ◆ Open to all dance educators - CDTA members and non-members!
- ◆ Whether you're an experience teacher or new to hip hop, this crew is designed to support your growth and professional development.

Membership Fees

 \$200/year for CDTA members

 \$350/year for non-members (chat with our crew about receiving a 10% discount as a CDTA Affiliate member!)

 *JOIN US SEPTEMBER 2025! Let's push hip hop education forward - together!*

**MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW
WE ARE PRESENTLY WORKING ON A NEW WEBSITE AND
REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILBLE
AS SOON AS THE WEBISTE IF COMPLETE**

Support our CDTA Business Affiliates



If you wish to have your business join the association, [click here](#) or forward us an email
cdta@cdtanational.ca

\$115.00 yearly

4 ads per year that reaches dance teachers and
dancers from coast to coast.

2025 RECITAL SEASON



Stardom Dance Costumes



EXCEED, DARE & TRANSCEND



ABSTRACT



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**Incorporate
Your Brand**



**Customizable
To Your Event**



**Awards &
Adjudication
Integration**

ORGANIZING Dance Competitions **AT A WHOLE NEW LEVEL**

Running a dance competition is rewarding! As your event grows, so too does the challenge of efficiently creating a competition schedule that works for everyone!

elev8.dance is created by dance competition owners who have owned and managed dance studios. We understand the complexity of taking registrations, scheduling, managing and running dance competitions.

elev8.dance software is customizable and flexible. The elev8.dance team is approachable, helpful and personable, offering support to organizers of all dance competitions, festivals and events large and small.

Find us on the web at elev8.dance

**Have questions? Email the [elev8.dance](mailto:info@elev8.dance) team
info@elev8.dance**



CDTA GROUP HEALTH PLAN

A plan created specifically for the dance community.

Your plan can cover:

- Health
- Prescription drugs
- Dental
- Hospital accommodations
- Vision
- Emergency travel medical care

Scan here for
more info!



Registering is as
easy as 5, 6, 7, 8!

Scan here to join
your program
now!



CDTA GROUP INVESTMENT PLAN

Learn about the program, how you can save, the funds you can invest in, set goals, and track your progress all in one spot!

To register:

1. Set up your Manulife ID
2. Sign up for your plan(s)
 - a. Enter your access code so you can select your plans, beneficiaries, and funds. Click “submit” to save your information
 - b. Your plan administrator may need to approve your enrollment before you can access your online account
3. Explore your account

Before you start, know:

- Your plan's access code: **4K12hAFG**
- Your plan's policy number: **55506982**
- Your social insurance number
- Who your beneficiaries will be

Use today's date as the date of eligibility

Empower Your Studio. Elevate Your Leadership.



Empower your team to become confident, credible leaders by defining and leveraging your unique studio culture to build a community everyone loves to be part of.

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