

a publication of the Arizona Dance Coalition

Volume 4, Issue 2 February 2014

Dear readers,

Yesterday, February 1, I was honored to present the ADC Lifetime Achievement Award to *Richard Holden* at the **Arizona Balalaika Orchestra** concert (Tucson) and thank you to *Kathleen Schwartzman* and *Dan Nicolini* for helping me prepare this special moment (pgs 13-14). Cosmic energies were at play connecting me with the award artist *Al Tucci* (pg 14). His work is inspired by *Erté*, one of my favorite artists.

Flagstaff's *Leslie Ptak Baker* is in the Member Spotlight. I met her in October at the **Dance Festival of Southern Arizona**. She has enjoyed a "real" dance career and is a wonderful dancer—all styles! I saw her in action. Her

students are lucky to have her as their teacher.

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The ADC Annual Meeting on January 12 at The Farm (Phoenix) had great weather and we thank our speakers *Kerry Lengel* (pgs 16-17 article) and *Ben Gabrielson* of **Stretch Internet** (ad on pg 19). Afterwards we went to visit **Ballet Arizona's** new facility and were in awe! We found seven high-ceiling, large studios (hardwood floor too), locker rooms, parent lounge and student study area. When you enter, one studio has an open wall to the lounge—perfect for observation or ballroom dance. It was an Open House (*free classes*) and the studios were packed. How very exciting for them and the community.

We have our first **20% OFF coupon** from ADC Merchant **Dee's Dancewear** (pg 20 - *expires* Feb 15) and if you know of anyone who would like to join our list of Merchants, please let me know. These merchants offer discounts on services or merchandise to our members, which we sincerely appreciate.

I've combed the net for interesting articles to inform and inspire you. Links are on pgs 12, 20, 22 and Pinterest on pg 23. And to celebrate the month where *love* takes center stage, a stunning photo by *Ed Flores* of *Jenna Johnson* (**Ballet Tucson**), in a red costume, graces page 11. Enjoy this issue, attend the events and classes, and *dance!*



Most sincerely, *Krystyna Parafinczuk* Editor & ADC Treasurer

The **Arizona Dance Coalition** is a membership-based, statewide 501(c)(3) nonprofit dance organization creating connections and communication between the general public and the dance community. ADC membership is available to individuals and organizations interested in the art of dance. You may join online at <u>AzDanceCoalition.org</u>. All questions about membership and sponsorship can be sent to <u>Lisa@AzDanceCoalition.org</u>. Calendar of Events are posted online by ADC members. Article submissions, news, letters to the editor and advertising sales can be sent to <u>Krystyna@AzDanceCoalition.org</u>. Additional ADC contact information is on the last page.

Past e-newsletters available at azdancecoalition.org/newsletters/.



Gammage, 1400 S Forest Ave, Tempe. The Wizard of Oz. "We're off to see..." The most magical adventure of them all. Andrew Lloyd Webber's new production of The Wizard of Oz is an enchanting adaptation of the all-time classic, totally reconceived for the stage. Developed from the ever popular MGM screenplay, this new production contains all the beloved songs from the Oscar®-winning movie score, all the favorite characters and iconic moments, plus a few surprises along the way, including new songs by Tim Rice



Photo by Cylla Von Tiedemann

and Andrew Lloyd Webber. Click your heels together and join Scarecrow, Tin Man, Lion, Dorothy and her little dog Toto, as they journey through the magical land of Oz to meet the Wizard and obtain their hearts' desires in this fantastic musical treat for all the family. Box Office 10 am- 6 pm Monday-Friday. 2 hours prior to events. Tickets boxoffice@asugammage.com, 480.965.3434.



Photo by Jo Stromgren

February 6, Thursday, 7:30 pm. Centennial Hall, UA Campus, 1020 E University Blvd, Tucson. UApresents
Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet. For its Tucson debut,
Cedar Lake will introduce works of three of the world's most innovative choreographers. Israeli-born Hofesh Shechter's
"Violet Kid" examines man's struggle for harmony in a complex and sometimes horrifying universe. The pulsating
"Tuplet" by Sweden's Alexander Ekman uses the dancers' own bodies as percussion instruments. Canadian choreographer
Crystal Pite's work concludes the bill with her nourish "Grace"

Engine." A dance event not to be missed. Tickets: \$41-55, 520-621-3341.

February 7, Friday, 8 pm. Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, 7380 E Second St, Scottsdale. Celtic Nights: The Emigrants Bridge. In this glittering new production from the creators of Gaelforce Dance, six of Ireland's most prominent vocal talents are complemented by six of its most accomplished step dancers, creating an exhilarating picture of a proud people who dared to dream big and doggedly carved out a home in the New World.



Celtic Nights tells their story through the power and majesty of music and the hypnotic fury of dancing feet. <u>Tickets</u> \$39-\$69. **Arts-Connect Pre-show Talk Friday, February 7, 7 p.m.**Connect with artists beyond the stage! Free for ticket holders.



February 2-7, Sunday-Friday. Sedona Performing Arts Center, 995 Upper Red Rock Loop Road, Sedona. Experience the cutting edge of evolving consciousness as artists and scientists lead humanity towards the possibility of peace on Earth. The World Peace Dance Performance Celebration Week inspires, enables, and teaches people to live peace by embodying daily expressions of love, forgiveness and compassion. During this U.N. Declared Week of International Interfaith Harmony, 22 hands-on workshops will be included and a dance and music performance at the Center. All workshops are free or inexpensive. See website for more information. Tickets in advance \$20 (online), \$25 at the door. Children K-12



FREE. <u>boxoffice@worldpeacedance.org</u>, <u>worldpeacedance.org</u>. Call Elaine at 218/255-1557 or 480/965-3434.

February 7, Friday, 7 pm. Sedona Performing Arts Center, 995 Upper Red Rock Loop Road, Sedona. **The World Peace Dance Performance and Concert.** This performance will inspire and enable people everywhere to live Peace on Earth by embodying daily expressions of love, forgiveness and compassion. This Event will repeat every year until lasting peace is achieved worldwide.



Photo by Paul Goode

8 pm. Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, 7380 E Second St, Scottsdale. The Paul Taylor Dance Company established in 1954, is one of the world's most highly respected and sought-after ensembles. Choreographer Paul Taylor continues to win public and critical acclaim for the vibrancy, relevance and power of his creations, many of which have become iconic masterpieces of modern dance. The Company will perform three works: Airs (1978), a classic work featuring music by Handel; Byzantium (1984) with stunning movements, spectacular sets and a spiky score by 20th-century iconoclast Edgar Varèse; and Black

Tuesday (2001), a whimsical tribute to the enduring music of the Great Depression and America's can-do spirit. <u>Tickets</u>: \$39-\$69. Arts lovers 29 years and under enjoy 50% off tickets. Visit site for details. ADC Members receive a discount. Promo Code will be emailed to members.

STUDENT MATINEE: Friday, 11 am. General admission \$10, pre-paid school groups \$5. Suitable for ages 8-18. 480-499-8587

Arts-Connect: Pre-show Talk with Rehearsal Director Bettie de Jong Friday, February 14, 7 pm. Connect with artists beyond the stage! Free for ticket holders.





February 19-21, Wednesday-Friday, 7:30-9:30 pm. Del E. Webb Center for the Performing Arts, 1090 S Vulture Mine Rd, Wickenburg.

TAO: Phoenix Rising

Explosive Taiko drumming and innovative choreography meet in a heart-pounding production that features extraordinary precision and supreme rhythm. The stars of TAO live and train in the mountains of Japan, reaching the highest level of virtuosity only after years of intensive study. The performers each bring non-traditional flair to the group by offering a young and vibrantly modern take on a time-honored art form.

<u>Tickets</u>: \$25-\$45. \$5 for those 18 years and under. (928) 684-6610

February 25-March 2, Tuesday-Sunday, times vary. ASU Gammage, 1200 S Forest Ave, Tempe.

BLUE MAN GROUP

Experience the Phenomenon. BLUE MAN GROUP is best known for their wildly popular theatrical shows and concerts which combine comedy, music, and technology to produce a totally unique form of entertainment. E! Entertainment News exclaims, "BLUE MAN GROUP is what every live performance aspires to be." The Baltimore Sun raves, "Blue Man Group packs a wallop. It's a big, loud, funny, silly, visually arresting production!" Although it is impossible



to describe, people of all ages agree that BLUE MAN GROUP is an intensely exciting and wildly outrageous show that leaves the entire audience in a blissful, euphoric state. With no spoken language, BLUE MAN GROUP is perfect for people of all ages, languages, and cultures. This unique experience is a form of entertainment like nothing else; guaranteed to be an outing you will never forget.

<u>Tickets</u> \$33-\$153. Customer Service: <u>boxoffice@asugammage.com</u>, Box Office: 480.965.3434, Group Services: 480.965.6678, Fax: 480.965.3583





March 4, Tuesday, 7:30 pm. Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, 7380 E Second St, Scottsdale.

Mimulus

Imaginative and daring, this Brazilian energetic troupe brings together ballroom, samba and other social dances. For their Scottsdale debut, they perform the evening-length work Dolores, inspired by the films of acclaimed Spanish director Pedro Almodóvar.

Join "The Ball in the Hall" post-show and celebrate Mardi Gras with a samba experience.

9 pm. <u>Tickets</u>: \$25-\$49. 480-499-8587

Photo by Guto Muniz

March 6-8, Thursday-Saturday, 7:30 pm, and March 9, 2 pm.

Herberger Theater Center, Stage West, 222 E Monroe St, Phoenix.

Center Dance Ensemble presents SECRETS

Tales of intrigue, gossip and humor, inspired by some of the best-kept secrets of all time. It's a program of new modern dance choreography by Artistic Director Frances Smith Cohen, Resident Choreographer Diane McNeal Hunt, guest choreographer Angela Rosenkrans, and company members Amber Robins, Erin Lovrien and Scott Bodily.

\$27 adults, \$22 seniors, \$13 students. Additional fees apply when ordering online. 602-252-8497 or www.herbergertheater.org

Lunch Time Dance Theater Performances

March 6 -7, 12:10 pm at Stage West. \$6- bring or buy lunch. Abridged performances.

Photo by Tim Fuller



SUBMISSION DEADLINE

MARCH ISSUE

of the

Arizona Dance e-Star

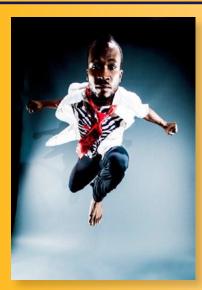
February 25

CALENDAR OF EVENTS listings are taken from the **Arizona Dance Coalition** website postings by ADC members. All postings of events are restricted to 501(c)(3) organizations with the exception of charitable and free events, educational workshops and master classes.

All submissions are monitored. Content may be edited.

AzDanceCoalition.org

Master Classes / Workshops



February 14-17, Friday-Monday, 10 am-11:15 am. Glendale
Community College DANCE, 6000 W Olive Ave, Dance Studio FC101 on the GCC Campus, Glendale.

GCC Dance Guest Artist Residency with Guy Thorne. Open Master Classes in Afro-Caribbean Modern Dance. FREE and open to the public (ages 16 and over).

Thorne and VERVE Dance Company. FC-101 Dance Studio. **FREE** and open to the public.

This residency is funded by an MCLI Learning Grant, and enables GCC Dance's resident dance company VERVE to work with national and internationally renowned dancers and choreographers. For more information, contact Rebecca Rabideau at rebecca.rabideau@gccaz.edu.

Guy Thorne is a teacher, lecturer, dancer, choreographer, and artistic director. A native of Guyana (South America), Thorne moved to the island of Jamaica where he graduated with a professional diploma in Dance Theatre Production from the Edna Manley College of Visual and Performing Arts. He moved to the U.S. as a scholarship student at Dance Theater of Harlem NYC before becoming principal dancer with Garth Fagan Dance for seven years. Thorne holds a BFA in dance from State University of NY, Brockport. Guy has over 15 years of professional experience & has toured extensively and taught master classes throughout the world including Italy, Germany, Hawaii, France, and the UK & Austria. As founder, co-director, choreographer, performer & teacher of FUTURPOINTE DANCE, Thorne's current choreographic work explores the confluence of Afro-centric folklore, popular and contemporary dance forms infused with his short film & multi- media creations. Most recently, Thorne was chosen by the JUBILATION FOUNDATION to be a 2012 Fellow.



February 9, Sunday, 9 am-5 pm. Bender Performing Arts, 3141 E Beardsley Rd, #110, Phoenix.

Phoenix Contemporary Dance Company Winter Movement Workshop ~ Jazz, Ballet, Contemporary, Lyrical, Jazz Funk, Repertoire. \$100/day or \$20/class. Levels Intermediate/Advanced. Instructors include Sean Dahlberg, Jose Soto, Kylee Larsen, Mikaylah Harp, Melissa Satyavelu, Preston Dalton, Zach Campbell and Zoe Jackson.

To enroll/pay: http://www.phoenixcontemporarydance.com/for-dancers.html.

Workshops / Auditions / Scholarships

February 14-16, Friday-Sunday, 10 am – 1 pm and 2:30 – 4:30 pm. Kinesphere Center for Movement Education, 711 E Missouri Ave, Suite 180, Phoenix. Yoga for Dancers with Master Teacher Hilary Cartwright. Course Fee \$350, Studio Fee \$125. 602-532-3111. www.kinesphere-studio.com

March 21-23, Friday-Sunday. Tucson Windmill Inn, Tucson. Bonnie Prudden Myotherapy 15-hr Workshop for trainers, athletes (dancers), massage therapists and those actively seeking to take charge of their own health care. Bonnie Prudden Myotherapy is approved by the National Certification Board for Therapeutic Massage and Bodywork (NCBTMB) as a continuing education provider. \$295 per person (include \$50 deposit). Tucson only workshops - Early Bird registrations postmarked 30 days prior to workshop \$275 (included \$50 deposit). See details at: http://www.bonnieprudden.com/training-workshops

Ongoing Grand Canyon University Scholarship Auditions

For incoming freshman and transfer students, there are dance performance scholarships available for up to \$5,000 per year. Auditions for scholarships and acceptance into the program will take place on Saturdays through June 2014. Students who audition for acceptance into GCU's Dance Education Program will be eligible for performance scholarships. Register online: www.gcu.edu/auditions. Audition dates are February 22nd, March 1st, April 5th, May 9th, and June 13th. If you are out of town and would prefer to audition by DVD, download the application that includes details on submitting an audition DVD. Contact Dance Director Susannah Keita at Susannah. keita@gcu.edu with any questions.

February 25, Las Vegas. Cirque du Soleil Audition info on page 21.

Member Announcements

Steven J Tepper has been named dean of **Arizona State University's Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts, effective July 1, 2014.** Tepper is currently director of the Curb Center for Art, Enterprise and Public Policy and associate professor of sociology at Vanderbilt University. "Professor Tepper is a renowned expert on U.S. cultural policy, and his work has fostered national discussions around topics of cultural engagement and the transformative possibilities of a truly creative campus," said ASU President Michael M. Crow. "He is visionary and entrepreneurial and is perfectly suited to help the Herberger Institute become the model of the 21st century arts school." Prior to his position at Vanderbilt, Tepper served as deputy director of the Princeton University Center for Arts and Cultural Policy Studies. He holds a bachelor's degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, a master's in public policy from Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, and a Ph.D. in sociology from Princeton University.

Member Announcements



members a 25% DISCOUNT off all tickets for the following performances:
Paul Taylor Dance Company – Thursday, February 13 performance ONLY
Pilobolus – Friday, March 28 performance ONLY
Staven Potronic Company – Friday, April 25

Steven Petronio Company – Friday, April 25

Ticket fees, terms and conditions apply. The terms and conditions rider here: http://www.scottsdaleperformingarts.org/terms-conditions.php

AzDEO Special Funding Opportunity

AzDEO is pleased to announce the availability of funding to attend NDEO's Special Topics Conference - Charting the Course: Approaches to Teacher Evaluation for K-12 Dance Educators

May 16-18, Friday Evening through Sunday Morning, MCM Elegante', Albuquerque, New Mexico. Funding will include airfare, hotel and registration. To apply, write an essay on how attendance will enhance your knowledge and position as an educator! Submit to Lynn Monson via email: lmonson@cox.net. Supported by the Arizona Commission on the Arts with funding from the State of Arizona and the National Endowment for the Arts.

AZ ARTS CONGRESS 2014 - ADC Members will be present!

February 5, Wednesday, 8:30 am. Arizona State Capitol, House Lawn, 1700 W Washington, Phoenix. The AAC is the annual convening of AZ arts advocates, hosted by our partner in the arts advocacy, Arizona Citizens/Action for the Arts. At Arts Congress attendees gain new advocacy tools and resources and meet with legislators and other public officials to discuss arts policy, arts education and public funding for the arts. To register as an individual (\$25) or be a sponsor (\$125 – 4 admissions and recognition), visit: http://www.azarts.gov/arts-advocacy/arts-congress/



February 8, Saturday, 8 am. Mesquite High School 500 S McQueen, Gilbert. **AzDEO 29th Annual State High School Dance Festival.** Classes begin at 8:30 am. A fantastic opportunity for your students to participate in inspiring master classes and share in the experience of performing for and viewing fellow dance students from around the state in a morning and afternoon concert. It is also a wonderful opportunity

for teachers to network. Early Bird fee (1/24/2014): \$150 for members, \$225 for non-members, Regular fee: \$200 for members, \$275 for non-members. Adjudication fee for student performance: \$20 for members, \$25 for non-members. Video purchase: \$20 for members, \$30 for non-members. Number of dancers per school is limited to 20. Registration is now on-line at www.azdeo.org. Questions, contact Lynn Monson lmonson@cox.net.

Del E Webb Center for the Performing Arts has a new website address: http://dewpac.org/

Announcements continued

PHOENIX ~ Grand Canyon University invites you to learn more about their Dance Program at http://www.gcu.edu/danceeducation. Arizona high school dance programs and local dance studios are invited to spend a day with GCU Dance! Students will have opportunity to take class with GCU Dance faculty, meet current dance majors, and take a campus tour. Registration is first comefirst serve: January 17, February 21, March 7 and 28, and April 11. GCU will provide lunch and reimbursement for up to \$150 of your transportation costs. www.gcu.edu/danceinvitationals

GOVERNOR'S ARTS AWARD NOMINEES - DANCE

The following artists and organizations have been nominated for the Governor's Arts Award! Congratulations and best of luck to all of you! Glad to see "dance" represented in AZ arts!

Artist - Joseph Rogers (Tucson - AZ Dancing in the Streets)
Arts in Education - Individual / Both are ADC Members

Sharon Meko, Artistic Director of Ballet Etudes (Gilbert) & Step Raptis (Mesa / Step's Junk Funk,

Desert Dance Theatre, and many more)

Arts in Education - Organization / Both are ADC Members

Ballet Etudes (Gilbert) & EPIK Dance Company (Phoenix)

ARIZONA COMMISSION ON THE ARTS 2014 COMMUNITY CATALYST GRANT RECIPIENTS - DANCE

Canyon Movement Company (Flagstaff); Safos Dance Theatre (Tucson)
Canyon Movement Company / ADC Member
Congratulations!

Canyon Movement Company will partner with Flagstaff Northern Arizona Parkinson's Support Group to provide dance/movement opportunities for Parkinson's patients through the Dance for Parkinson's program. The classes will be designed to engage the participants' minds and bodies, and create an enjoyable, social environment that emphasizes dancing while contributing to physical therapy.

Safos Dance Theatre and The House of Neighborly Service will work together to improve access to the arts in the city of South Tucson. The Color the Mural! project is centered around the painting of a mural by community residents, but will also incorporate dance and musical performances as well as other community events in this multi-generational, civic pride building project.

Announcements continued

TUCSON ~ Polish Folk Ensemble Lajkonik is still open to new dancers for the season which includes a tour in Poland July 15-30 (dates still to be finalized). If you are interested and will are between 16-30 years old, please contact Joanna Schmit via email Lajkonik@cox.net or call 520-481-5280 by January 10th. The group covers the cost of festival and provides costumes but new members would be responsible for the airline ticket. Practices are held at the www. ArizonaPolishClub.org on Mondays at 6 pm and, from time to time, workshops over the weekend. Check us out on facebook or on our website where you will find more photos and a calendar of upcoming performances. Call 520-495-8959 until 1 pm or 1-480-209-8527, lajkonik@cox.net, www.PolishDanceAZ.com.

PHOENIX ~ SOCIAL DANCE

Register now for discounted rates for **BadAZ Balboa 2014 March 28-30**, Phoenix. Sponsored by the California Balboa Classic. Live Music, Contests, Amazing Classes, and More! Chris and Beth Grover from LA are the headliners. They are true experts in vintage style Balboa and are fabulous historians on the subject matter. ADC members **Gayl and Howard Zhao** (Tucson) will also be teaching. First 10 Registrants: \$65; Second 10 Registrants: \$75; Third 10 Registrants: \$85; Fourth 10 Registrants: \$100; From then on and at the door: \$115. 17 and Under PASS for \$55. http://www.badazbal.com/

Micky Fortanasce (international Balboa champion and instructor) is also coming out in early May. He and his partner *Kelly Arsenault* taught at Bad AZ Bal last year.

Life is like dancing. If we have a big floor, many people will dance. Some will get angry when the rhythm changes. But life is changing all the time.

Miguel Angel Ruiz

Consider becoming an ADC member, being a part of a statewide dance community and enjoying the member benefits and discounts offered by our members and more than 20 Merchants throughout Arizona ~ graphic designers, photographers, dancewear stores, dance studios, printers, costume designers, venues, etc. Review the benefits towards the back of this magazine.

Regional Events

Central Arizona EVENTS

February 13-16, Symphony Hall, 2835 E Washington St, Phoenix. **Ballet Arizona and The Phoenix Symphony present La Bayadère: the Temple Dancer.** Bayadère follows the heartbreaking tale of a temple dancer and a young warrior kept apart in life and united only in death. Tickets start at \$25: balletaz.org / ticketmaster.com / Box Office 602-381-1096.

February 22, Saturday, 7 pm. Phoenix Symphony Hall, One N First St, Phoenix. !Amor! An Evening of Passion. Ballet Arizona, Arizona Opera and The Phoenix Symphony together again for an electrifying performance and benefit at Symphony Hall. Featuring selections from Carmen, West Side Story, Schindler's List and La Bayadère. Performance only \$25 and up. Performance and gala dinner \$500 and up. Table sponsorships start at \$5000. Box Office: 602-495-1999 or 800-776-9080. trioevent.org

Southern Arizona EVENTS

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February 13-14, 16, 20-23, times vary. Stevie Eller Dance Theatre, 1737 E University, UA Campus, Tucson. Three's A Crowd featuring guest choreography Sherry Zunker and UA faculty James Clouser, Amy Ernst, and Melissa Lowe. Suprise – UA Dance will re-create a couple of Ernie Flatt pieces (Carol Burneet Show choreographer and Emmy winner). Tickets \$12-\$29.

February 15-16, Saturday @ 7:30 pm, Sunday @ 1 & 5 pm. Temple of Music & Art, 330 S Scott Ave, Tucson. Ballet Tucson Winter Concert with Tucson Desert Song Festival. Danses à la Française (premiere) - choreography by Chieko Imada; Daphnis and Chloé (premiere) - choreography by Mark Schneider; Carmen - choreography by Daniel Precup. Tickets \$30-\$42. http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/412846

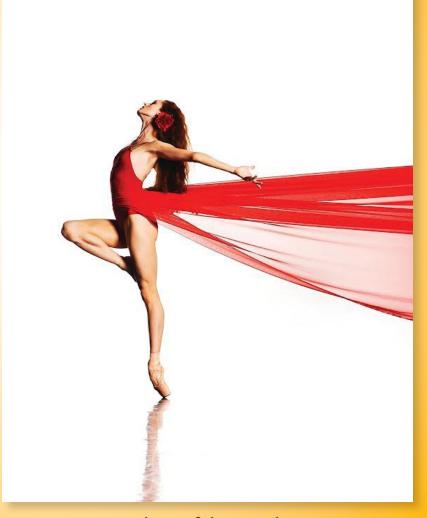


Photo of the Month

Jenna Johnson

Ballet Tucson

Photo by Ed Flores



Tucson Tango Festival

March 12-17, Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, 4550 S Palo Verde Rd, Tucson Beginner's Tango Track: 7-8:30 pm Thursday-Saturday, 7-9:30 pm Sunday Three 1.5 hr classes and a Sunday Milonga (social dance event). Learn the basics of walking, embrace, connection, foundations of tango along with a variety of simple figuras. \$65 early bird price; \$95 at the door.

ADC members receive a discount. http://tucsontangofestival.com/ttf-open-registration/registration/

ETHEREAL DANCE IMAGES

For years photographers have attempted to accomplish the impossible—capture the bewitching movement of dance in a single, frozen image. Photographer Jesús Chapa-Malacara has come painfully close with his ethereal series "Dance Prints: Humans Slicing Through Space," which explores the language of dance through striking images and ghostly gestures. View the images here:

Bewitching Long Exposure
Photos Capture the Elusive
Language of Dance



ADC Lifetime Achievement Award



Krystyna Parafinczuk, Treasurer of the Arizona Dance Coalition, presented Richard "Richka" Holden with the Arizona Dance Coalition Lifetime Achievement Award on Saturday, February 1, at the Pima Community College Center for the Arts Proscenium Theatre in Tucson, during the Arizona Balalaika Orchestra Winter Concert—the perfect setting where he was surrounded by longtime friends and colleagues.

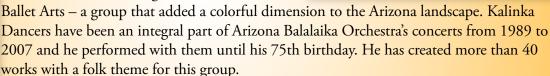
Richard Holden was born in Braintree, Massachusetts, and became drawn to the dance world at an early age. His lifelong passion became character and folk dance, as well as Russian folk music. In England, Richka (*REEsh KA*, as he likes to be called) danced and studied the esoteric Benesh technique of transcribing

dance steps into written symbols. After graduating from the London Institute of Choreology (1966), he was invited by Dame Alicia Markova to join the dance company at the Metropolitan Opera Company at Lincoln Center, NY. He later became a soloist and the Met's resident choreologist. With his performance, dance and choreology expertise, he was sought after by premiere dance companies. As a choreologist and assistant ballet master, he worked with many notables in the dance world and with renowned companies including the Harkness Ballet,

Joffrey Ballet and the American Ballet Theater. During this career he was invited to Tucson where he started and later directed the Tucson Civic Ballet (1967-1972). [Many may not be aware of this, but the Tucson Civic Ballet was the first to perform in the newly built Tucson Convention Center Music Hall in 1971.]



Since moving to Tucson in 1987, Richard became a resident choreographer for Arizona Opera and founded the Kalinka Russian Dancers in 1989 with eight dancers from



Richka gave Tucson its first big Nutcracker (SRO Tucson Civic Ballet) where the newspapers called him a "genius" and "the man of the hour" for pulling it

off. He also suggested the "Southwest" theme to Linda Walker (Director, Tucson Regional Ballet) and danced the role of "Tio Diago," a kind of El Zorro (a big, black-caped version of the traditional Herr Drosselmayer) in their now established Southwest Nutcracker. He choreographed and restaged Firebird, Upstairs



Downstairs, Coppelia, Petrushka, Two Pigeons, La Gitanilla, Round-Up and the Brooms of Mexico, to name a few. With many versions of Alice in Wonderland in his repertoire, the Tucson version won the National Broadcast Media Award when it aired on KUAT TV. And he was also cast Dr. Faust in the movie Tombstone filmed at Old Tucson Studios.

He has written articles for Dance Magazine, Opera News and even had a short stint as dance critic for the Tucson Weekly. He continues to write a regular column "Speaking of Dance" for the newsletter of the Balalaika Domra Association of American. His autobiography, **Dancing on a Greyhound Bus**, is a wonderful narrative of his rich life and contains a complete list of his works. It is available online at http://richka.net/.

We are greatly honored to be able to present this Lifetime Achievement Award to Richard Holden for his contribution to dance in Arizona.

continued on the next page

ADC Lifetime Achievement Award

From Mia Hansen, Dancer/Choreographer/Director

Richard is a treasure. His contributions to the world of character dance have been rich and plentiful. His broad knowledge extends through virtually every style of ethnic, folk, ballet and beyond. Through his efforts, his teaching and choreography, Russian character dance has made it to the desert southwest and, for this, we are so grateful. When the Moiseyev Dance Company toured the U.S. on the occasion of their 50th anniversary, they came to Tucson and gave their only U.S. master class here, thanks to Richard. He continues to inspire dancers of all ages. Congratulations Richard on a lifetime of achievement.

From Melissa Lowe and Jory Hancock, UA School of Dance Many, many of us in the field are aware of what you have contributed to the art form. On a more personal level, we value your wry but caring sense of humor, and will always remember how much fun it was to work with you. Great that you are here in Tucson with Boris the cat, and Igor the "brat."

About the Award Artist

Al Tucci was born and raised in Westchester County NY and grew up surrounded with the lively and intense art scene in NYC. Drawing, painting and putting on plays were his passion. He created the scene design for Port Chester High School's Pygmalion and it caught the eye of Ed Sullivan (TV host), who was an alum and in the



Monsoon Rain by Al Tucci

audience. Sullivan recommended Al study theater design and the Goodman School of Drama at the Art Institute of Chicago awarded Al a BFA and an MFA. A 38-year career followed in professional theater training and freelancing as a United Scenic Artist Union designer.

Early in his education Al met the renowned fashion and theatre designer Erté who inspired him to teach and dedicate his life to training future theatre artists. Al headed programs, departments and schools at the University of Wisconsin- Milwaukee, West Virginia University, Northern Illinois University, and the University of Arizona. In the last 30 years Al produced hundreds of plays and theatrical seasons and was always proud to have the opportunity to teach and design.

Most of Al's theatrical work has been in the area of costume design. He has designed museum exhibitions and gallery installations that have focused on clothing, fashion and theatrical design. As a member of the Southern Arizona Art's Guild (SAAG) and the Southern Arizona Watercolor Guild (SAWG) his work has been shown at the Southern Arizona Art's Guild Gallery, the Southern Arizona Watercolor Guild Gallery, Tucson Sheraton Hotel, Jane Hamilton Gallery, Tucson, Carol Curry Gallery, Tubac, the Milwaukee Art Museum, and the West Virginia State

Museum. He works primarily in gouache (opaque watercolor).

Al continues to look at the human form in a theatrical context, but now outside the team of artist making a theatrical concept, and alone as a single artist with a single vision. You can learn more about Al and see his work on his website: http://altucciart.com/wp/



Hootchie Kootchie Tucci

Selected Awards Exhibitions

Albert D. Tucci Costume Design Scholarship – U of A –est. 2008 Buffalo Exchange Excellence in Art Award 1999 Community FDN for So AZ Art Award 1999 (nominee/finalist) AZ Theatre Alliance Service Recognition Award 2000 Outstanding Achievement Award 1988 – IL Theatre Assn

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

shines on the

Leslie Ptak Baker (Flagstaff)

Leslie Ptak Baker, a native Arizonan, began R.A.D. ballet training at the age of four with Eileen Colgrove and, later, Mary Moe Adams. Eventually, musical theater and jazz dance at Arcadia High and Chapman University lured her away from ballet. She was Outstanding Arizona State University B.F.A. Graduate in Dance Performance and Choreography in 1978, where she was privileged to study under Margaret Gisolo, Beth Lessard, and Marion Jones. Leslie performed professionally in shows in New York, Los Angeles, Montreal, Japan and briefly in Las Vegas in "The Nifty Fifties," a Dick Clark production.



She sailed eight years, worldwide, as an entertainer with Princess Cruises, dancing and singing in

Broadway-style production shows choreographed by Gretchen Goertz Lewis and Kathy Orme. Leslie left the sea in '88 to start a family, but continued to choreograph and perform in shows with the Fountain Hills Community Theater.

In 1989, Leslie and her then husband moved to the south rim of the Grand Canyon. While at the canyon, Leslie taught dance, aerobics and theater workshops for the community and created "Move!"— a preschool movement curriculum. In 2000, Leslie and her two children, Kieran and

Kinzer, relocated to Flagstaff. Since then, she has performed in and choreographed shows for the Flagstaff Light Opera Company, Theatrikos, Town



Now, after thirteen years, Leslie still loves teaching jazz, tap, and modern dance at Flagstaff Arts & Leadership Academy (FALA)! A past board member of AzDEO, Leslie started a charter National Honor Society for Dance Arts at FALA, which



Leading a FALA pre-show warm-up.

offers 13 different dance classes to 300+ middle and high school students. Leslie has loved watching the dance world in Arizona grow in the last 50 years from early beginnings to world-class and salutes all her

dancing friends, teachers and colleagues for making that happen! [It was a pleasure to meet Leslie at the Dance Festival of So AZ. She made the journey south to Tucson and actively participates in dance events in all of AZ.)

| lesliep@npgcable.com | lbaker@glagarts.com | lbaker@glagar



Tips for Pitching Arts Stories to the Media: DO's and DON'TS

By Kerry Lengel Performing Arts Reporter and Theater Critic **The Arizona Republic** and **azcentral.com**

1. E-mail only, please.

It's the digital era. DON'T send paper press releases, photo prints, DVD-ROMs or your season brochure. They will just end up in the "round file." And DON'T show up unannounced with a press pack and a box of chocolates. We're busy and we're not allowed to accept gifts.

2. Get it to the right people.

DON'T blanket the entire newsroom. Find out

the names of the reporters and editors who cover your area and send it specifically to them. For any given media organization, send a single email with all appropriate recipients listed in the "To" line, so they DON'T needlessly forward e-mails to people who already have them. DON'T pitch multiple reports without letting them know you are doing so.

3. Send it early, but don't send it often.

We plan stories weeks in advance. DON'T reach out on a Wednesday afternoon hoping for a story about your event the following Saturday. That section of the newspaper already went to press.

DO follow up a press release with a personal email or a phone call. The squeaky wheel sometimes does get the grease.

- DO follow up a press release with a personal email or a phone call. The squeaky wheel sometimes does get the grease.
- DON'T make your communication look like spam. Multiple copies of the same press release increase the chances of future emails will end up in the trash unopened and unread. DON'T put media contacts on your regular mailing with patrons to receive marketing come-ons. And avoid using digital marketing management services such as Constant Contact; this may get your emails automatically quarantined as spam.

4. Keep it simple. Make it easy.

Your press release may be seen by many people with different jobs: reporters looking for a

story angle, clerks entering information into a database, editors making assignments to writers or forwarding releases to other editors. DON'T throw up roadblocks for any of them.

- DO put all the basic facts at the top: *name* of the event, brief description, time and place, ticket prices, web address, phone number, etc.
- DON'T turn the press release into an attachment. This can create software compatibility issues. And DON'T simply link to a web release. You might be giving the recipient an excuse not to make that next click.
- DO include art. In this case, attachments or links to your website are preferred. But stick to standard formats, especially *jpeg*.

Tips for Pitching Arts Stories to the Media: DO's and DON'TS continued

5. Be concise. Be specific.

- DON'T try to grab our attention with a long, cleverly written lead-in. That's our job.
 If you do it better than we do, you must make us insecure.
- DO provide details. It's hard to rewrite a vague press release, so give as complete a description as you can. Include the titles of pieces to be performed and the names of the performers, creators and designers. Describe the concept and the design scheme. Suggest specific story angles. Ask yourself: What makes this "news"? What makes it a story?

The Arizona Dance Coalition would like to thank Kerry for speaking at our Annual Member meeting on January 12th at the Morning Glory Cafe on The Farm in Phoenix. He answered our questions and gave some excellent advice. He has learned about dance from attending rehearsals. Consider inviting Kerry to your rehearsal!

Keep it simple. Make it easy. Be concise. Be specific.

A few key email addresses for **The Arizona Republic** and **azcentral.com** ~

Calendar events database:

esmanagers@event-source.com

Things To Do editor:

tamera.thornton@arizonarepublic.com

Things To Do photo coordinator:

elaine.gonzales@arizonarepublic.com

Theatre, dance, opera:

kerry.lengel@arizonarepublic.com

Classical music:

randy.cordova@arizonarepublic.com

Visual arts:

kellie.hwang@arizonarepublic.com

About the Author:

Kerry Lengel is the Performing Arts Reporter and Theater Critic for The Arizona Republic and azcentral.com. He has covered theater for the past five years at the Phoenix paper, where he also served as arts and entertainment editor. He cannot dance.

kerry.lengel@arizonarepublic.com 602-444-4896 (office) 580-262-7707 (mobile)



NORTHERN Arizona

FlagstaffDance.com

for the most up-to-date schedule

Wednesdays, The Peaks ~ Alpine Room, 3150 N Winding Brook Rd, Flagstaff (on Hwy 180, North Fort Valley Rd). Group Dance Lessons ~ 6-7 pm East Coast Swing; 7-8 pm Waltz. \$5 one lesson/\$8 for both. Contact *Robert and Kathy* at 928-527-1414 or info@ thejoyofdance.net

1st & 3rd Thursdays, Museum Club, 3404 E Route 66, Flagstaff. 6-7 pm line dance lesson; 7-8 pm Nightclub 2-Step; open dancing. \$3 nonmembers/ \$4 for both classes

Fridays, Mad Italian, 101 S San Francisco, Flagstaff. **FREE** Salsa Rueda & Latin Dancing 6:30-9:30 pm. Paul & Nadina Geissler, nadinegeissler@hotmail.com

Saturdays, Galaxy Diner, W Route 66, Flagstaff. Swing lesson & dancing with Tom Scheel 7:30-9 pm.

Sundays, Canyon Dance Academy, 2812 N Izabel St, Flagstaff (across from Coconino HS) 5:30-6:30 ballroom technique practice 6:30-7:30 open dancing with instructors *John Rudy and Nancy Williams*. \$5. 928-213-0239

Sundays, Tranzend Studio, 417 W Santa Fe Ave, Flagstaff. NAU Latin Dance Club 6-9 pm, \$5, Kati Pantsosnik, 928-814-2650, katipan@ gmail.com

ADULT CENTER OF PRESCOTT, 1280 E Rosser St, Prescott. 928-778-3000. adultcenter.org. Tuesdays, Country & Contemporary Line Dance Classes, \$5 / No charge Silver Sneakers 5:30 pm Beginners; 6:30 pm Intermediate Friday Night Dance Party, \$7/\$6 students ID 7:30-10 pm (ballroom, Latin, swing, country, club & tango). No charge Silver Sneakers Fridays, Dance lessons with Andy Smith and Marilyn Schey, Rumba, 6-6:45 pm beginners;

6:45-7:30 Beyond Beginners. \$6 one or both lessons. 7:30-10 pm Open Dance \$5.

The COTTONWOOD CIVIC CENTER, 805 Main St, Old Town Cottonwood. AZ We Dance - Contra Dance. 6:30 pre-dance lesson, 7-10 pm dancing. \$7, \$5 students \$4 16 yrs and under. 928-634-0486, azwedance@gmail.com.

CENTRAL Arizona

The <u>Arizona Lindy Hop Society</u>

has an extensive calendar.

AZSalsa.net covers Phoenix, Scottsdale & Tempe

Sock Hop at 5 & Diner

Feb 7, First Friday, 220 N 16th St, Phoenix. **Feb 21,** Third Friday, 9069 E Indian Bend Rd, Scottsdale. 7 pm FREE Swing dance lesson; 6-9 pm Live Rockabilly/Swing music, wood dance floor, diner food and vintage cars. Come in a car older than 1972 and eat for 50% off!

SOCIAL DANCE

SOUTHERN Arizona

<u>TucsonDanceCalendar.com</u>

for the most up-to-date schedule

Feb 9 & 23, Sunday, 5-9 pm

Tucson Sunday Salsa Social hosted by Gerardo & Lupita. Families are welcome. \$10/live band or \$7/DJ. Arizona Ballroom Company/Sonoran Ballroom, 5536 E Grant Rd, Tucson (in the Safeway Shopping Plaza). tucsonsalsa.com

Tuesdays ~ **Maker House**, 238 N Stone, Tucson. 7 pm FREE Blues Dance lesson & social dance. http://tucsonbluesdance.com/events/

Fridays ~ Warehouse STOMP, 620 E 19th St, Tucson. 7-8 pm Lindy Hop fundamentals with Gayl & Howard. 8-11 pm Open Dancing. \$5 http://swingtucson.com/calendar/ **Feb1 4 ~ 1st Saturdays 7-10 pm,** Free Milonga Cafe Desta, 758 S Stone Ave, Tucson. DJ Jo Canalli. 520-468-5536.

Saturdays ~ Armory Park Recreation Center, 22 S 5th St, Tucson

Feb 8 – Swingin' Saturdays featuring West Coast Swing, 7-11 pm, \$7/\$5 w/student ID info@swinginsaturday.com, http://swinginsaturday.com/about-swinginsaturday/

Feb 15 – *USA Dance So Arizona Chapter* presents their Dance, 8-11 pm. \$5 members, \$3 students; \$8 non-members. http://soazbda.org/

Feb 22— *TucsonLindyHop.org* presents a **live** band for Lindy Hop & Swing dancers. 7-8 pm beginners lesson, 8-11 pm open dance. \$10 with discounts for students.



TucSon Casineros Photo by Larry Hanelin

ATTENTION "SOCIAL DANCE" COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT ARIZONA

If you host a "community" event (not private studio), you are welcome to submit your information to: Krystyna@AzDanceCoalition.org by the 25th of each month.

BIZ TALK

BIZ Talk is a new section where YOU can have something to say - exactly the way you want to say it. *But it will cost you*. If you are interested, please email Krystyna@AzDanceCoalition.org or call 520-743-1349 for rates and sizes.

ADC members receive discounted rates.

Do you have a conference, festival, performance or competition to promote? You can do it here!

JOB POSTING for

BALLET ARIZONA, Phoenix

Individual Giving Director

will be responsible for the management and implementation of a results-driven fundraising program for individual donors supporting our fund development goals. Please email a cover letter and resume to cchatawanich@balletaz.org, with "Individual Giving Director" in the subject line. www.balletaz.org

Someone out there is singing ...

"I really NEED this job!"



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Print and redeem this Discount Coupon for 20% OFF Shoes and Apparel In any of Dee's 3 Valley Stores!

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AzDanceCoalition February *Arizona Dance e-Star*



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DANCERS BELONG IN MUSEUMS?

by Katja Vaghi | bachtrack | 21 January 2014

Dance has entered the museums and exhibitions spaces more and more, not as entertainment or a one off event, but rather as the object exhibited. Read more here:

Ballet dancer lands lead role in Starz series "Flesh and Bone"

by David Ng | L.A. Times | 27 January 2014 "Flesh and Bone" follows the emotional and professional journey of Claire, a talented and ambitious dancer who has deep psychological issues. The show is said to be a dark and gritty look at the world of professional ballet. Read more here.

Life Inside The New York City Ballet Is Even Crazier Than You Imagined

A new docudrama entitled "city.ballet." is a 12-episode series exploring the lifestyle of ballet dancers in five-minute segments. In the first episode Peter Martin discusses what it's like to climb up the ranks. Check it out here.



Dance and Capitalism: A Love-Hate Relationship

by Nora Younkin | Huffington Post | 16 January 2014

What is the biggest crisis facing contemporary concert dance? If you ask almost anyone in the field, they won't say talent is sparse. They won't say there is a creativity deficit. They won't say there aren't enough innovative collaborators. They'll tell you it's hard as hell to financially operate a mid-level dance company. Over the last two decades, public funding for the arts has dried up, been tapped out, and fought for with all the fervor of the Tributes vying for lifeblood at the Cornucopia in The Hunger Games. Mind you, not that there has ever been that much public funding in the U.S. to begin with compared to certain other countries. Read more here:



NATIONWIDE DANCE AUDITION LINKS

<u>Dance.net</u> ~ http://www.dance.net/danceauditions. html

<u>DancePlug.com</u> ~ http://www.danceplug.com/insidertips/auditions

<u>StageDoorAccess.com</u> ~ http://www.

stagedooraccess.com/

<u>DanceNYC</u> ~ http://www.dancenyc.org/resources/auditions.php

<u>BackStageDance.com</u> ~ http://www.backstage.com/bso/dance/index.jsp

SeeDance.com ~ http://www.seedance.com

FEBRUARY 25 Cirque de Soliel

Auditions in Las Vegas (must be 18 yrs old at audition) Classical, Contemporary, Jazz

The Rock Center for Dance, 8210 S Maryland Pkwy, Las Vegas Arrive at 8 am (ends 4 pm) Bring your own drinks & lunch. Callback February 26, 9 am - 4 pm

The Arizona Dance Coalition is making connections!

The Arizona Dance Coalition recently became a member of the Americans for the Arts organization. We are now a part of the pARTnership Movement, an initiative from Americans for the Arts to reach business leaders with the message that partnering with the arts can build their competitive advantage. ADC is looking to connect with businesses to promote and advance our mission. To learn more about the pARTnership Movement, visit partnershipmovement.org/the-movement/.

The Arizona Dance Coalition will be conducting a SURVEY of its subscribers who are comprised of *dancers*, *choreographers*, *educators*, *producers*, *advocates* and many others in dancerelated careers. In addition, fans and "supporters" subscribe to keep up with the dance events and news in Arizona. We invite you to be a part of this dance "arts" community.

The SURVEY will cover the basic "meme" questions — Who are you? Where are you from? What do you do? ... and so on. It will ask you questions specific to ADC (how can we serve you), about what you purchase (dancewear,

concert tickets, massages), health & nutrition questions and insurance questions (health/dental).

The more participants in the survey, the more meaningful the results will be to get a better understanding of who "we" are and how we fit into the AZ "arts" community.

Let's find out if we—the *dance* community—are making a difference. Please spread the word and encourage your colleagues to subscribe. Better yet, become an ADC member and help us carry out our mission—*creating connections between the dance communities and the general public in Arizona.*

ADC Board of Directors

ARIZONA DANCE COALITION Member Benefits & Perks

The ADC offers *four* types of memberships:

Individual \$20 • Organization \$50 Venue/Presenter \$100 • Sponsor \$100 plus

Membership and dues renew annually and ADC organizes an Annual Member Meeting in January to discuss the state of dance in Arizona featuring guest speakers. See the last page for details on joining. Membership entitles you to ~

- ADC Membership Directory ~ inclusion and online access, plus a PDF document with live links
- Posting events on the ADC website Calendar of Events* which are then prominently featured in the *Arizona Dance e-Star** with a photo & live links
- *Arizona Dance e-Star* monthly e-newsletter received *in advance* of subscribers
- Member Spotlight opportunity in the *e-Star*
- Performance opportunity in the ADC Member Showcase (when production funds are available)

- Posting classes on the ADC website Class Page*
- Board Member Nominations (December)
 Annual Membership Meeting Voting
 Privileges (January)
- ADC Lifetime Achievement Award Nominations (March)
- Merchant Discounts and periodic memberto-member discounts
- Affordable Venue General Liability Insurance for 1-2 day performances. We have renewed our policy to continue this benefit for our members because we know the cost of insurance (\$400-\$500) would prohibit most individuals and small companies from producing in a professional theatre. Current fee is \$75/1 day; \$150/2 days.
- **NEW** ~ Discounted *Arizona Dance e-Star* Advertising Rates. Inquire for details.
- * All postings of events and classes are restricted to 501(c)(3) organizations with the exception of charitable and free events, community festivals, educational conferences and master classes.

LinkedIn Launches Volunteer Marketplace for Nonprofits

Nonprofits can post volunteer opportunities and LinkedIn members can search for volunteer opportunities in their local communities. 82% surveyed have communicated that they want to volunteer their time and skills and thus far more than 600,000 LinkedIn members have added their Volunteer Experience & Causes to their LinkedIn profiles. 90% off LinkedIn's standard rate for job postings (\$19.50 30-day posting). Visit LinkedIn for Nonprofits here. Article here.

Attention Non-ADC Members

Your performances, workshops, and master classes are mentioned in the **Regional Section** of the **Arizona Dance e-Star**. We welcome your **announcements**: job postings, auditions, scholarships, awards & recognitions, new positions, reorganizations, and invitations to participate in FlashMobs & Festivals. Keep Arizonans informed!

Arizona Dance e-Star Editor/Designer, Krystyna Parafinczuk Contributors: Al Tucci, Kathleen Schwartzman, Leslie Ptak Baker

COSTUME TIP

by Krystyna Parafinczuk

While most of the "pins" on this Pinterest page are for Halloween costumes, they may inspire you or just make you *laugh*.

http://www.pinterest.com/jannghi/fun-costume-ideas/

Pinterest

BUSINESS TIP

by Krystyna Parafinczuk Pinterest

The Arizona Dance Coalition has recently created a Pinterest account. Pinterest is a tool for collecting and organizing things you love or that inspire you. You can organize an event, make a wishlist, plan a trip or project, start a collection, and more. ADC only has two boards so far, but check out what we *love* here: http://www.pinterest.com/azdancecoalitio/

Pinterest

Valentine's Day Dance

Click & eniov! Valentine's Day Crafts

Diet for Dancers



Dance Images

Contemporary Dance

Ethnic Dance

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Become an Arizona Dance Coalition Member ~ online (PayPal)
or snail mail / click on the icon to
download application

Board Members are needed with expertise in organization & event planning, marketing/graphics, writing and computer/website maintenance. *Help us grow and make a difference.*

SPONSORS





Desert Dance Theatre



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Krystyna Parafinczuk, Treasurer (Southern Az)

Krystyna@AzDanceCoalition.org, 520-743-1349, call first to send fax