

Newsletter

(working title)

Volume I, Issue 1
Spring 2002

*Celebrating
and
Promoting
the rich
Diversity of
Dance
in Utah*

In this Issue:

Letter from
the President

About NDEO

Spring
Conference

Ideas for the
Future

New Board
Members

Teaching
Ideas

Web Page
Update

Membership
Renewal

Letter from the President

February 15, 2002

We have well passed the one-year mark and in September will mark two years of being an official organization. In this past year the Utah Dance Education Organization has made great strides. We have had our first major conference, (March 3, 2001) which was very well attended by teachers in higher education, secondary schools, elementary schools, private sector, professional companies, school district personnel, members of the Utah Arts Council and State Office of Education, special guests and friends and pre-professional students. Our feedback indicates that to a person, there was something wonderful there for everyone. We offer a huge THANK YOU to many, many people for making this first big event successful. Now, get ready for the second (not to be missed) conference, April 20, 2002. The organization has also represented dance and all of you at the State District Art Coordinators Meetings, and at other forums where dance has previously been under represented. We have our 501 c3 non-profit status in place. Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation have been formalized and filed with the state.



We began this new season with a special event that brought us together to experience good things for ourselves personally and collectively. Susan Kenney was our facilitator for part of the evening of November 2, 2001 at BYU. Virtually all of Susan's ideas were transferable to the classroom. We also included a short business meeting where we discussed our affiliation status with the National Dance Education Organization and the nominating process to fill out our officer slate. Subsequently we facilitated the election and now have wonderful new board members introduced to you in this newsletter. Thanks for the candidate participation and the voter response!

The executive committee has functioned in a remarkable way on your behalf. Our commitment is to create a solid structure upon which UDEO can build into the future. Your unanimous vote to affiliate with NDEO is a positive step in that direction. This extends our reach and brings us the benefit of the initiatives that are being carved out nationally. It is also a real bargain – state and national membership for the price of national. We have listened to your suggestions and needs and will ask for YOU to commit and join with us in the implementation of these ideas and goals. The network begins with each individual making a connection. Our success in this organization will be the coming together of everyone who cares about dance in education at any level. We are launched! We are on our way! Now it is up to you to make the organization complete. Please join us at this exciting time and bring others with you.

Sara Lee Gibb

UDEO joins NDEO as a State Affiliate



At the November 2, 2001 business meeting the membership present voted unanimously to join with the National Dance Education

Organization as a State Affiliate. The discussion at that meeting brought up many positive points about the dual membership. Many of the members expressed that they would be saving money in the long run by getting a membership in both the state and national organizations for what was the price of national only. The discussion continued, emphasizing the importance of supporting a national organization that in turn would support us at the state level. Also noted in the discussion was the fact that our state membership is mainly comprised of two groups of people; those who are involved directly in dance as students, teachers, performers and administrators, and a second group of K-6 educators who teach a separate curriculum and introduce their students to a wide range of art forms. You will note on the membership form that these two groups are offered different membership plans.

The NDEO web site (worth a visit at www.ndeo.org) outlines many of the goals and visions of the organization, which link directly to those of the UDEO.

"The goals of NDEO are to: 1) promote dance as an artistic process which broadens and deepens human experience; 2) strengthen the national voice in articulating and implementing a vision for dance education; and 3) weave dance into the complete fabric of learning. NDEO has forged alliances with approximately 150 federal and state agencies and arts associations in support of dance arts education. We are the voice of representation for the field in legislatures, schools of dance, Pre K-12 schools, and institutions of higher education throughout the country."

The Utah Dance Education Organization stands to benefit immensely by joining in the strength of the National Organization to further all of our common goals and dreams. Some of the philosophical and practical advantages of uniting together include:

- National networks that strengthen our state voice and influence.
- The opportunity for our state to help shape the national agenda in dance education.

- Increased knowledge and understanding across the nation in areas of advocacy, policy, legislation use of standards and guidelines, position papers, certification, licensure, etc.
- Data bases of dance institutions, artists and educators teaching dance so dance is included in future federal surveys, national assessments, and grant initiatives.
- The opportunity for all members to vote in national elections, and recommend nominees for offices.
- National and Regional conference registrations at the discounted member price.
- Subscription to The Journal of Dance Education (JODE), the official quarterly publication.
- Four national newsletters a year in addition to the state newsletters.
- Resources and supplies at discounted member price.
- Access to send and receive information via the NDEO List Serve network. (Job announcements, funding opportunities, legislative updates, national/state events, etc.)
- Access to grants and funding opportunities. (NDEO is currently using a \$300,000 grant for a research project benefiting the field of dance education)
- Access to professional development opportunities; position papers on standards, assessments, curriculum, legislative information, and more.
- The opportunity to participate on national task forces and committees as available.
- Students and professional members have the opportunity to join the Student Mentor Network.
- Data bases that track state membership information for the state.
- National will provide state and national membership rosters and help with bookkeeping.
- National will orchestrate marketing campaigns for our state once or twice a year.

We look forward to a very positive relationship with the National Dance Education Organization as together we advance dance education in our state and nation.

Visit the National Dance Education Organization Web site at www.ndeo.org

Past Conference and Workshop

UDEO hosted its First Annual Statewide Conference, "Sharing Dance Kinnections," March 3rd, 2001 at the Marriott Center for Dance on the University of Utah campus. The opening session featured keynote speaker Donna Luther, National Arts Educator. This session was just as much about 'doing' as 'listening.' In Donna's own marvelous way she had us one moment creating props and tools with which we worked and then, in the next moment, had us all rapt with attention as she spoke. It was a wonderful way to begin our first Annual Spring Conference.

Break out sessions and workshops continued through the morning. There were workshops in kinesiology based technique classes, grant writing, creating out-reach activities in the community, and capoeira. We then enjoyed a very productive working lunch, brainstorming together to shape the goals and direction for our new organization. The afternoon's keynote presenter was world-renown teacher, choreographer, and performer Murray Louis. Mr. Louis is known throughout the



Murray Louis

world not only as one of the great male modern dancers, but also as a uniquely gifted choreographer, teacher, writer and spokesperson for the art of dance. Murray became the principal dancer of the Alvin Nikolais Company from 1949 until 1963 when he formed his own company the Murray Louis Dance Company for which he was sole choreographer and principal dancer. He has remained Artistic Director of the combined company, Nikolais Louis Dance since Mr. Nikolais' death in May 1993. Considered one of the world's great dance teachers because of his remarkable ability to inspire students and illuminate dance concepts, Murray infuses his teaching with great wit and compassion and students from all over the world gain a remarkable understanding of dance and of themselves in the process. As a teacher/philosopher he is a prolific writer, authoring Inside Dance (St. Martin's Press, 1980) and On Dance (A Capella Books, 1993). He has also been a frequent contributor to the New York Times and Dance

Magazine. We all enjoyed the opportunity to spend the afternoon with this dance legend.

The day concluded with a banquet dinner in the Panorama Room Restaurant featuring guest speaker Jane Bonbright, Executive Director of the National Dance Education Organization. Ms. Bonbright shared with us her insights into the politics of advocacy and provided informative background information about the work the National Organization has accomplished. It made for a very full day.

Special thanks go to Marilyn Berrett, the conference committee chair, and to her amazing group of committee members who pulled the conference off without a hitch. Thanks also to Scott Marsh and the Department of Modern Dance at the University of Utah for hosting the event.

On November 2, we again met for a workshop and business meeting in the Richards Building on the Brigham Young University campus. Susan Kenney, an associate professor of music education at Brigham Young University led a workshop entitled "Finding Your Voice in Dance." Ms. Kenney has had training in ETM, Orff, Kodaly, and Dalcroze, and has served as National Chair of MENC's Society for General Music and is currently on the National Editorial Board for the Music Educators Journal. In addition to publishing many articles, pamphlets and textbook contributions, Professor Kenney has presented numerous workshops across the United States, in Russia and Ukraine. She was named "Outstanding Elementary Music Educator" and recognized for "Superior Accomplishment in Music Education" by the Utah Music Education Association. We had a wonderful time playing with rhythm and movement as we sang our way through the evening. Of course, one of the highlights of the evening was the opportunity to visit with each other, catch up on what projects everyone was involved in and enjoy the superb food arranged by dance major students in the BYU dance department. Our thanks to those students and to the Dance Department at Brigham Young University for being our hosts.

We discovered at both of these events how important it is to have the chance to be together as artist/educators. The opportunity to network with those around the state in similar teaching and performing situations is invaluable, as is the chance to meet new people and broaden our individual understanding of how dance affects the wide and diverse population of this state.

Plan Now to Attend the Second Annual Statewide Conference

Dance - Earth's Language...Let's Speak

Saturday, April 20, 2002

Jeanne Wagner Performing Arts Center, Salt Lake City

*Invited Guest Presenters • Movement Workshops • Networking Opportunities
Performance and Outreach Ideas • Organizational Planning Sessions • Vendor Exhibits
Latest National Developments in Dance Education • Great Food!*

Who should attend?

Dancers, educators in private studios and school settings, inter-disciplinary artists, PTA members, choreographers, presenters, collaborative artists, administrators and advocates, anyone interested in networking, professional development, advocacy and promoting the art form of dance as an essential educational component of life-long learning.

Schedule of Events

- 8:00 Registration, Continental Breakfast, Vendor tables open
- 8:30 Welcome, Business, Introduction of Theme
- 8:45 Keynote Speaker - Ann Green-Gilbert
- 10:45 Break and mid-morning snacks, vendor tables open
- 11:15 Break-out Session #1: movement workshops in various dance styles, panel discussions, presentations focusing on different aspects of dance as an art form - dance in education - preparing students for a career in dance
- 12:15 Break and class change
- 12:20 Break-out Session #2: More wonderful workshops
- 1:20 Break and prepare for lunch
- 1:30 Working lunch and member meeting (we provide the food!)
- 3:00 Afternoon Keynote Address and culminating activity
- 4:30 Closing Remarks from the Board
- 5:00 Adjourn

There will be special sessions for K-12 Endorsement participants

Please fill in the Conference Registration section of the membership form.

Anne Green Gilbert, our keynote speaker, is known throughout the country as a leader in children's dance education. She founded *Kaleidoscope Dance Company* and the *Creative Dance Center* in 1981. She has a M.A. in Education, has taught dance and movement at the University of Washington, and has been a consultant for the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction of Washington State, training teachers to use movement as a tool for teaching academic curriculum. Currently Anne teaches all ages at CDC and is an adjunct faculty member at Seattle Pacific University, Seattle University and Lesley College. She is the author of *Teaching the Three R's Through Movement* and *Creative Dance for All Ages: A Conceptual Approach*. Ms. Gilbert has received the prestigious American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance 1999 Honor Award for service to the field of dance and is the Past Chair of Dance and the Child International U.S.A.



ideas . . . thoughts . . . suggestions . . .

In Preparation for this year's conference . . .

we believe it is important for everyone to be thinking about the future and how UDEO can play a more important role in helping us all "do what we do." The following suggestions were the most popular ideas garnered from our conference last year. The board has been building a plan of action to weave these great suggestions with the goals of the organization and map out a timeline to see this plan come to fruition.

At the conference in April we will be discussing with you how we may best help these ideas become realities and how members of the organization can play a vital role in this endeavor. If you have additional thoughts or suggestions please bring them to share at this year's conference.

- Establish a "Dance Awareness Week," during which UDEO members in various regions of the state may collaborate on events.
- Standards based statewide performance venue adjudicated by the UDEO (similar to the state music and art competitions K-12) with recognition for the students and the teachers. These adjudicated concerts could also include entries from private studios.
- Break stereotypes about dance by providing educational opportunities addressing other cultures' approaches to the dancing body.
- Form core groups that conduct movement education seminars for elementary classroom teachers to stress the benefits of incorporating movement in everyday education.
- Provide funds to assist school groups in attending professional performances and in having those artists conduct residencies in the schools.
- Form a committee to serve as outreach to other Utah organizations and corporations.
- Create and share a directory of special skills and talents within the organization (e.g. Pilates, Swing, Alexander, Tai-Chi).
- Provide in-service workshops to our own members, as well as to other organizations, in core requirements with certification points attached.
- Provide the community with additional cultural and artistic experiences (i.e., multi-cultural festivals).
- At the conferences offer more classes in other dance forms including ballroom, ballet, musical theater, jazz, tap, etc.
- Look into putting advertisements for the organization in programs of performing groups.
- Advocacy - Educate the community that dance is an art form which combines all elements of being human - physical, mental and spiritual.
- Provide or coordinate dance retreat workshops, lectures, and performances.
- More collaboration and workshops for rural communities.
- Define feeder system in each school district and then survey to discover strengths and weaknesses of the feeder programs and open conversations to help remedy the situation.
- Provide professional conferences that are longer for more in-depth professional development.
- Facilitate writing grants and compiling a list of affordable artists to teach in schools throughout the state.
- Advocacy - Send UDEO newsletter and information about dance to administrators.
- Strengthen assessment strategies by sharing ways of demonstrating the impact of dance on the students. How can we use portfolios, videos, journals, core curriculum guides and other tools to show growth in our students?
- Web site with links to professional dance organizations, calendar of events including workshops and lectures.
- Outreach to K-12 schools to watch performances, rehearsals, classes, and discussions.
- Provide grants to UDEO members for various dance projects in their schools and studios.
- Provide scholarships for teachers to attend conferences.
- Facilitate better networking with private studios.

Dance: A Legacy of Building Bridges

June 26 – 30, 2002
Providence, Rhode Island

The **National Dance Education Organization** is joining with the **Congress On Research in Dance** to present this national conference. Share with NDEO and CORD members in bringing dance education and research into the 21 st century. Visit the NDEO web site for more information. www.ndeo.org

Welcome to our New Board Members

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our newly elected board members. Great thanks go to the paid membership for responding with your ballots.

Adeena Lago (*Secondary Education Representative*) has been teaching Dance at Granger High School for twelve years where she directs both the Modern Dance Company and the Drill Team and teaches two beginning, one intermediate and one advanced class. This, in addition to being a wife and mother of three fabulous children keeps her plenty busy. Adeena was honored as the UAHPERD Dance Educator of the year in 1999 and was named Utah 5A Drill Team Coach of the year in both 1999 and 2000. Mrs. Lago received her M.F.A. from the University of Utah in 1991 and her B.S. from BYU in 1984.

Joanne Lawrence (*Higher Education Representative*) received her B.A. Degree in Ballet from The University of Akron, in Ohio, her M.F.A. Degree in Dance from The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and additional training as a scholarship student and performer with the Alvin Ailey American Dance Center in NYC. She has performed, choreographed and taught for numerous modern dance and ballet companies throughout the eastern U.S. Joanne has pursued additional studies at the Laban Bartenieff Institute of Movement Studies, with the Society of American Fight Directors, and in West Africa. She has directed dance programs at Alfred University, New York, and Huntington College, Alabama. Currently, Joanne is the Dance Program Director at Weber State University in Ogden, Utah.

Dena Merrill (*Private Sector Representative*) began dancing with Virginia Tanner at the age of three. She performed and toured with *The Moving Company* for four years. While attending Brigham Young University she toured extensively throughout the United States and abroad teaching Master Classes and residencies, and performing with *The Dancers' Company*. Dena graduated from Brigham Young University with a degree in Dance Performance. She has since been a guest choreographer for many local Junior High and High Schools and currently is a modern dance instructor and choreographer for the Life Arts Center in Salt Lake City. She weaves several of her passions together by also being the director for Western River Expedition's "Artist Retreat" through Cataract Canyon.

Chris Roberts (*Elementary Education Representative*) started his teaching career in a self-contained class for emotionally disturbed children where he taught for 12 years until starting an inclusion model in a multi-age classroom where he has been teaching for 13 years. After watching his daughter perform in the BYU Creative Dance program, Chris started attending professional performances and fell in love with dance. In 1993 he received an Artist in Residence Grant and brought Doris Trujillo to his school. At the end of the residency, Chris took a copy of *First Steps in Teaching Creative Dance to Children* and started dancing with his students. He most recently spent two weeks in Seattle with Anne Green Gilbert (and 35 women!) honing his teaching skills.

Pearl Wagstaff-Garff (*Development Director*) is the artistic director and co-owner of Life Arts Center, a private school developing children's innate creative potential through the integrated arts, providing an effective complement to traditional academic systems. "Miss Pearl" graduated from the University of Utah under the mentoring of Dr. Elizabeth Hayes, Joan Woodbury, Shirley Ririe, Ariel Ballif, Dr. Naoma Rowan, Elaine Michelsen Evans, Dr. Jean Houston and Virginia Tanner. In addition to dance, music, art, and theater, she practices NLP and Educational Kinesiology in her work, and has continually taught children for forty-two years developing curriculum and Spirit Dancing in the Body for adults. "Miss Pearl" is currently studying Inka Tradition under Dr. Alberto Villoldo.

Maylene B. White (*Publicity Director*) received her M.F.A. in Modern Dance from the University of Utah and a B.A. from Brigham Young University. For the past nine years she has been a member of *Contemporary DanceWorks* and has been teaching in the schools from Kindergarten to college level. Currently, she is an adjunct faculty member at Utah Valley State College in Orem. The last four years she has served on the University of Utah College of Fine Arts Alumni Council and is excited to be on the UDEO board. Maylene resides in Holladay with her husband and four children.

Board Directory

We are here to serve you. Please feel free to contact the appropriate Board Officer or Representative with your questions, concerns, and suggestions.

Sara Lee Gibb
President
Sara_Lee_Gibb@byu.edu

Abby Fiat
President-Elect
abby.fiat@utah.edu

Gigi Arrington
Secretary
daveandgigi@msn.com

Brent Schneider
Treasurer
brent.schneider@utah.edu

Chris Roberts
Elementary. Ed. Rep.
rchris@inst.rees.nebo.edu

Adeena Lago
Secondary Ed. Rep.
adeena.lago@granite.k12.ut.us

Joanne Lawrence
Higher Ed. Rep.
jlawrence@weber.edu

Dena Merrill
Private Sector Rep.
dancenraft@msn.com

Doris Trujillo
Board of Ed. Rep.
trujildo@uvsc.edu

Pearl Wagstaff-Garff
Development Director
pearl@xmission.com

Maylene White
Publicity Director
maylnew@netscape.net



Haven't you always wanted to be Published?

UDEO is collecting lesson plan ideas for a bound publication to be available at the convention. We are hoping that many of you will take advantage of this opportunity to include your idea in our first annual publication. The booklets will be available at a reduced cost to those who submit ideas, and we will be inviting a few of the individuals whose entries we find the most interesting to present at the conference. This gives all of us an opportunity to publish and to have our ideas "adjudicated." Please send your lesson plan ideas to:

Adeena Lago, Granger High School, 3690 So. 3600 W., West Valley City, Utah, 84119
or E-Mail them to her at: adeena.lago@granite.k12.ut.us .

In order to expedite printing please send all lesson plans by March 20th, 2002.

In Search of an Identity

You may have noticed that there is, as yet, no name for this newsletter. We are asking for your help to name our quarterly publication. This newsletter will keep our membership up-to-date with events and activities in the state as well as provide articles of interest to our constituents. It will also provide a forum for you to express your views on issues concerning dance and dance education in our state. If you have a suggestion to give our publication a real sense of identity, please include it on your membership renewal form.

Teaching Tip

One idea I often use when teaching a modern dance technique class is to take a movement phrase the students have learned and perfected in class and layer on a creative group assignment. One that is fun is to have the

class divide into small groups and draw the name of an animal out of a hat. It is important that the animals you choose for options be inherently qualitative and highly motional. Each group then spends a short amount of time rehearsing the phrase with their chosen animal "quality," allowing the movement to change enough to take on the characteristic movement qualities of that animal without changing the basic movement of the original phrase. Have each group perform their phrases and see if the rest of the class can guess the animals each group chose.

- submitted by
Adeena Lago

Lonely Web Page

The web page for the Utah Dance Education Organization www.udeo.org is waiting for your input. You will find a performance calendar on the site which is missing many of your studios' and schools' performance dates. Please forward that information to brent.schneider@utah.edu

Beyond eBay

The Web has become a part of our daily life, whether we are fond of that idea or not. There are many wonderful sites which serve to jog the imagination or ignite a few creative sparks. Here are a few great web sites to visit. Please share with us any sites you find that you think others would enjoy. Send your suggestions to Maylene White at maylenew@netscape.net

The Arts Studio - Gateway to information and resources on arts education, arts in K-12 classrooms, and research on positive benefits of the arts.
http://www.newhorizons.org/arts_education.html

Teaching the Arts - Dance Lesson Ideas
This is an example of a unit plan integrating the arts.
http://artswork.asu.edu/AAERC/Teaching_the_Arts/compare.html

the bad news . . .

Subsequent issues of this newsletter will only be sent to UDEO members. Please join with us in supporting dance and dance education in our state and nation by becoming a member or renewing your membership.





Utah Dance Education Organization (UDEO) is dedicated to the art form of dance as an essential educational component of life-long learning. This mission is accomplished by celebrating and promoting the rich diversity of dance in Utah.

The primary Goals of the UDEO include:

- Goal 1** UDEO will develop a membership comprised of dancers, educators, choreographers, presenters, collaborative artists, administrators, dance companies, educational institutions, and advocates. This will provide an opportunity for increased effectiveness in networking, advocacy for dance, dissemination of information, and communication.

- Goal 2** UDEO will improve the quality and training of dance education in Utah by providing opportunities for creating, performing, and observing dance for all. The organization will address professional development, research and documentation, assessment and leadership.

- Goal 3** UDEO will build and support a Utah dance community that focuses on the education of the whole person in and through dance as an art and as a cultural manifestation.

www.udeo.org

UTAH ARTS COUNCIL
ARTS EDUCATION
617 E. SOUTH TEMPLE
SALT LAKE CITY UT 84102