

MINNESOTA DANCE ADVOCACY TASK FORCE
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, May 19, 2025 – 5-6PM – (hybrid)

In attendance:

Baraka de Soleil, Lizz Conteras, Mathew Janczewski, Raymond Terrill, Michael Pettie, Elsie Martin, Jim Lieberthal, Hallie Bahr, Eve Sculte and special guests Ananya Matewos and Jacqueline Zhang of Wilder Foundation.

Quick Recap:

Introduction of Ananya Matewos and Jacqueline Zhang hired as facilitators to assist the Working Community Engagement Group with specific focus groups approach and creative engagement larger community conversations. Ananya and Jacqueline shared their approach.

Next Steps:

* All who attend, read minutes and have a vested interest in dance in MN, please attend meetings when possible and share in discussion or making people aware of the group.

Timeline for the initiatives:

July

- Survey the dance community on preferred dates for community conversations
- Confirm meeting dates and secure locations

August

- Market meetings via earned media, social media, community newsletters, and printed fliers
- Collaborate with consultant to outline the structure and goals for community conversations

September / October

- Host five community conversations, led by the consultant (with support from the Engagement Committee):
 - Three in the Twin Cities
 - One in the Duluth area
 - One in the Alexandria area

November

- Consultant compiles findings from the community conversations and presents a comprehensive summary to the Engagement Committee
- Engagement Committee begins outlining possible next steps

January

- Engagement Committee shares findings and outcomes with the dance community

Key Questions:

- * Do you believe the MN Dance community ecology believes in diversity? And how do we attend to this?
- * How do we attend to differences?
- * What is a safe space and how do we make it known; must have multiple access points and ways to connect.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, July 23
10:45am (welcoming new attendees)
11:00 - 12:00pm

Join Zoom Meeting:
Meeting ID: 823 1118 1197
Passcode: 871348