
Subject: News Blast Latest Updates and Information

Date: Tuesday, 19 May 2020

From: AusDance NSW

ausDANCE NSW

Dear Lauren,

Ausdance NSW has been undertaking comprehensive impact assessment and advocacy for the NSW dance sector since the start of the public health crisis. This e-news we feature current opportunities to advocate for dance and the arts in general as well as opportunities to join sector meetings and have your say.

The dance sector is strong. Choreographers, dancers and arts workers continue to create, thrive and care for each other throughout this time of uncertainty. This is confirmed in our sector survey which showed **100% of dance artists are working on it** - transforming their practices for the current climate.

Ausdance NSW stands with our sector to support dance as an art form and those who make it. We hope the following are useful ways to contribute to the advocacy efforts and ensure our sector thrives in a post-COVID landscape.

From all of us at Ausdance NSW

-
1. **The Ausdance National Impact Survey** is still open for responses. Analysis and results from this survey have led the way in which Ausdance National have been able to tell the story of our sector. Currently NSW independent dancers and private dance training alone stands at more than a \$6 million dollar loss of income. The survey will take approx. 10 minutes to complete.

[Add your story here>>](#)

2. **We have a new Premier and Minister for the Arts.** Ausdance NSW has contacted the new Premier and Minister for the Arts. We will share her response when we receive it. Write to Premier Berejiklian and tell her about the impact of COVID-19 on your arts practice and the need for a State based arts relief package. Select 'leave a message' from the options under 'type of enquiry' on the [NSW Government website.](#)

[To view a template for a message to the Premier, visit our website here >>](#)

3. **More than 1.5 million people participate in private dance training across the country,** 800,000 of them are children. The impact of the health crisis on dance studios has been extreme. Ausdance NSW and Ausdance National have been working closely with the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) to lobby Government for clarity on when private dance education business will be able to operate and for dance studios be added to the list of businesses experiencing restrictions.

[View RAD's letter to Ausdance National here >>](#)

RAD and Ausdance NSW are working with Ausdance QLD and Ausdance National to develop an industry guide to reopening when dance studios are able to recommence activity. Guidelines will be published on our website and through our e-news as soon as possible.

4. **There is a senate enquiry into the Government's responses to COVID-19.** Please write with your thoughts and opinions. The more voices from the arts the better.

[Visit the Parliament of Australia website to submit here >>](#)

5. Ausdance NSW Projects Officer, Kate, has been convening various sector meetings weekly and fortnightly. Recently, in response to participants requests, we hosted **David Throsby to discuss the impact of the crisis on the dance sector and what the immediate future of the arts in Australia might look like.** Together with David, the group devised a list of advocacy points and learnings.

[Read the full summary here>>](#)

6. **Ausdance NSW has held 8x meetings with NSW dance artists and dance organisations.** Similarly, in partnership with Ausdance VIC, we have organised 6x interstate sector connect meetings with dance studios and dance teachers located across Victoria and NSW, the first of which reached nearly 80 attendees. We have invited, curated and convened these meetings in response to the needs identified within these gatherings. This means we have invited special guests, scheduled meetings at certain times and with varying regularity and with various parts of the dance community in direct response to what has been requested

by our dance community. For example, for studios and teachers, we have hosted employment, labour and insurance lawyer Sara Edison Rose, as well as Dr Jane Miskovic-Wheatley, a clinical psychologist who works closely with [The Arts Wellbeing Collective](#) and Dr Danielle Einstein, founder of [The dip](#) and the [COVID-19 Chilled and Considerate Program](#) for facing uncertainty. Likewise, for artists and organisations, we have so far hosted cultural economics Distinguished Professor David Throsby AO (Macquarie University) in a special webinar focussing on the post-corona funding landscape for the Australian arts industry.

If you're an independent artist or a small-medium dance organisation, please join us for our **next artist and organisation meeting 6-7pm Wednesday 27 May** (details to come). If you're a dance studio owner and/or a dance teacher, please stay tuned for our next gathering tentatively Thursday 28 May (time TBC). We are continuously looking for how we can best support the dance community at this time. If you have any concerns, thoughts or needs right now or would like to be added to our guest list of arts workers for either of these dance sector meetings, don't hesitate to get in touch with us at admin@dance.net.au.

7. Last week we conducted a **social media campaign** for Ausdance National to survey who in the dance sector were not able to access JobSeeker and JobKeeper. We learned that 52% of dancers and workers in the dance industry are NOT eligible for either scheme. Julie Dyson, Ausdance National President used this information in the weekly roundtable meeting with Paul Fletcher.

8. **It is not too late to register for our Annual General Meeting.** Everyone is welcome to attend. Only Ausdance NSW members will receive the meeting documents and voting privileges on resolutions.

[Click Here for more information >>](#)

To get in touch about your membership email admin@dance.net.au

9. Ausdance National is recruiting for new Board members.

[Click Here for more information >>](#)

10. Get behind Aussie Film and TV and enter MEAA's competition, the [Great Australian Binge](#)
[>>](#)

Did you know?

Within 10 days for the crisis hitting our flagship program DAIR moved online with artists Alice Weber, Emily Flannery, Amy Flannery and Ryuichi Fujimura. Follow us on Instagram at @ausdance_nsw for beautiful photos and public online sharings details.



ARE YOU OK

The National Dance Sector Survey has identified mental health is impacting NSW greatly. Our emotional wellbeing at times like this is just as important as our physical health. If you are experiencing increased anxiety due to the COVID-19 pandemic, or someone you know, here are some helpful links and numbers for you to call. Know that you are not alone.

International Association for Dance Medicine and science is offering webinars, podcasts and other resources specifically aimed for dancers.

Performing Artists' Mental Health and COVID-19 Webinar Series: This webinar is the inaugural mental health session for professionals who work with performing artists and, in particular, professional and pre-professional dancers. [Learn More](#)

DanceWell: This podcast offers perspectives from 5 different healthcare practitioners on some similar themes, including anxiety, abundant creativity, and strangely, a heightened awareness of community. [Dancing through COVID-19](#)

The Dance Docs Podcasts: This podcast provides dance-specific support, resources, and hygiene considerations.

[Coping with COVID-19: Dance Specific Recommendations](#) with Kathleen Davenport, MD & Kathleen Bowers, PT

Support Act Wellbeing Helpline 1800 959 500 – a free, confidential service, available 24/7 to anyone who works in the performing arts. We are doing our very best to keep up with the additional demand, but there may be a slight delay. If you or someone you know is at immediate risk, please contact the Emergency Services on 000.

This Way Up - St Vincents Hospital and UNSW - available free for the duration of COVID-19

<https://thiswayup.org.au/>

Phone **Lifeline** 13 11 14, Beyond Blue 1300 224 636 or [click here for additional services](#).

Entertainment Assist Call for Free Mental Health Services for Australian Entertainment Industry Workers

Visit '[Looking after your mental health during the coronavirus outbreak](#)' from **Beyond Blue**.

QUESTIONS? HIT US UP...

Susan Doel: manager@dance.net.au

Lauren Vassallo: marketing@dance.net.au

Kate Maguire Rosier: projects@dance.net.au

Remi Harvey: admin@dance.net.au

All marketing requests need to be submitted by Thursday at 5 pm to qualify for weekend social media posts. All e-news inquiries by Friday 5 pm for the following Monday inclusion.

From the Team at Ausdance NSW

We acknowledge and respect the Traditional Custodians of the Lands on which we live and dance.



Ausdance NSW
The Arts Exchange

10 Hickson Rd, The Rocks
02 9256 4800
admin@dance.net.au



[Click here if you wish to unsubscribe](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)

10 Hickson Road
The Rocks, NSW 2000