



PRESS CONTACT

Sarah Tondu

tondu@americandancefestival.org

Mobile: 919-270-9100

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**AMERICAN DANCE FESTIVAL AWARDED \$20,000
FOR PARKINSON'S MOVEMENT INITIATIVE**

Durham, NC, July 28, 2021—The Parkinson’s Foundation announced the recipients of more than \$2.2 million in community grants for Parkinson’s programs across the country. Community grants support local health, wellness, and educational programs that address unmet needs in the Parkinson’s disease (PD) community. American Dance Festival (ADF) was awarded \$20,000 for the Parkinson’s Movement Initiative (PMI), which provides weekly cost-free dance and Pilates classes for individuals living with PD and their caregivers.

“We are pleased to be able to provide these community grants and to expand programs and resources throughout the Parkinson’s community,” said John L. Lehr, Parkinson’s Foundation president and chief executive officer. “Every one of these grant recipients shares our commitment to making life better for people with Parkinson’s disease.”

The Parkinson’s Foundation awarded more than \$2.2 million in community grants, ranging from a minimum of \$5,000 to a maximum of \$25,000 per grant application. This year’s grant cycle focused on three areas, including programs that provide services for diverse and underserved populations, initiatives that reach the newly diagnosed, and programs that address mental health and Parkinson’s. Of the \$2.2 million being granted, \$1.6 million will help fund essential programs that focus on diverse and underserved Parkinson’s communities.

“ADF could not be more grateful to the Parkinson’s Foundation for its continued support of the Parkinson’s Movement Initiative,” said Jodee Nimerichter, ADF Executive Director. “Since our program’s founding in collaboration with NC Dance for Parkinson’s and Poe Wellness Solutions in 2017, PMI has served over 300 unique individuals and has fostered a meaningful community among participants. Expanding our reach in 2021-2022, PMI will livestream two of our four weekly in-person classes at ADF’s Samuel H. Scripps Studios to continue to reach individuals remotely, relieving transportation barriers to this cost-free program.”

Programs funded by the Parkinson’s Foundation community grants also include wellness, dance, music therapy, and educational programs that help people with Parkinson’s live better with the disease. These programs will benefit communities in 40 states across the country.

-MORE-

HONORARY CHAIRPERSONS

Mrs. Laura Bush
Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
Mrs. George Bush (1925-2018)
Mrs. Nancy Reagan (1921-2016)
Mrs. Rosalynn Carter
Mrs. Betty Ford (1918–2011)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Curt C. Myers, *Chairman*
Jodee Nimerichter, *President*
Rebecca B. Elvin, *Secretary*
Charles L. Reinhart, *Director Emeritus*
Bernard E. Bell
Nancy P. Carstens
Natalie W. Dunn
Richard E. Feldman, Esq.
James Frazier, Ed.D.
Susan T. Hall, Ph.D.
Diane B. Linfors
Christine Mark
Carlton Midyette
Adam Reinhart, Ph.D.
Arthur H. Rogers III
Judith Sagan
Rosemarie Sweeney
Tallman Trask III

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Robby Barnett
Brenda Brodie
Ronald K. Brown
Martha Clarke
Laura Dean
Mark Dendy
Eiko and Koma
Garth Fagan
William Forsythe
Anna Halprin
Stuart Hodes
Gerri Houlihan
Dave Hurlbert
Bill T. Jones
Alex Katz
Anne Teresa De Keersmaeker
Lar Lubovitch
Akaji Maro
Meredith Monk
Carman Moore
Mark Morris
Martha Myers, *Dean Emeritus*
Ohad Naharin
Stephen Petronio
Ted Rotante
Yoko Shinfune
Twyla Tharp
Michael Tracy
Doug Varone
Shen Wei
Jawole Willa Jo Zollar

Jodee Nimerichter, *Executive Director*
Leah Cox, *Dean*
Ruth S. Day, *Cognitive Scientist in Residence*

Box 90772 | Durham, NC 27708
919.684.6402 | fax 919.684.5459
adf@americandancefestival.org

american dance festival.org

Since 2011, the Parkinson's Foundation has funded more than 580 community-based programs that help address unmet needs for people with PD. To see the full list of the 2021 community grant recipients, visit [Parkinson.org/CommunityGrants](https://www.parkinson.org/CommunityGrants).

About the Parkinson's Foundation

The Parkinson's Foundation makes life better for people with Parkinson's disease by improving care and advancing research toward a cure. In everything we do, we build on the energy, experience and passion of our global Parkinson's community. Since 1957, the Parkinson's Foundation has invested more than \$368 million in Parkinson's research and clinical care. Connect with at [Parkinson.org](https://www.parkinson.org), Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or call (800) 4PD-INFO (473-4636).

About Parkinson's Disease

Affecting an estimated one million Americans and 10 million worldwide, Parkinson's disease is the second-most common neurodegenerative disease after Alzheimer's and is the 14th-leading cause of death in the United States. It is associated with a progressive loss of motor control (e.g., shaking or tremor at rest and lack of facial expression), as well as non-motor symptoms (e.g., depression and anxiety). There is no cure for Parkinson's and 60,000 new cases are diagnosed each year in the United States alone.

About ADF:

Throughout its 88-year history, ADF has been a nationally recognized leader in our indigenous art form of modern dance. Generations of dancers and choreographers have come to ADF as students, taught as faculty, and created and performed work as professional artists. Each summer, ADF has been the beating heart of the dance world. The best companies in the world premiere work on ADF's stage, much of it commissioned by the festival. Other festivals and season programs are measured against ADF. Over 25,000 people see performances by more than 20 companies each season. The festival has commissioned 442 works and premiered over 700 pieces including dances by Martha Graham, Merce Cunningham, and Paul Taylor. Each summer at ADF, more than 300 students from some 28 countries and 38 states study with ADF's 70 faculty members. They come as kids in leotards with as many doubts as dreams. They leave as dancers and artists—and sometimes even new members of companies. Lives change in those 5½ sweaty weeks. Beyond the summer, ADF maintains year-round dance studios offering movement classes to over 650 participants, provides over 180 free classes to almost 4,000 local dancers, and offers choreographic residencies providing artists with the necessary space and time to create. [americandancefestival.org](https://www.americandancefestival.org).

###