

The National Center for Choreography at The University of Akron

NEWS RELEASE

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AKRON, Ohio — The **Akron Community Foundation** has awarded \$7,500 in general operating support to The **National Center for Choreography at The University of Akron (NCCAkron)** to support research and development in dance through group discussions, Dancing Labs, residencies, and bringing world-class artists to Northeast Ohio

“Akron Community Foundation support allows NCCAkron to do its work advocating for the art form and to be a space of experimentation for both dance artists and audiences,” says NCCAkron’s Executive/Artistic Director **Christy Bolingbroke**. “NCCAkron aspires for dance to be a more central part of American life and culture,” says Bolingbroke. “But some of our existing systems and formats for sharing and seeing dance have created some unintentional barriers that keep the uninitiated from feeling welcome or ‘smart enough’ to understand what they see on stage. NCCAkron’s public programming is meant to demystify dance and invites audiences to share in the creative process.”

Originally beta-tested as an offline experience in 2018, NCCAkron has embraced the COVID moment as an opportunity to create **Virtual Dance Club** - a place for audience members to practice watching and talking about dance, no matter their comfort level or experience with the art form. The program is free, limited to small groups of eight participants at a time, and will take place on select weekday evenings throughout the summer.

One past Dance Clubber Josy Jones wrote in Akron’s *The Devil Strip*, “You don’t have to be a dancer to appreciate dance and you don’t have to like everything you see. However, if you’re given the tools, the world of dance opens up and it is satisfying to explore.”

Virtual Dance Club is held on Thursday and Friday nights, at 7pm. Upcoming dates include:

June 25 & 26

July 9 & 10

July 23 & 24

August 13 & 14
August 27 & 28

Visit nccakron.org/dance-club for more information and to register in advance.

About

The National Center for Choreography at The University of Akron (NCCAkron) supports the research and development of new work in dance by exploring the full potential of the creative process. In addition to offering studio and technical residencies to make new work, activities focus on catalyzing dialogue and experimentation; creating proximity among artists and dance thinkers; and aggregating resources around dance making. For more information, visit www.nccakron.org.

Funding Credits

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