

Raising the Barre: Curriculum for the Next Generation of Leadership in Dance

DDP completed the second season of Raising the Barre to expand upon the robust toolkit of resources, interviews, and deliverables that we offer our viewers. To develop a second season that builds upon the success of the first, we implemented feedback received from candidates, search firms, boards, and others in the dance ecosystem. This input has encouraged DDP to open the aperture of the equity lens to include the role of boards of directors in searches.

Episodes from Season Two of Raising the Barre:

- Kacie Sassano, Co-Founder and President of The Proper Group and Elizabeth Yntema, Founder and President of DDP on Navigating the Art of Donor Relations
- Danni Gee, Director of Programming at Joyce Theater: Embracing the Zigzag: The Nonlinear Path of an Arts Career
- Rachel S. Moore, President and CEO of The Music Center: Creating the Performing Arts Center of the 21st Century
- Adam W. McKinney, Artistic Director of Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre: Creating an Effective Community Engagement Program
- Linda-Denise Fisher-Harrell, Artistic Director of Hubbard Street Dance Chicago: Rescue, Recovery & Re-Birth: Reimagining a Company
- Jawole Willa Jo Zollar, Company Founder of Urban Bush Women: Dream Big: Realizing A Vision By Founding a Company and Choreographing an Opera

All Raising the Barre episodes and their accompanying resources can be found here.

DDP "Talks To"

DDP interviews new & emerging talents as well as current leaders in the dance world: choreographers, art directors, journalists, dancers, set/lighting/costume designers, patrons, festival/venue programmers, etc.

DDP "Talks To" interviews from 2024 include conversations with the following leaders in dance:

- DDP Talks To Ana María Álvarez CONTRA-TIEMPO
- DDP Talks To Heather Myers Ballet BC
- DDP Talks To Eduardo Vilaro Ballet Hispánico
- 4. DDP Talks To Shira Greenberg Keshet Dance Company
- 5. DDP Talks To Anna Lisa Wilkins Ballet Rhode Island
- 6. DDP Talks To Vicki Parsons Ballet Austin
- 7. DDP Talks To Allison Orr Forklift Danceworks
- 8. Choreographer Profile: Jessica Lang
- 9. Choreographer Profile: Camille A. Brown
- 10. Director Profile: Francesca Zambello
- 11. Choreographer Profile: Stephanie Martinez
- 12. Director Profile: Phil Chan

View all DDP "Talks To" interview here.

Listening Tour

DDP's Listening Tour was started to create dialogue with artistic and executive leadership that promotes female leaders, artists, and dancers. Our President & Founder, Elizabeth Yntema, has traveled to dozens of dance companies across the United States to learn about their practices, culture, and work.

This year, our Listening Tour took us to:

- Oregon Ballet Theatre
- A.I.M by Kyle Abraham
- Atlanta Ballet
- Kaatsbaan Culture Park

DDP In The News

Since our launch in 2019, DDP has been heavily featured in the press. In 2024, DDP was cited, recommended, or commended in the following publications, programs, and articles:

The Ark BNN Breaking Broadway World Classic Chicago Magazine Dance Magazine Dance/NYC Dance Worker Digest Inside Philanthropy KERA News KLCC L.A. Dance Chronicle Lyric Opera of Chicago Oregon Art Beat Teen Vogue Oregon ArtsWatch Orlando Sentinel NBC News Newcity Datebook The Spotted Cat Magazine The Utah Review WTOP

Speaking Engagements and Podcasts

Expanding our speaking engagements and podcasts further amplifies our mission of promoting gender equity in dance. By sharing our research and insights with diverse audiences, we spark meaningful conversations, inspire action, and broaden awareness of the systemic challenges facing women in the industry. Through these engagements, we can connect with new partners, foster collaboration, and ensure that our data-driven advocacy reaches those who can drive meaningful change.

- Pennsylvania Dance Education Organization (PaDEO) 2024 Summit
- 2024 Women in Dance Leadership Conference
- CI to Eye Podcast: Choreographing Change With Data
- International Parenting and Dance Network Seminar Texas Tech University

Academic Outreach

At DDP, we are deeply committed to academic outreach as a facet of our mission to advance gender equity in the dance industry. By providing institutions with access to our meticulously researched and comprehensive reports, we not only facilitate scholarly research but also enrich academic curricula and foster critical conversations about systemic challenges and opportunities within the arts. Our data-driven insights are designed to serve as a catalyst for meaningful change, empowering educators, researchers, and students to champion equity and representation in their own spheres of influence.

As part of this initiative, we are proud to maintain and expand a rapidly growing network of academic partners and collaborators. For example, our visit to Texas Christian University in May 2024 reflects our dedication to engaging a diverse range of institutions, from prestigious universities to emerging arts programs, ensuring that our findings reach a broad audience with the potential to drive innovation and progress. By equipping academic leaders with a growing library of research on all aspects of the dance economy, we inspire and inform the next generation of advocates for equity and excellence in the arts, transforming the cultural landscape for years to come.