

2017 Boston Dance Alliance Retreat and Rehearsal Fellowship Applicant Information

Application deadline: November 18, 2016 at 5 p.m.

Boston Dance Alliance's 2017 Rehearsal and Retreat Fellowship provides two experienced choreographic fellows with the opportunity to experiment, take risks, and build the skills to develop and advance original ensemble work without the requirement of completing a work or presenting a finished performance.

BDA Rehearsal and Retreat Fellowship specifically *recognizes the contribution of dancers*. Further, it underscores the value of building long-term working relationships between choreographers and dancers.

Since 2008, when the first fellowships were awarded, the BDA Rehearsal and Retreat Fellowship has been one of our marquee programs. Based on the knowledge and experience of former grantees, it is now enhanced and improved to offer its grantees more flexibility.

This special opportunity, made possible by the Aliad Fund at The Boston Foundation, is valued at \$10,000 per fellowship.

How does it work?

Boston Dance Alliance's Rehearsal and Retreat Fellowship is built around two components.

One component is a required three-day, two night retreat that provides a choreographer and that choreographer's dancers with an opportunity to work together for an uninterrupted period.

The second component is designed based on a menu of options that can be tailored to the grantee's preferences.

Choreographers may schedule the two components in any order. Grantees may also use the resources of this fellowship at the beginning of their choreographic process, midway through their process, or in the final stages of a project. The fellowship must be completed within 18 months, but completing the fellowship within one year is strongly encouraged.

Phase I: Retreat

The centerpiece of the Boston Dance Alliance's Rehearsal and Retreat Fellowship is a required three-day/two night retreat at a regional retreat center within 200 miles of Boston.

For this retreat, the choreographers may bring up to 6 dancers, or may choose to bring a minimum of 3 dancers and up to two artistic collaborators, such as a designer, dramaturg or composer.

- Retreat participants, including the choreographer, will be paid \$100 per day for their participation in the retreat.
- Lodging, food, and mileage to the retreat center are covered by the fellowship budget.
- Retreat expenses may include onsite childcare, see application for details.

Grantees will be provided a list of 2017 retreat sites upon the announcement of their award. Choreographers also are encouraged to identify alternate regional retreat sites to be negotiated and approved by BDA.

Phase II: Mix and Match

Choreographers have the option of using the support of the BDA fellowship according to their own needs, within the constraints of the fellowship budget.

Because the BDA Rehearsal and Retreat Fellowship is designed to enhance processes that will build strong relationships among choreographers and dancers over time, it is strongly recommended that the same dancers participate in Phases I and II.

Options include

- * Extending the retreat period or scheduling a second retreat or two mini-retreats.
- * Paying additional Boston-based dancers during the retreat period
- * Payment for the dancers during an extended rehearsal period. Rehearsal hours are paid at \$10/hour for up to 72 hours and up to 6 dancers.
- * Engaging a teacher to work with the dancers to develop specialized skills either during the retreat or during an in-town rehearsal period. Grantees must explain how such training will contribute to the choreographic work, and all outside teachers must be approved in writing by BDA.

Note: Grantees do not have to specify their choice in the application process

Who is eligible?

- Applicants must be current BDA members at the time of application and throughout the fellowship period.
- Applicants must be residents of the Boston metropolitan area.
- Choreographers must have been creating original work for a *minimum* of four years and have presented the equivalent of one full evening (60 minutes) of their own work within the past two years.
- Students enrolled in either undergraduate or graduate dance or theatre programs are not eligible. Full-time students in non-performance related programs are eligible, but

please check with dcash@bostondancealliance.org for guidance before you apply, as you may need to add an explanation to your application.

- Prior fellows who received grants 2012/2013 or earlier are permitted to apply.

How are grantees selected?

The BDA Rehearsal and Retreat fellows are chosen based on an application that includes both written and video components. Panelists are experts in the dance field and rotate every year. Applicants who are not selected are encouraged to apply in future years.

Special things you should know about the BDA Retreat and Rehearsal Fellowship

- Because the BDA R&R fellowship is designed to contribute to the local creative economy, dancers who live outside the Boston metropolitan area cannot be paid from these funds. They may, however, participate in the retreat and/or rehearsals and be paid at the choreographer's expense.
- BDA R&R does not cover the cost of rehearsal space rental
- Collaborators such as designers, composers and dramaturgs can only be paid from fellowship funds when resident at the retreat(s).

Fellowship visibility

- All BDA fellows are listed on the BDA website.
- Grantees are encouraged to post photos, videos and blog items of their fellowship experience to social media. Such materials will be incorporated into future BDA publicity and marketing for the program.
- BDA R&R Fellows are invited to perform brief excerpts of their work at the BDA Gala or other special events
- BDA R&R Fellows are invited to share their regular season performance calendars with BDA and participate in Welcome aBoard, which invites BDA Board members and their friends to attend local performances and workshops.

Reporting requirements

- Grantees will be required to submit a report that identifies dancers and dates of their participation
- Grantees may invoice BDA every 30 days for incurred fees
- Upon completion, grantees will be required to submit a brief narrative report about their experience during the Rehearsal and Retreat Fellowship

- Funds will be disbursed to the choreographers to distribute and BDA will supply a MISC-1099 at the end of the year. Choreographers are responsible for all tax liabilities.