



2019 - 2020

ANNUAL REPORT

JODIE RANDOLPH DANCE

ARTISTIC PERSONNEL

Artistic Director | Jodie Randolph
YDI Ann Arbor Director | Megan Scheppelman
Dancers | Sam Assemany, Claire Little, Darion
Mayrand, Megan Scheppelman
Photographer | Lauren Smith

ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL

Executive Director | Jodie Randolph
Executive Assistant | Joey Mattar
Digital Media + Brand Manager | Lauren Smith

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kathy King, Chair
Megan Scheppelman, Secretary
Jodie Randolph, Member



EXECUTIVE LETTER

2019-2020 marked some significant opportunities for Jodie Randolph Dance. Fueled by the company's vision to cultivate curiosity and courage, the board of directors met for an annual retreat to discover how these values will be put into action.

With the support of the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts, JRD received its first grant award for operational support in the fall of 2019. This provided several opportunities for growth and innovation across the board. During this time, Jodie and the dancers took her newest work, *Two Twelve*, on tour to various US cities and festivals including Minneapolis, Boston, and New York City.

With the support of the Weikart Family Foundation, YDI had a robust season! YDI launched a new project called Emerging Choreographer's Project, where applicants submitted work to set a full-length piece on the YDI company. Alyssa Brutlag of Toledo was selected as the winner and her work, *Body Talks: A Trilogy*, premiered downtown Detroit for YDI's annual concert in collaboration with other youth companies around the state.

Our staff worked tirelessly to provide virtual learning and programming for our audiences and students during the shutdown. The company worked to cultivate community in the professional dance scene locally by starting a fund for Michigan companies suffering from losses due to COVID-19.

JRD looks hopefully to the future and wishing you all well and that you are staying safe!

In Gratitude,

Kathy King
Board Chair

VISION

To cultivate curiosity and courage through dance.

PERFORMANCE

JRD is proud to serve the Ann Arbor community and beyond. The professional dancers toured Jodie Randolph's work around the country in 2019. Their performances included the Boston Contemporary Dance Festival where they performed an excerpt of Jodie Randolph's work *Two Twelve* for an audience of 700 people, as well as two more performances for over 200 people each. Audiences totaled approximately 2000 patrons in total for the 2019-2020 season.

EDUCATION + OUTREACH

YDI student dancers are given opportunities to engage in outreach in the community, along with their dance training experience. JRD professionals were part of a weekly dance class open for public participation. Due to the global pandemic, all of our services were moved online in March. This included our live/online classes which reached approximately 300 people. Listed below, these educational events and classes were held throughout the year in various locations with the following number of participants: Boys & Girls Club - 100; Kids One-Day Intensive - canceled due to COVID; Open Classes - approx. 200; Creative Residencies (two Events) - 25, 150; Winter One Day Intensive - 30; Summer One Day Intensive (virtual) - 20; Gilbert Residence (assisted living) - 25; Silver Maples (assisted Living) - 50; Open Rehearsal (critical response) - 9; Escuela Avencemos - 90; Youth Dance Day - canceled due to COVID; Kids One Day Intensive - canceled due to COVID.

YOUNG DANCERS INITIATIVE

YDI seeks to educate and assist high school aged students working toward a professional career in dance. Exposure to concert dance helps to bridge the gap between high school and college programs and/or professional careers. These student dancers produced their annual concert titled *Embodied*, presented to an audience of 88. Board members, parents of the student dancers, along with other volunteers were instrumental in putting on this production by assisting with ticket and lobby sales, ticket takers, handing out programs, and ushers. This helps Jodie Randolph Dance keep the cost of the production to a minimum that allows to keep ticket prices affordable for our audiences. At two local assisted living facilities, the YDI student dancers performed for residents in both Ypsilanti and Chelsea, Michigan. YDI also facilitated virtual webinars with esteemed dance professionals from around the country. These webinars were open and free to the public and covered a wide range of topics including audition tips, resume building, and nutrition for dancers.



MISSION STATEMENT

To construct movement experiences that emphasize the creative process as a tool for connectivity.

COVID-19 IMPACT

Due to COVID-19, our programming has changed significantly. JRD is working around the clock to ensure we are still providing online content and programming for dancers and our communities. One example is our Quarreling with Quarantine (QQ) movement series. QQ is a 30-day guide with improvisation prompts that can be done from home each day. We noticed that this "challenge" sparked great dialogue on our Instagram and Facebook pages over the duration of quarantine.

YDI also has many virtual programs that can be done from home due to COVID-19. YDI Artistic Directors have been hosting "Midday Moves" which is a daily movement practice on Instagram live every weekday at 3:00pm. YDI offers a full movement class every Sunday for free on Instagram.

Another way that we've broadened our audience during this time is through our free webinars via zoom. These webinars cover a wide variety of topics that plague our industry, and feature professionals from around the world (Detroit, New York, Tel Aviv).

These virtual programs have immensely broadened our community reach and we are excited to continue fostering these online communities, in addition to our in-person activities. This has inspired JRD to continue to expand our reach and provide dance opportunities to more people.

JRD began an online feedback form in order to provide dancers and choreographers with feedback to the work they were hoping to take to festivals, competitions, and performances before such things were canceled.

Lastly, due to COVID-19, JRD has organized and facilitated the Michigan Professional Dance Relief Fund. By reaching out to all professional dance companies in the state, we put together a fundraiser that has raised over \$5000 to be split evenly among those companies financially affected by the statewide lockdown.

SUPPORT

Thank you to the following JRD Supporters:



The Weikart
Family Foundation