



Call for Artists

SCUBA 2014: National Touring Network for Dance

Co-presented by Velocity Dance Center (Seattle), Ritz Theater (Minneapolis), ODC Theater (San Francisco) and Philadelphia Dance Projects

Due Date: June 17, 2013 – 6 PM *NEW!

Date of notification: July 1, 2013

Return materials to: Velocity Dance Center

kim@velocitydancecenter.org

or 1621 12th Ave, Suite 100, Seattle, WA 98122

Diving into touring...the SCUBA National Touring Network for Dance, has successfully achieved its goal of touring nationally emerging artists to and from the participating cities of Seattle, San Francisco, Minneapolis and Philadelphia. SCUBA strives to present artists through co-operative presenting, and with the goal of connecting artists with professional venues and creative peers. Artists SCUBA has helped cultivate from local to national recognition include: KT Niehoff/Lingo Dance, zoe/juniper, SaltHorse, Amy O'Neal, Allie Hankins, Morgan Thorsen (Minneapolis), Emily Johnson (Minneapolis), Tania Isaac (Philly), Kunst Stoff (SF), Levy Dance (SF); and many more.

SCUBA was catalyzed in 2002 by Velocity co-founder KT Niehoff. As a working artist, Niehoff was frustrated with the limited opportunities available for choreographers to tour in the US. Choreographers were (and still are) largely left to their own devices to develop the necessary relationships, resources, and track record to tour their work. SCUBA was created to help artists get their work on the road. A key dynamic of SCUBA is:

Everyone's got skin in the game.

SCUBA is a partnership between the participating venues and artists; and the funding they are *both* able to bring to the table. The presenters provide the full weight of their institutional support in the form of space, staff, marketing, and tech; plus a small fee. The SCUBA award helps artists leverage their own fundraising, but artists are also encouraged to think strategically about the nature and scale of the work they propose to keep costs manageable.

NEW EXCITING CHANGES to SCUBA'14

All artists will receive an award of \$4,500 to tour all four partner presenters: Velocity Dance Center (Seattle), ODC Theater (San Francisco), Philadelphia Dance Projects (Philadelphia) and the Ritz Theater (Minneapolis). The SCUBA residency will vary in each city but will include performances on a shared program with all SCUBA artists, plus engagement activities. Seattle SCUBA artists will also be commissioned to create a new work to premiere in Seattle on the SCUBA shared-bill. The Scuba commission includes rehearsal space through a Creative Residency, administrative support and a commissioning fee. Application details: attached or go to velocitydancecenter.org

SCUBA APPLICATION



Required Artist Attributes:

- Artists who have produced/presented choreography locally for several years, but have not yet moved into regular national touring.
- Artists who are looking to begin their national touring experience.
- Artists who have developed dance work ready for a small-scale tour.
- Previous SCUBA recipients may not apply within a four-year period.
- All applicants must have produced choreography while living in Seattle.

Artists selected to tour will receive the following:

- **Award:** All artists will receive a \$4500 toward touring to all four cities/venues.
- **Produced Performances:** All artists will receive fully produced performances in Seattle, San Francisco, Philadelphia and Minneapolis.
- **Engagement Activities:** Artists will participate in activities surrounding their performances, such as post-show discussions, possible teaching opportunities
- **Marketing /PR:** The co-presenters will provide full Marketing/PR for the artists.
- **Technical Support:** Tech production support will be provided for the performances, including light design, overall technical direction, and light and sound operators. Technical equipment as owned by the co-presenters will be provided. A reasonable attempt will be made to accommodate any special needs, subject to time and budget constraints and consistent with the evening's format; however artists may be asked to bear some or all of the cost of unusual production elements they request.
- **A commission:** All Seattle artists will receive a Creative Residency to support the creation of a new work to premiere (as an excerpt or in full) during Seattle's SCUBA Performance.

Please be aware that: SCUBA is a low budget initiative and a shared evening format with limited tech support for the performances. You are encouraged to apply with material that is easily adapted to a new theater space, with minimal tech requirements, and suitable for a shared evening. Each city designs its SCUBA program slightly differently. Some will provide housing, others won't. Artists should consider seriously the resources at hand for making this project work successfully for them. Despite this limited budget, artists have enjoyed participating and gleaned much from SCUBA. Putting their work before different audiences, meeting artists from other cities, and observing creating and presenting "infrastructure" has been of great value.

Selection Process and Criteria:

1. Between 3 and 6 choreographers/choreographic collaborations will be selected by a Seattle panel. The panel shall not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, creed, sexual preference or national origin. The panel is open to all aesthetics presented, with a particular interest in innovative approaches to any given form or style.
2. This roster of Seattle artists will then be offered to the selection committees in Minneapolis, San Francisco and Philadelphia, who will make the final decisions about artists to participate in SCUBA 2014 by July 1, 2013.

Applicants must submit the following materials:

1. **Project Description:** PDF submitted to kim@velocitydancecenter.org.



- Company name, Lead Artist(s) name, address, phone numbers and e-mail.
- b. Describe your readiness to tour. Do you have the support necessary to successfully accomplish a SCUBA tour?
 - c. How would participating in SCUBA at this time be important or valuable to your development as an artist? (1 page max)
 - d. Describe the work you intend to tour, its past performance history and any modifications you would make if asked to tour the work to new venues.
 - e. Discuss any technical issues the presenters should be aware of and if appropriate, how you would modify the work to make it tour ready.

2. **Artist Resume:** PDF to kim@velocitydancecenter.org
3. **Press Kit or Website:** If you have a web-based press kit, please provide a link to kim@velocitydancecenter.org
4. **Work Sample:** Please submit all samples on one DVD, or as hyperlinks to kim@velocitydancecenter.org. If you will be presenting work at the On the Boards 2013 Northwest New Works festival, this can count as one of your work samples – please make note of it on your application.

Please submit your strongest work samples, preferably created within the past few years. Indicate clearly which piece is your first choice to tour, and include this piece in its entirety. You are encouraged to include up to two other works for consideration, knowing if they are selected you may be contacted for more information. DVD must be chaptered with individual pieces on separate chapters. Please also clearly label the DVD (case and disc) with your name and titles.

5. **Work Sample Information Sheet** (1-2 pages) PDF to kim@velocitydancecenter.org

Clearly indicate the entire contents of the DVD, and for each individual piece:

- a. Running time
- b. When and where the piece on the sample was performed
- c. When the piece premiered
- d. Your role(s) in the work: choreographer, co-choreographer, performer, etc.
- e. Other information the panel will find useful when considering your work.
- f. Clearly label the DVD (both case and media) with your name and the name(s) of the pieces.

If you are chosen for inclusion in the roster, you may be asked to produce 3 additional copies of your application plus a tour budget for Velocity to send to its SCUBA partners.

Application Due Date: Tuesday June 17, 2013 6PM
kim@velocitydancecenter.org
Velocity, 1621 12th Ave, Suite 100, Seattle, WA 98122

SCUBA 2014 touring artists announced July 1, 2013

Contact Program Coordinator Kim Lusk (kim@velocitydancecenter.org) or call 206-325-8773 with questions.