



M/D

MORDANCE

NEW YORK

Annual Report
2021

Creating a more inclusive landscape for
the future of ballet

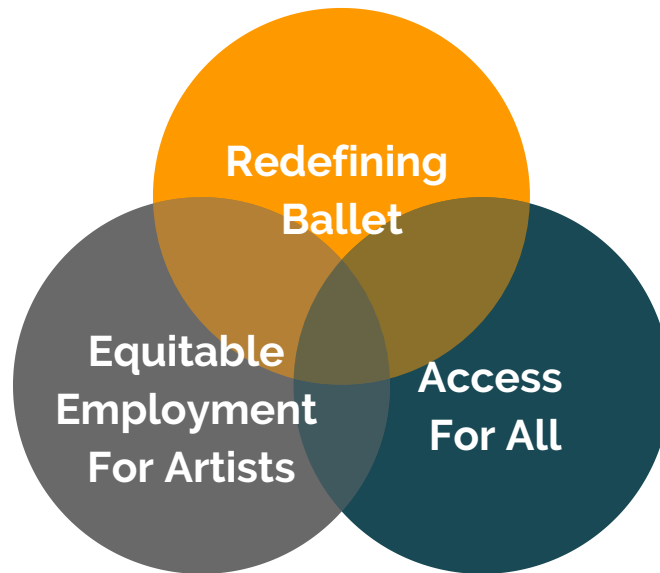
MorDance, a trailblazing ballet company, champions artistry and challenges tradition through original collaborative works committed to providing access to dance performance and education.

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MorDance's overall vision is embodied through



Access For All

MorDance's commitment to making dance accessible to all is present throughout the organization including its historically low ticket prices, free annual student performance, and youth workshops in economically disadvantaged districts.

Equitable Employment for Artists

From breathtaking performances to immersive in-school workshops, MorDance artists inspire awe and encourage creative expression across audiences. The artists stand as advocates for equal opportunity and representatives of the future of ballet, hailing from diverse backgrounds and identities. Without dancers, MorDance simply would not exist.

Redefining Ballet

The overarching goal of MorDance is to expand the possibilities of classical ballet by challenging its problematic precedents from within. Taking a multifaceted approach, the company works to break down barriers of inequality and cultivate an empowered and nurturing environment for artistic expression and exploration.



Dear Friends of MorDance,

After the challenges of 2020 I am thrilled to announce that 2021 brought MorDance a year filled with surpassed goals, impactful collaborations and performances, and new audiences touched by the art of ballet. As we move through the new year we will continue to champion artistry and challenge tradition through original collaborative works and with a continued commitment to providing access to dance performance and education for all New Yorker's.

MorDance's commitment to making dance accessible to all was present throughout our 2021 season reaching over 450 students in some of NYC's most underserved school districts, performing for free to an audience of over 1,500 people at Battery Dance Festival, and offering thousands of people the opportunity to look into our rehearsals from August-October during our NYC Open Culture rehearsals.

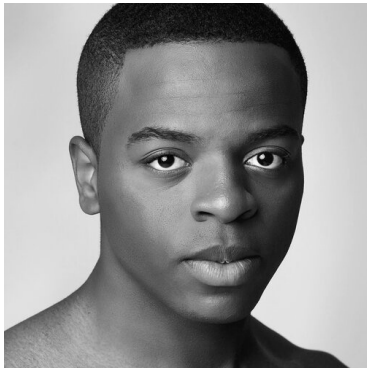
MorDance's conception of artistic excellence is inseparable from its commitment to accessibility and creativity. To achieve artistic excellence is not only to combine technical prowess with innovative expression, but to consistently articulate beyond words a notion that is deeply felt, no matter the background or lived experience of the spectator. MorDance envisions an equitable future where people, no matter their background, identity, or socio-economic circumstance, have the opportunity to access the arts and we thank you for your continued comitment to helping us achieve these goals.

Sincerely,

Morgan McEwen
Artistic Director

Youth engagement begins with the opportunity for personal discovery, wonderment, and meaningful experiences. MorDance knows that the confidence imparted by dance opens doors to success in the arts and beyond.





Antuan Byers



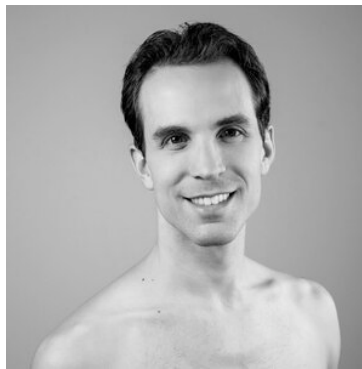
Ayaka Kamei



Jace Coronado



Emily Cardea



David Hochberg



Cemiyon Barber



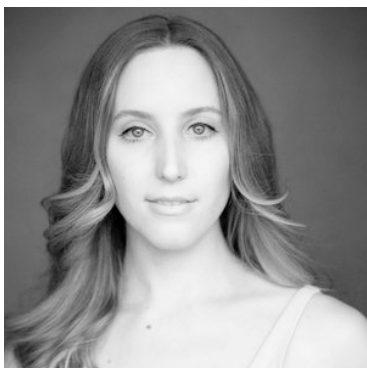
Amy Saunder



Lauren Treat



Brian Gephart



Claire van Bever

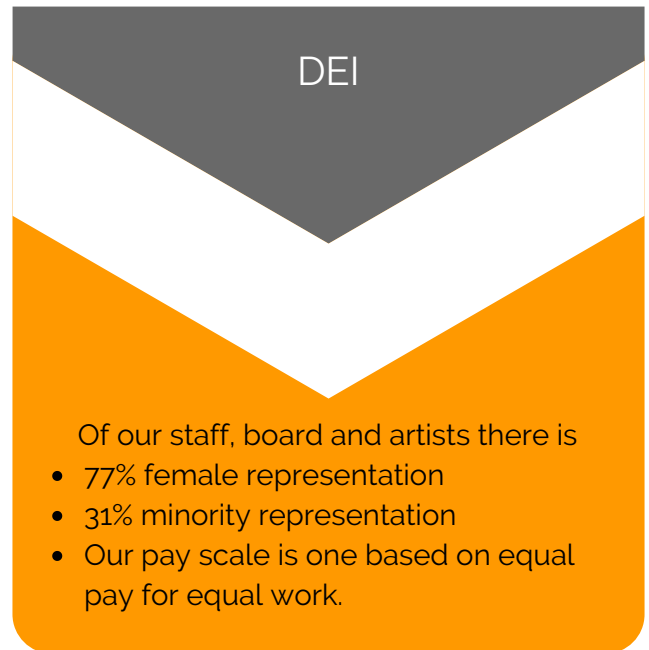
MorDance's overall vision is embodied through public performances and in-school workshops; intentional artistic collaborations; and dance making that centers underrepresented perspectives and reimagines traditional narratives.



Collaborations

Artist - Polina Nazaykinskaya
Artist - Konstantin Soukhovetski
Artist - Rebecca Hielser
Venue - Sky Hill Farm
Venue - Battery Dance Festival
School - PS 110
School - PS 127

The graphic features a dark grey inverted triangle at the top containing the title 'Collaborations'. Below it is a white inverted triangle, and at the bottom is an orange inverted triangle containing the list of artists, venues, and schools.

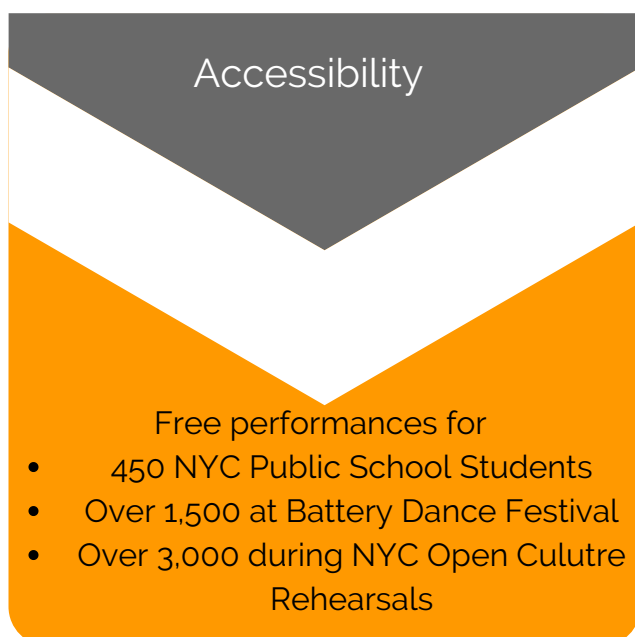


DEI

Of our staff, board and artists there is

- 77% female representation
- 31% minority representation
- Our pay scale is one based on equal pay for equal work.

The graphic features a dark grey inverted triangle at the top containing the title 'DEI'. Below it is a white inverted triangle, and at the bottom is an orange inverted triangle containing the text and a bulleted list of statistics.

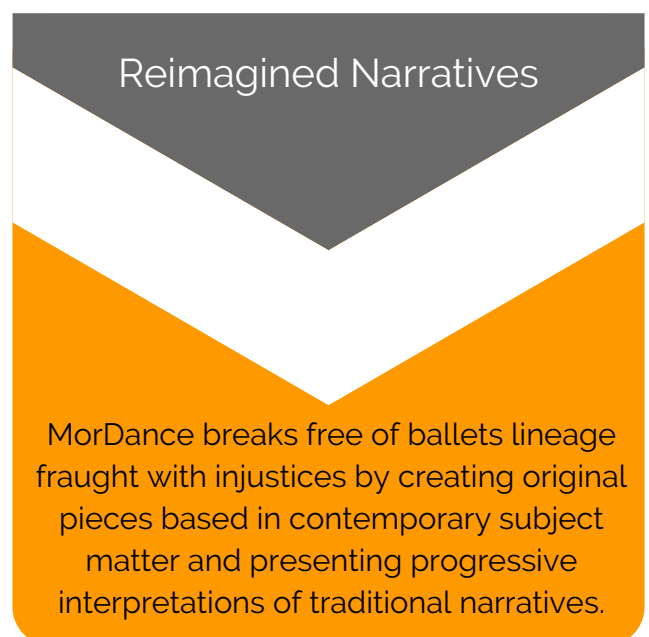


Accessibility

Free performances for

- 450 NYC Public School Students
- Over 1,500 at Battery Dance Festival
- Over 3,000 during NYC Open Culutre Rehearsals

The graphic features a dark grey inverted triangle at the top containing the title 'Accessibility'. Below it is a white inverted triangle, and at the bottom is an orange inverted triangle containing the text and a bulleted list of performance statistics.



Reimagined Narratives

MorDance breaks free of ballets lineage fraught with injustices by creating original pieces based in contemporary subject matter and presenting progressive interpretations of traditional narratives.

The graphic features a dark grey inverted triangle at the top containing the title 'Reimagined Narratives'. Below it is a white inverted triangle, and at the bottom is an orange inverted triangle containing the descriptive text.

Permits in hand, McEwen thought about what to do with her block, on Sixth Avenue between Spring and Broome Streets. One challenge: "We haven't been rehearsing for a year," she said. Instead of renting studio space for months in advance of the first permit date, a substantial cost, she decided to use her plot as an open rehearsal. "That brings our costs down to just artist compensation," she said.

She made other tweaks: since putting down a dance floor in accordance with regulations would have made the stage tiny, the ballerinas will wear sneakers instead of ballet shoes and avoid jumping since concrete is so hard. Ticketing would have required more expenses to close off the street to people who hadn't paid admission, so the event will be free, with the goal of attracting a new audience to MorDance. In the past, she said, audiences have loved getting to attend dress rehearsals. Though open rehearsals haven't yet begun, she is enthusiastic: "the program is amazing, but as a small organization there are obstacles."

Cara Eisenpress, Crain's NY April 2021



Be Fearless — Don't be afraid to ask for help. As a young nonprofit, fundraising is a huge part of our organization. Without the support of our board, patrons, and donors we would never come close to achieving our mission. I believe in the work, the mission, and our goals and had to realize early on that I wasn't just asking for money. Rather, I was asking for individuals and organizations to join us and make it possible to achieve these wonderful goals as a team.

Morgan McEwen in an interview with Kristin Marquet for Medium July 2021



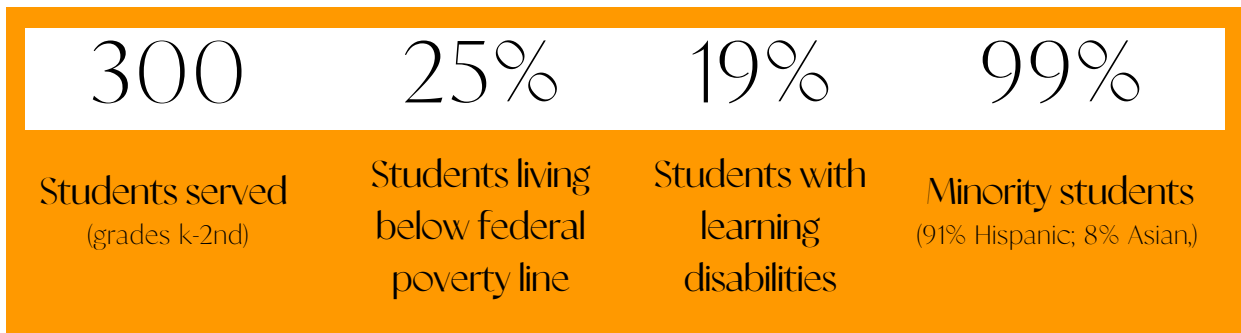
As reported by Brookings Institution, "arts participation is related to behaviors that contribute to the health of civil society, such as increased civic engagement, and greater social tolerance." MorDance envisions an equitable future where young people, no matter their background, identity, or socio-economic circumstance, have the opportunity to experience the arts.



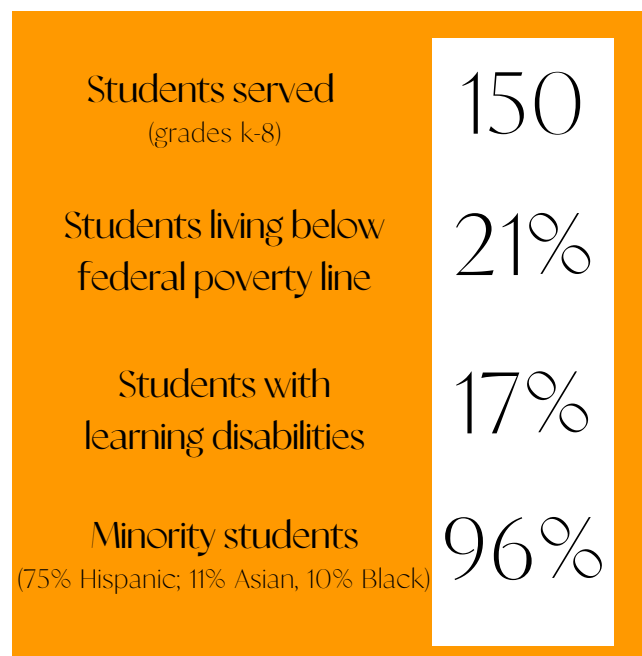
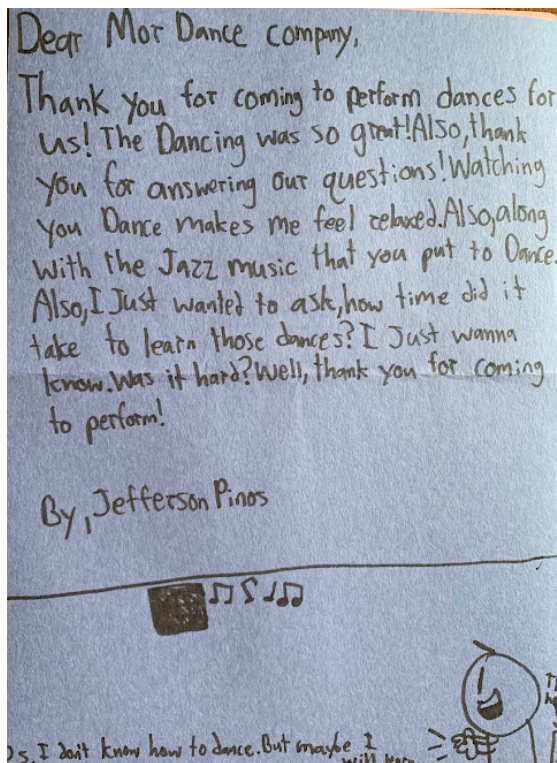
PS 110 The Tiffany School

I am writing to express how much our children loved having MorDance at PS 110. It provided an opportunity to give the children of our community a glimpse into another style of dance that they might have never seen before. It was so nice to see a diverse group of dancers, with a female lead. The children enjoyed learning about new styles of dance and some even commented that they wanted to take classes themselves. Many said they learned a lot from the questions and answer time as well. We look forward to our continued partnership with MorDance.

Principal Elisa Gomez



PS 127 Aerospace Science Magnet School





My favorite part of being with MorDance was learning all the ballet steps and all the positive feelings I felt while dancing from the dancers.

-Sixth Grader, Anahla V.

MorDance taught me that dance is pretty cool. I think dance and art is important because it encourages creativity and individuality.

-Seventh Grader, Avon T.



The show was amazing. I've never seen a show like that, and wish to see another one again.

-Fourth Grader, AJ



Low-income students who are highly engaged in the arts are more than 2x as likely to graduate college as their peers with no art education.

Students who regularly participate in the arts are 4x more likely to be recognized for academic achievement.

Students who regularly participate in the arts are 4x more likely to participate in a math or science fair.

Students who regularly participate in the arts are 3x more likely to win an award for school attendance.

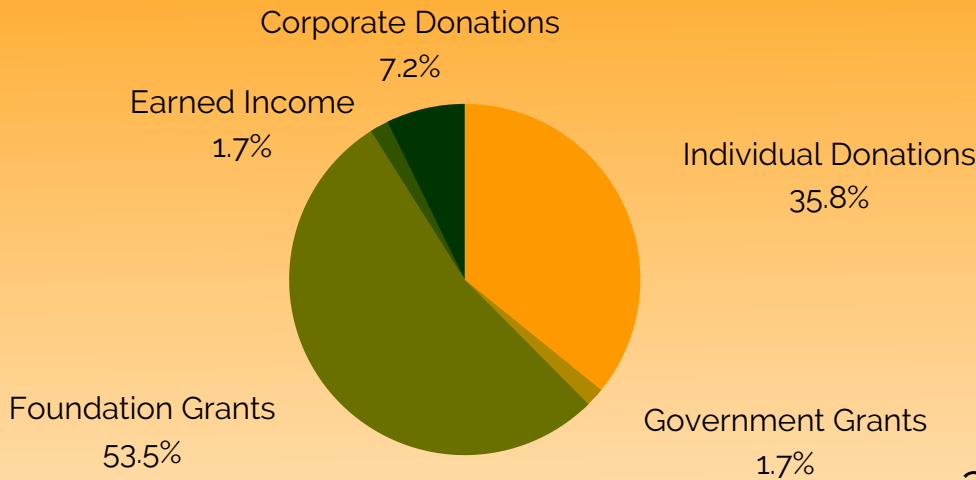
Students who regularly participate in the arts are 3x more likely to be elected to class office.

Statistics by Americans for The Arts

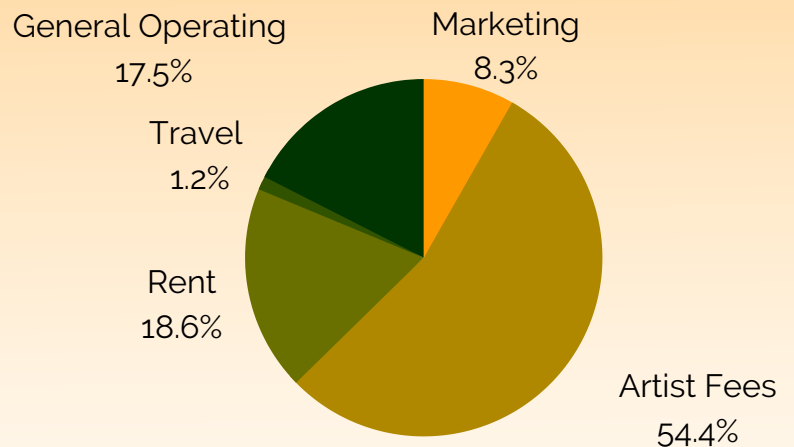


	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Revenue	\$28,980	\$39,408	\$37,257	\$54,428	\$62,315	\$40,607	\$69,561
Expenditures	\$21,048	\$33,954	\$24,300	\$73,508	\$68,644	\$23,748	\$49,889
Net Assets/ Funds Balance	\$7,932	\$13,386	\$26,343	\$7,263	\$934	\$17,793	\$37,465

2021 Revenue Breakdown



2021 Expenditure Breakdown



MorDance typically sees 30% of their revenue from earned income. These changes can be explained by lost ticket sales from the COVID-19 pandemic. MorDance replaced typical indoor ticketed performances with free outdoor performances.



MorDance extends special thanks to these supporters:



The Kaleta A Doolin Foundation
 The Danaher Lynch Family Foundation
 The O'donnell Green Music and Dance Foundation

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|--------------------|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------|
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| Alpern Foundation | Daniel McElwee | Bonnie Wells | Samantha Stiroh |
| Aviram Fox | Mayank Saksena | Kathleen Dunlop | Karen Su |
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| Boos Paul | Kaushik Nunna | Supriya Sharma | |
| Emil Dabora | Amy Kabak | Lauren Stiroh | |
| Mary Kate Reynolds | AK DANCEWEAR | Stephanie Mehta | |
| Elizabeth Rodbell | Sarah Furest | Steve Sagner | |

Support from our donors and sponsors helps to ignites our team of artists, outreach programs, and performances all year long.

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Morgan McEwen
President



Caralyn Reiff
Vice President



Ora Solomon
Secretary



Lauren Stiroh
Treasurer



Evelyn Swaim



Harini Kasturi



Mayank Saksena



Jessica Geiger



Elizabeth Rodbell



Lydia Wells