



September 1, 2021

Dear Dance School Community,

On behalf of the World Ballet School Day (WBSD) 2021 Organizing Committee, we hope that our extended community of schools and students are safely weathering the continued challenges of the global pandemic, while still discovering new and innovative ways to thrive.

We warmly extend an invitation for you to participate in the second edition of WBSD to celebrate the power of dance to brighten our world! It is our sincerest hope that this initiative will strengthen connections with schools we already know while building new relationships with schools we have yet to befriend.

WBSD connects the next generation of young professional dance artists with young people from around the world. Created by students for students, this event is a platform for young artists in training to share a message of solidarity through the language of dance and ballet.

This year's event is scheduled to air November 13, and we are thrilled to announce the themes this year's student committee will explore:

1. **Adaptability** – This topic will share how the dance world must evolve to meet the societal conditions of today and showcases how students and their schools have adapted to COVID.
2. **Identity** – Students will focus on how they see themselves on the stage and identify as artists discovering themselves, as well as showcasing the ideas around celebrating/embracing diversity.
3. **Pathways** – As COVID continues to challenge how students will enter the profession, this topic will share and discuss a variety of ways dancers are becoming professionals.

For your school's participation, we invite you to participate by submitting a short video clip (no more than 20-30 seconds) by October 8 of dance content that best represents your organization and connects with the above identified themes. Please be sure to display the name of your school at the opening of the clip. These submissions will be edited into a celebratory representation of our global dance community. Depending on the number of submissions, we may need to edit content. [Please share your video clip through this form](#) (terms and conditions are included). For more information about WBSD, please visit [www.worldballetschoolday.com](http://www.worldballetschoolday.com).

Now more than ever we need ballet, dance and art to highlight the importance of coming together to find creative ways to support the passion of our students and the immeasurable hope they provide for

our future. Please join us as we celebrate the resilience, strength, dedication, talent and intellect of young artists from across the globe for the 2021 edition of WBSD!

Sincerely,

**WBSD 2021 Organizing Committee:**

Melanie Person, Co-Director, The Ailey School

Margaret Tracey, Director, Boston Ballet School

Mavis Staines, Artistic Director and CEO, Canada's National Ballet School

Viviana Durante, Artistic Director, English National Ballet School

Garry Trinder, Artistic Director, New Zealand School of Dance

Jason Beechey, Rector, Palucca University of Dance Dresden

Kathryn Bradney, Artistic & Executive Director, Prix De Lausanne