

## Application for 2026/27 Artist Residencies at Dance Victoria Studios Now Open

### WHAT:

Each year, Dance Victoria (DV) welcomes residency proposals from B.C. dance artists and collectives researching and creating work. The Artist Residency program offers access to DV's Quadra Village studios, technical support, and a direct financial contribution to artists' project budgets. **Our goal is to enable choreographers from a diversity of backgrounds, experience levels (emerging to established), and disciplines to develop their artistic visions through research/exploration, creation, outreach, and performance.**

Selected artists also engage in one community outreach activity during their residency period. This is intended to be flexible. Past activities have included work-in-progress showings, movement workshops, and intergenerational programs that engage local communities.

### WHY:

Dance Victoria's mission is to cultivate a connection to dance by presenting and supporting diverse local, national, and international artists, and inspiring all communities through the magic of dance. Our team is committed to supporting a healthy, diverse, and collaborative dance milieu.

The Artist Residency program provides a responsive framework to support, inspire and sustain B.C. dance artists, while addressing the challenge of securing accessible and professional rehearsal and performance space in Greater Victoria. DV Studios in Quadra Village has become a valued community asset. Residency artists have the opportunity to work in professional studios with black box configuration, to experiment, and to develop new work over an extended period.

### ELIGIBILITY:

Eligible B.C.-based artists will have:

- Created a minimum of three different pieces, each of five minutes or more;
- Pursued professional training and/or mentorship as either a dancer or creator;
- Worked in the professional dance milieu; and
- Demonstrated a desire to grow their practice as well as openness and receptivity to communication.

**This program is open to artists ranging from emerging to established, with a priority to serve Vancouver Island and equity-deserving artists.** Dance Victoria encourages applications from IBPoC (Indigenous, Black, People of Colour) artists, artists with disabilities, artists of all sexual orientations and genders, and others who may contribute to the further diversification and advancement of dance in our community.

Please note that selection for this program is also weighted to new applicants or applicants who have not been supported by Dance Victoria in the previous year.

<sup>1</sup> Residency fees are based on available funding and project scale, and range from \$2,000-\$5,000. Eligible uses of this funding may include artist/collaborator fees, outside eye/dramaturg support, accommodation and travel. Requests for technician support, to be provided by Dance Victoria, should be included in your application. Artists are responsible for residency expenses beyond what is covered by the awarded amount.

<sup>2</sup> Between September and May, studio availability is typically Monday-Friday before 3:30pm. Ad-hoc timeslots may be available on weekends.

## HOW TO APPLY:

Please submit a succinct project proposal (**no more than two 8.5" x 11" pages**, font size 11 points or larger). Proposals must include:

- Name and contact information of applicant;
- Name of company and/or collective, if applicable;
- Title and brief description of project, including current status (i.e., at the beginning of the process, some material has been created, nearing the end of the process, or piece will be finished during the residency);
- A statement about what you hope to accomplish during your residency;
- Names of artists involved in the residency, including their roles;
- Desired time period and length for your residency (Please note: Victoria-based dance artists may opt to work at a more leisurely pace over a longer period of time);
- A YouTube or Vimeo link to a video sample of your work, with up to two minutes of footage or a timestamp for suggested viewing if the clip is longer. Material can be of proposed project or previous work. If the link is password protected, please include the password;
- An indication of your interest in 1) working with an outside eye, 2) having your work filmed, and 3) performing a work-in-progress or finished piece during the 2026/27 season. Applicants are encouraged to contact Kiera Shaw ([kiera@dancevictoria.com](mailto:kiera@dancevictoria.com)) with questions about the studio's black box configuration and/or specific technical elements in advance of submitting a proposal; and
- Indication of preference between using the Shaw, Vernon, or Milne studio, and/or if the nature of your work requires a specific studio or equipment.
- **New in 2026/27: If you are based outside of Victoria, please attach a project budget** that includes travel and accommodation costs, and pending or confirmed sources of funding.

## SELECTION PROCESS:

The number of available residencies is contingent on Dance Victoria's pending funding applications. We're proud to have offered residencies consistently to many artists over the past several years, but we cannot guarantee the same number of opportunities will be available in 2026/27. If proposals exceed available funding, local artists may be offered a space-only studio residency through the Studio Access Program.

Artist Residency curation is, in part, informed by Dance Victoria's season programming, studio activity, and team capacity. Each cohort of Artists in Residence is decided per-proposal intake and consecutive support is not guaranteed. In our small Victoria dance community, it is reasonable that an applicant may be connected to DV as a staff member, contractor, community partner, or similar capacity. The panel will accept and review these applications with equal criteria.

Dance Victoria's annual Dance Days festival (January/February 2027) and other performance opportunities throughout the season are curated by Dance Victoria, often 1-2 years in advance. Finished pieces or works-in-progress developed during an Artist Residency may or may not be considered for future presentation.



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**TO APPLY:**

Please send your completed proposal to Gillian Jones, Executive Director, at [gillian@dancevictoria.com](mailto:gillian@dancevictoria.com) no later than **Friday, May 29, 2026 at 5:00 pm PT.**

Applicants may be contacted for additional information during the assessment period. All applicants will be notified about the status of their proposal by July 24, 2026.

Questions regarding your proposal can be sent to Kiera Shaw, Artist Programs & Studio Manager, at [kiera@dancevictoria.com](mailto:kiera@dancevictoria.com).

Please contact us if you require accessibility accommodations to complete a proposal, and/or if there are accessibility questions related to your residency.