

GUIDELINES: Chrystal Dance Prize – *Projects*

ABOUT

The Chrystal Dance Prize (CDP) – *Projects* supports exceptional dance research and/or creation between a Western Canadian dance artist(s), collective or company and an international dance artist or artists (interpreter or choreographer). Since 2010, Dance Victoria (DV) has invested more than \$700,000 in international collaborations, training and mentorship opportunities for Western Canadian dance artists through the Chrystal Dance Fund.

The CDP – *Projects* is open to any independent dance artist(s), collective or company that:

- Has a home address in western Canada (BC, AB, SK, MB, YT, NWT, NU);
- Is currently active in the professional dance milieu;
- Has worked with a range of dance artists and/or companies and has a history of creation;
- Is seeking to collaborate with an international artist(s) (defined as living and working outside of Canada) to choreograph a new work.

In 2026, Dance Victoria will award a total of \$45,648 through the Chrystal Dance Prize – *Projects*. Applications are reviewed by a panel of no less than four dance professionals. (More information about the panel can be found on the following page.)

CDP funds may be disbursed across multiple projects or could be awarded to one project. If requested by applicants, the prize may include a Residency at Dance Victoria Studios. In this case, local accommodation, studio rental and technician (if required) would be allocated from the awarded prize funds. The remainder of the prize would be provided to the artist to support artist fees and other costs.

Dance Victoria strongly encourages equity-deserving and underrepresented artists to apply for the Chrystal Dance Prize. We welcome applications from persons of colour, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, persons of all sexual orientations and genders, and others who may contribute to the innovation and advancement of dance in our community.

Dance Victoria gratefully recognizes that our studios and administrative offices are situated on the traditional lands of the Lekwungen people, known today as the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, whose people have lived and danced on this land since time immemorial.

PLEASE NOTE: Receiving a Chrystal Dance Prize in the past does not disqualify you from being awarded another Chrystal Dance Prize.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The Chrystal Dance Prize–*Projects* proposal is a two-step process:

STEP ONE

- Please complete an online [Expression of Interest](#);
- Include a link to video sample (max. 3 minutes) within this form; and Forward a letter/email from your international collaborator confirming their commitment to ChrystalDancePrize@dancevictoria.com. Please ensure your collaborator identifies you and your project to prevent any confusion.

Expressions of Interest and commitment letters must be received by 5:00 pm PDT on Thursday, October 8, 2026.

STEP TWO

If shortlisted by the panel, applicants will be asked to provide additional information, including a detailed **Project Budget**.

CRITERIA

The CDP panel will consider all applications with the following criteria:

- **Are this project and international collaboration exceptional?** This could be reflected in the skills, experience, and/or diversity of project artists' perspectives; the scale or working models explored in the project; or the innovation within a project's discipline or dance form;
- **Opportunity for growth and development of the primary applicant(s)** as a result of the international collaboration;
- **Artistic excellence** demonstrated through submitted video sample;
- **Potential for local impact** in Victoria;
- **Feasibility**; and
- **Overall presentation** of the proposal.

CDP PANEL

The CDP Panel includes DV's Executive Director, one Board member, and a minimum of two external community members. In our small Victoria dance community, it is reasonable that an applicant may be connected to DV as an artist-in-residence, studio access participant, or similar capacity¹. The panel will accept and review these applications with equal criteria. In the case of a direct or perceived conflict of interest, the impacted panelist will not discuss or score the application and only non-impacted panel member scores will be considered.

¹ Dance Victoria Board and staff members are ineligible to apply for the Chrystal Dance Prize.

The CDP panel may elect to forego awarding the prize in a given year if projects submitted are not considered exceptional or ready for support. In this case, Chrystal Dance Prize funds would be re-invested for allocation in the subsequent year.

Notification of results: All applicants will be notified by December 10, 2026.

QUESTIONS?

Please contact Artist Programs & Studio Manager Kiera Shaw at 250-595-1829 or ChrystalDancePrize@dancevictoria.com.

If your proposed project indicates interest in a Residency at DV requiring technical support, a technician may be required and would need to be included in your Project Budget. Please contact Kiera Shaw at ChrystalDancePrize@dancevictoria.com for assistance.

