

Request for proposals

SCUBA 2012: National Touring Network for Dance

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

Release Date: May 12, 2011

Due Date: Materials must be RECEIVED in our office at Velocity Dance Center by Friday, June 24, 2011 @ 5pm

Return to: Velocity Dance Center
1621 12th Ave, Suite 100
Seattle, WA 98122

Purpose of project: SCUBA National Touring Network for Dance is a co-operative enterprise founded by Velocity Dance Center, in conjunction with ODC Theater in San Francisco, The Southern Theater in Minneapolis, and Philadelphia Dance Projects. From the beginning, SCUBA has met the ambitious goal of touring regionally established, nationally emerging artists to and from the participating cities. SCUBA strives to present these artists/tours through co-operative presenting and grassroots mobilization without sacrificing the highest standard of professionalism.

This is a request for application for inclusion in a roster of artists that will be considered by ODC Theater, the Southern Theater and Philadelphia Dance Projects – some of which may be selected for the SCUBA Touring Network for this season. Artists may also be asked to participate in the Velocity's SCUBA performances.

Required Artists Attributes:

1. Choreographers/choreographic collaborations whom have produced/presented choreography locally for several years, but have not yet moved into regular national touring.
2. Previous SCUBA recipients may not apply within a four-year period.
3. An applicant must have produced choreography while living in Seattle.

Project Description: SCUBA Touring Network is in its seventh season. This program is geared towards the early to mid-career artists who are looking to begin their national touring experience and have developed dance work ready for a small-scale tour. The artists chosen from the roster of Seattle dance artists will split an evening performance with as many as two other Scuba artists. The exact performance schedule is yet to be determined, but will fall between February and June 2011. Choreographers and companies will also be asked to participate in outreach activities surrounding their performances, such as post-show discussion or possible teaching opportunities. SCUBA artists must be available Tuesday of the week of performances until closing.

Artists selected to tour will receive the following:

1. **Presentation fees:** Artists will receive an all-inclusive fee, which this past year was \$1,500 per venue. Fee levels for the coming year are not yet finalized, and may vary upwards or downwards from this amount. All costs for touring will be paid by the artists with that fee, including travel, accommodation and per diem.
2. **Marketing /PR:** The co-presenters will provide Marketing/PR for the artists. The performances will be marketed and promoted to the press, as well as in the co-presenters own publicity materials. You will be asked to provide materials for this publicity as well as for a printed program.
3. **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.

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.

Selection Process and Criteria:

1. Between 3 and 6 choreographers/choreographic collaborations will be selected by a panel for the roster of Seattle dance artists to be considered by other the SCUBA partner venues.
2. The roster selection panel will consist of representatives from the Velocity and Seattle dance community. The panel will review applications and videotapes to select the SCUBA roster of Seattle artists.
3. The panel will make decisions based on the quality and innovation of the artist's work and suitability to the SCUBA program, based on the work sample and as described in the application.
4. 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 contemporary and innovative approaches to any given form or style.

In addition to requirements the following selection criteria are uniformly used for each of Velocity's programs:

1. **Artistic Quality:** Does the artist have the skills to successfully accomplish the proposed project? Are the goals of the project clearly articulated? What has the artist done so far and how strong is their artist statement? Does the work sample support the outlined proposal?
2. **Artistic Innovation:** Is the proposal original and does it push aesthetic boundaries? If appropriate, how does the artist intend to research and develop the work?
3. **Program Fit and Impact:** Is the proposal realistic and does it make sense? Will the project positively impact the artists, the local and national dance community, and audiences?

Applicants must submit the following materials for consideration:

1. **Written materials:** The written portion of the SCUBA application must be typed. Submit four (4) collated copies (original plus 3 copies). Do not staple copies.
 - a. Include a cover page with title SCUBA National Touring Network for Dance 2012 that also lists: choreographer(s) name, contact name (if different), address, phone numbers and e-mail address.
 - b. Please describe your aesthetic approach and the suitability of your work for this program. How would participating in SCUBA at this time be important or valuable to your development as an artist? (1 page maximum)
 - c. Please provide a description of 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. Discuss any technical issues the presenters should be aware of. Also include brief descriptions of any additional work shown on the videotape, as well as your role in the work. (2 page maximum)
 - d. Work Sample Information Sheet (2 page maximum) – see below
2. **Resume:** Please submit an artist resume or vitae. (2 page maximum)
3. **Press Kit:** Demonstrate your ability to tour and interface with media and presenting organizations in other cities. If you have a web-based press kit, please provide a link.
4. **Work Sample:** Demonstrate your readiness to tour. Please submit your strongest work samples, preferably created within the past few years. Include the work you intend to tour, or work that most closely represents the flavor of the work you intend to tour. Indicate clearly which piece is your first choice to tour for SCUBA, and include this piece in its entirety. You are also encouraged to include up to two other works for consideration, knowing that if selected by any of the co-presenters, they may wish to consider these other works or contact you for more information.

Please submit all samples on one DVD. Any DVD submitted must be chaptered with individual pieces on separate chapters. Please also clearly label the DVD (case and disc) with your name and the name(s) of the pieces)

Please also submit a Work Sample Information Sheet (2 page maximum) clearly indicating the entire contents of the DVD, and for each individual piece:

- Running time
- When and where the piece on the sample was performed
- When the piece premiered (if different from above)
- Your role(s) in the work: sole choreographer, co-choreographer, performer, etc.
- Any other information you believe the panel will find useful in viewing your work.
- Please also 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 Seattle roster, you will be asked in mid-July 2011 to produce three additional copies of your work samples, work sample information and a budget for Velocity to send to its SCUBA partners.

Application Due Date: Friday, June 10, 2011

RECEIVED in Office by 5:00pm

Velocity Dance Center
1621 12th Ave, Suite 100
Seattle, WA 98122

Please contact Shannon Stewart (shannon@velocitydancecenter.org) or call 206-325-8773 with any questions regarding these application deadlines.