

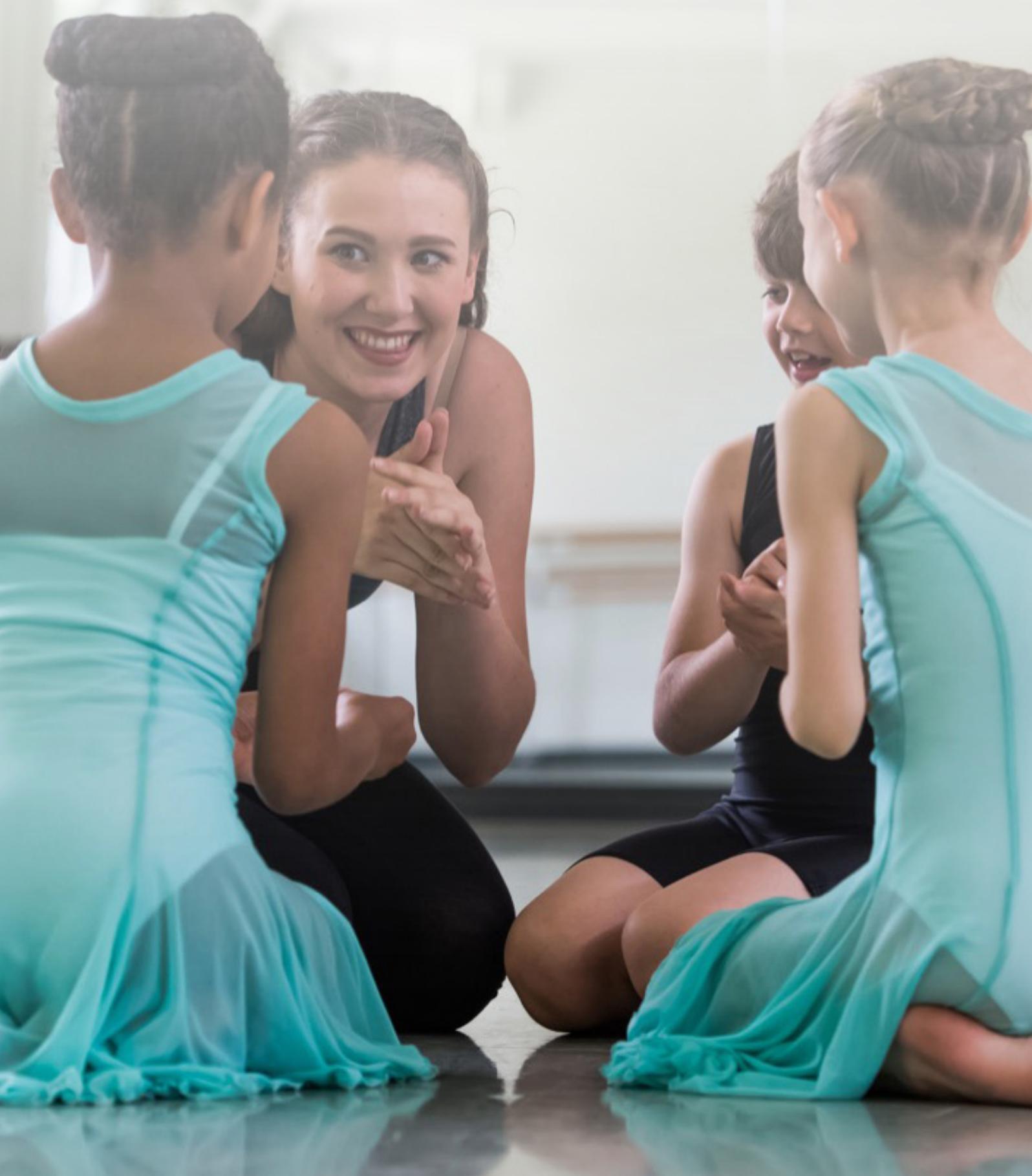


Imperial Society of
Teachers of Dancing

TALKING DANCE

THE FUTURE OF
CULTURAL EDUCATION

Monday 2 August 2021
11:15am



Talking Dance: The Future of Cultural Education will explore the future of cultural education, with a particular focus on the role dance can play in supporting children and young people's post-pandemic recovery.

ISTD Chief Executive, Ginny Brown will be joined by guest speakers, Anne Appelbaum, Director of Children and Young People, Arts Council England, Glyn Jones (CDMT), Laura Nicholson (One Dance UK) and Solange Urdang (Urdang Academy) to consider ways in which the sector can work together to ensure that all children have opportunities to learn dance.

The aim of this symposium is to:

- Gain a greater awareness of the contexts in which dance is taught and the potential barriers to accessing dance education
- Identify ways in which organisations can work together to create a stronger infrastructure for dance education and talent development
- Provide delegates with tangible strategies for improving access to dance education

Organised by Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing



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Schedule of events

11:15 Introduction

The value of dance education

Ginny Brown, Chief Executive, Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing

11:20 The cultural landscape

Keynote Speaker: Anne Appelbaum, Director of Children and Young People, Arts Council England

11:35 Dance in schools

Keynote Speaker: Laura Nicholson, Head of Children and Young People's Dance, One Dance UK

11:50 The graded dance examinations sector

Keynote Speaker: Glyn Jones, Director of the Council for Dance, Drama Musical Theatre (CDMT)

12:05 Vocational Training

Keynote Speaker: Solange Urdang, CEO and Board member, Urdang Academy

12:20 Panel Discussion

12:40 Round up

Ginny Brown, Chief Executive, Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing

Speakers



Anne Appelbaum

Director of Children and Young People, Arts Council England

Arts Council England is the national development agency for creativity and culture. It invests public money from Government and The National Lottery to help support the sector and to deliver this vision. www.artscouncil.org.uk Following the Covid-19 crisis, the Arts Council developed a £160 million **Emergency Response Package**, with nearly 90% coming from the National Lottery, for organisations and individuals needing support. The Arts Council England is one of the bodies administering the Government's Culture Recovery Fund. Find out more at www.artscouncil.org.uk/covid19



Glyndwr Jones

Director of the Council for Dance, Drama Musical Theatre (CDMT)

Glyndwr is the Director of the CDMT, a UK-wide industry quality assurance body for institutions delivering training, education and assessment in the performing arts, a position he has held since September 2012.

CDMT members operate in 100+ countries and have a combined annual turnover of £250M. Formerly the Council for Dance, Education and Training, he successfully repositioned the organisation's remit and branding to include drama during 2016/17 with a House of Lords event held in 2018 formally announcing the adjustment of the company name to the CDMT. Earlier in 2021, CDMT established the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Performing Arts Education and Training at Westminster, acting as the Group's secretariat.

He previously had a senior role at an international awarding organisation for over 11 years and was awarded Honorary Membership of Trinity College London in 2010. At Trinity, he was a key member of a team which delivered a sustained increase in turnover from £5M to £28M between 2001 and 2012. This was achieved through winning tenders, securing government support, developing innovative new products, and amalgamating Guildhall Exams within the company's operations.

He is a first-class music graduate, main author of the publication Graded Exams: The Definitive Guide and successfully completed the Chief Executives' programme at CASS Business School, London in 2014.

Speakers ~ continued



Laura Nicholson

Head of Children and Young People's Dance at One Dance UK

Laura believes that access to high quality dance education should be the entitlement of every child, and advocates on this basis to government departments, MPs, education leaders and other key stakeholders. Laura strategically leads on a national programme of dance activity for young people, including the annual U.Dance National Festival, which showcases and celebrates the best youth and school dance work from hundreds of young people, and the national Young Creatives programme for aspiring choreographers.

Laura previously spent 12 years working in the secondary education sector, developing a highly successful dance, and performing arts curriculum at an inner-city Leeds secondary school, as well as creating and leading an extensive enrichment and performance programme for students and the wider community. She then took up the role of Assistant Headteacher at a Wakefield secondary school, leading a unique specialist curriculum pathway providing free-of-charge and accessible arts training in mainstream education, attracting students from across the north of England and bringing about significant whole-school improvement.

Laura recently worked as the dance education consultant on Step-By-Step, a primary dance resource for BBC Teach.



Solange Urdang

CEO of Urdang & Board Member

Solange trained at the Urdang Academy Lower and Upper Schools as well as at The High School of Performing Arts in New York during her studies. Solange then went on to have a successful career mainly in commercial dance, theatre and within the music industry before going on to study art and design.

Becoming CEO of the Urdang Academy in 2001, Solange has since developed it to be one of the UK's most prolific vocational colleges with an internationally renowned reputation. She negotiated and implemented the successful move to The Old Finsbury Town Hall in Islington from Covent Garden, the expansion into the Urdang 2 premises as well as establishing Urdang International.

Solange has spent her career pushing boundaries and building cultural bridges and sits on various panels promoting and developing diversity in professional musical theatre and dance training. She is co-founder and co-director of The Black British Theatre Awards, and The Black Theatre & Film Directory. She is also the founder of Link Talent Agency, a patron of Palace of The Dogs and Jason Thomas Performing Arts.

Solange comes from an impressive family of activists; born to the late Leonie Urdang (founder of the Urdang Academy), who fled South Africa in the sixties to London after witnessing apartheid and its injustices. Solange is involved and passionately supports various charity-based performing arts projects both in the UK and Cape Town, South Africa, in particular, BBTA Outreach and Denis Goldberg's House of Hope.

The Talking Dance series brings together leading organisations to discuss the roadblocks to achieving diversity in dance education and training and how these can be dismantled at every level of dance teaching, creating a vision for our future of inclusive and diverse dance.

Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing exists to advance excellence in dance teaching and education, representing dance teachers and their communities. For over 117 years the Society has provided quality dance training across a diverse range of genres – enabling its members to inspire their students with a passion for dance. With 6000 members in 59 countries we conduct over 120,000 examinations worldwide each year. Membership of the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing is a passport to artistic and professional progression. **The Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing (ISTD) launched Talking Dance in 2021 – a series of symposiums with leading artists and educationalists to encourage debate and discussion on thought-provoking and hard-hitting issues facing the dance sector today and tomorrow.** Discover more www.istd.org



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