



## A CAREER IN DANCE

### THE DANCE INDUSTRY HAS THREE SECTORS:



Photo: Lorna Rood

• **Professional sector** – dance companies, professional dancers and choreographers, associated producers, managers, marketers, venue and technical people, teachers of dance of diverse genre, dance businesses (including studios, commercial and tourist dance), dance project development coordinators, dance health specialists, writers and researchers.

• **Education sector** – dance in the education system (primary, secondary and tertiary) and the training of people in the Dance Industry.

• **Community, recreation and social dance (participation) sector** – people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds participating in the wide genre of dance in Aotearoa New Zealand, for expression of identity, wellbeing, health and fitness, fun, recreation and spiritual, cultural and creative expression.

#### Inter-sector relationships

There are important relationships between these three sectors in such areas as audience development, training, skill development and nurturing talent. The community and education sectors nurture early dance/arts experience including the establishment of values and

attitudes. There are many cross sector work opportunities that enable a full and life long career in the Dance Industry. Dance practitioners and learning institutions are now realising this potential.

**Through the three sectors dance has a major role to play in New Zealand’s health, identity, culture, artistic expression and economic development.**

### PLANNING A CAREER IN DANCE?

Many of our successful dancers are multi skilled and work in different areas of the industry. The list below will give you an idea of the scope of the Dance Industry in New Zealand and your place in it.

#### FUNDING/GOVERNMENT

Creative New Zealand  
Ministry of Education  
Creative Communities  
City Councils  
Government policy/legislation  
Charitable trusts & local funding  
[www.danz.org.nz/funding.php](http://www.danz.org.nz/funding.php)

#### INDUSTRY & SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

DANZ - Dance Aotearoa New Zealand  
NZADT - NZ Association of Dance Teachers  
Syllabus organisations eg. RAD, ISTD  
Festivals - Tempo, DYSO, The Body  
Genre organisations eg. Te Matatini, Dancesport

#### PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE

Companies  
Career dancers  
Choreographers  
Commercial dance  
Cultural tourism

#### STUDIOS/COMMUNITY

Recreational dance  
Genre/cultural dance  
Professional teachers/studios  
Associated arts – drama, circus, music, physical theatre  
Studio students

#### EDUCATION

Tertiary educators/tutors  
Ministry of Education - Arts/PE Curriculum development  
Academic dance research  
Primary/Secondary teachers  
Performances & workshops in schools  
Tertiary students

#### THERAPY & HEALTH

Dance health specialists  
Fitness professionals

#### RETAIL

Dance shoes/ clothing  
Dance supplies  
Costume design

#### ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES

Publications  
-Writers  
-Photographers  
-Publishers  
-Reviewers  
Exhibitions - curators  
Film  
New technologies - Multimedia/web  
Lighting, Technical  
Costumes, Props  
Designs  
Managers, Producers  
Publicists  
Production companies, Agents

## TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The following Institutions provide dance diplomas, degrees or other qualifications:

Whitireia Polytech, New Zealand School of Dance and Drama (Te Whaea), Otago University Physed School, Dunedin Teachers College, Auckland Univ of Tech, UNITEC, Auckland Univ, Te Wananga o Aotearoa, Kahurangi, Waikato Univ, Wellington Performing Arts Centre. [www.danz.org.nz/tertiary\\_courses.php](http://www.danz.org.nz/tertiary_courses.php)

For help and advice please contact DANZ (04) 801 9885 or email [danz@danz.org.nz](mailto:danz@danz.org.nz)

[www.danz.org.nz](http://www.danz.org.nz)

## TEACHING DANCE IN SCHOOLS AS A CAREER CHOICE

If you are passionate about dance and wish to pass on your skills and enthusiasm to others, consider becoming a secondary dance teacher.

- Many secondary schools are looking for fulltime dance teachers to educate their students in dance.
- You can practice your artistry with young people.
- You can gain teacher registration and earn a good living.
- You can take time out from your career to work on artistic projects.

To become a secondary school dance teacher you will need an undergraduate degree (there are many places now where you can get such a degree majoring in dance). You would then do a year's full-time study to gain your teaching qualification. You can do this at various places around New Zealand. You will be able to major in dance and will need another subject that you can teach as well. Many dance teachers also study drama but there are a wide range of subjects to choose from depending on subjects you have studied at University.

For more information please contact:

### **PATRICE O'BRIEN**

Dance Facilitator TEAM Solutions  
University of Auckland  
Private Bag 92-601  
Symonds Street  
Auckland

P (09) 623 8899 extn 46389  
[pa.obrien@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:pa.obrien@auckland.ac.nz)



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