The Stanley J. Wertheimer Fellowship Program

Summary

The Stanley J. Wertheimer Fellowship Program will provide in-depth training and mentorship opportunities to exceptionally qualified teachers interested in offering high quality dance classes for people with Parkinson’s disease modeled after those at the Mark Morris Dance Center in Brooklyn. The Fellowship program will cover two years of Dance for PD® workshop tuition and membership fees for new and existing Parkinson’s dance teachers so that they can receive extensive training and professional development in the program’s approach and methodology.

With their teaching experience, training, compassion and dedicated focus, Stanley J. Wertheimer Fellows will exemplify the best practices of the Dance for PD program, allowing Dance for PD to make a significant impact in new communities and allowing more people with Parkinson’s disease to have access to this specialized approach to movement and music.

Candidates who are interested in becoming Stanley J. Wertheimer Fellows must demonstrate a commitment to developing and teaching a Dance for PD program in their own communities. Candidates who are current teachers must demonstrate a successful track record in their existing programs. Both new and existing teachers must have strong dance teaching credentials and present a written endorsement of their plan or program from a recognized local PD support group, medical center or PD organization.

Program staff will review each Fellow’s progress after the first year to ensure that Fellowship guidelines and objectives are being followed.
Fellowship guidelines and requirements

Fellowship benefits
- Tuition-free training at unlimited workshops and professional development sessions for two years.
- Free membership in the Dance for PD program, allowing online access to special support resources, a dedicated listserv for teachers, and other materials.
- On-going mentoring and support from Dance for PD founding teachers and staff.
- Letters of support from program staff.
- Invitations to conference calls with other Fellows.
- Access to visit and observe other Dance for PD network classes around the world (local permission required).

Fellowship program requirements
- Candidates must complete a written application and submit a written endorsement of their project or existing program from a recognized local PD support group, medical center, or PD organization.
- Candidates must attend at least one workshop a year and join Dance for PD as a member
- Fellows are required to submit two brief progress reports a year to Dance for PD program staff and Fellowship underwriters.
- Fellows can reapply for the program for one additional extension year after the first two-year Fellowship is completed.

Eligibility
Candidates must demonstrate
- Fluent proficiency in at least one major dance style (ballet, classical Indian, modern, jazz, tap, West African, ballroom etc.).
- At least five years experience teaching dance technique in a group setting.
- Strong musicality and the ability to work with an accompanist.
- Commitment to launching a local Dance for PD program within one year after completing the first workshop.
- Existing association with an established team of collaborators to launch a program (teachers applying without endorsement from a PD group or medical center will not be accepted).
- For existing teachers, a track record of success teaching a class that follows the Dance for PD approach.
Stanley J. Wertheimer Fellowship
Application

► Part 1

Name:

Address:

City:    State:     Zip:

Telephone number:      Email:

Professional title (if any):

Institutional or organizational affiliation (if any):

► Part 2

Briefly describe your dance background:
Briefly describe your dance teaching experience, including styles, levels, age groups and populations:

► Part 3: For current Dance for PD teachers only

Please describe the scope of your current program (collaborators, enrollment, frequency).

Please describe how the Fellowship will enrich your current teaching practice.

Do you have plans to offer more Dance for PD classes in your current location, or to expand your program to new locations in your region? Please describe briefly.
Part 4: For new Dance for PD teachers only

Please let us know what led to your interest in the Dance for PD program.

What do you hope to gain from the Fellowship?

What is your plan for starting Dance for PD classes in your community? Please be as specific as possible, including local collaborators, funding (potential or confirmed), location, and frequency.
What is the timeline for launching classes? (Please be as specific about each step of the process as possible, and include the projected timeframe for planning, fundraising, offering pilot classes and launching the program.)

► Part 5: All applicants

Please list at least one and up to two collaborators in this project:

Name:               Name:
Title/Affiliation:  Title/Affiliation:
Telephone:          Telephone:
Email:              Email:

► Deliverables

Please attach a one-page CV and a letter of endorsement from a PD support group, PD organization or medical center with whom you are collaborating, and return it to us by mail, fax or email. Thank you!

Mail
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