

GUIDELINES

2008 CHOREOGRAPHER COLLABORATION AWARDS

Funded by The Wallace Alexander Gerbode Foundation
and The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

PROGRAM OUTLINE

The Wallace Alexander Gerbode Foundation and The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation are pleased to announce funding of a special round of \$75,000 grants for the creation and production of major contemporary dance compositions by California choreographers, in collaboration with other artists.

These works are to be commissioned and premiered by nonprofit Bay Area arts presenting organizations. Each grant will be divided into three parts: \$25,000 will go to a California-based choreographer; \$25,000 will go to another California-based artist (choreographer, composer, playwright, digital media artist, filmmaker, designer or other) who will be a key collaborator on the project; and the remaining \$25,000 will go to the presenting organization for expenses related to the creation and world premiere of new compositions either a full-length dance work, or a suite of shorter dances.

This is the first round in the Gerbode and Hewlett Foundations' Performing Arts Collaboration Initiative. In 2009, grants will be made for playwright collaborations, and in 2010 for composer collaborations.

The goals of this program are:

1. To encourage the creative endeavors and professional development of highly gifted and accomplished California choreographers.
2. To assist nonprofit Bay Area arts presenting organizations in their efforts to commission, develop and premiere promising new works by contemporary California choreographers of great merit.
*For details on eligible Bay Area presenting organizations, please refer to the **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS** section of these guidelines on page 2.*
3. To help underwrite a significant new collaboration between a California choreographer and another California artist (i.e., a co-choreographer, composer, stage designer, video or film maker, or other) which will shape the composition, and allow both artists to experiment, deepen and/or enhance their individual work through this joint effort.
4. To stimulate awareness and appreciation of accomplished, inventive contemporary dance in the Bay Area and beyond.

DEADLINE

Applications must be received by the Gerbode Foundation by 4pm on Thursday, August 14, 2008.

All forms of messenger service including hand delivery, FedEx, DHL, UPS or US Postal service are accepted.

Please send applications to: 2008 Choreographer Collaboration Awards
The Wallace Alexander Gerbode Foundation
111 Pine Street, Suite 1515
San Francisco, CA 94111

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

All dance genres and performance formats will be considered: ballet, modern, postmodern, innovative traditional/folk dance, etc.

PLEASE NOTE: Applications may NOT be submitted by individual artists.

Eligible organizations:

- Dance companies which produce and present dance
 - Dance presenters
 - Multi-discipline arts presenters
 - Community organizations with a documented history of dance/arts presentations
1. Each applicant organization must:
 - a) Be a nonprofit, tax exempt, public charity organization that has been in existence in the counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, Santa Clara, San Francisco, San Mateo, Solano or Sonoma for at least three (3) years prior to the application deadline.
 - b) Have a strong proven track record of producing and/or presenting dance.
 - c) Have a minimum of three (3) years producing live dance and currently produce at least five (5) different dance events per year, at home or on tour.
 - d) Identify itself as a professional or aspiring professional organization, and pay its artistic, production, and administrative personnel more than honoraria. Commissions geared for student or educational performances are ineligible.
 3. The principal choreographer proposed by an applicant organization must:
 - a) Be a full-time resident of California for the last 24 months before time of application.
 - b) Have a strong track record to date, and consider choreography his/her primary artistic enterprise. (*A resident choreographer or the artistic director of a Bay Area dance company is eligible.*)
 - c) Must have choreographed five dance compositions, of any length, which have been performed before an audience (college dance projects can be included).
 - d) Have training and experience commensurate with the design and goals of the commissioned work.
 - e) Have not received a commission grant funded by the Gerbode Foundation in the last 3 years (recipients in 2003 and prior years are eligible).
 4. The collaborating artist proposed by an applicant organization must:
 - a) Be a full-time resident of California for the last 24 months before time of application.
 - b) Have a strong track record to date, and consider the discipline applied to this commission to be his/her primary arts vocation.
 - c) Not be a current or former staff or company member of the applicant organization.

- d) Not have collaborated *more than twice* with the commissioned choreographer or dance company in the past.
 - e) Be a *key co-creator* of the work, and deeply involved in its creative design and execution as composer, playwright, filmmaker, digital media maker, designer, co-choreographer, etc. *Note: dancers or other performers are eligible ONLY if they are also primary co-creators of the overall work.*
 - f) Has not received a commission grant funded by the Gerbode Foundation in the last 6 years (recipients in 2001 and earlier are eligible).
 - g) Organizations may submit only ONE application for ONE commission. A choreographer may be nominated for one grant by only ONE organization.
5. The proposed commissioned dance compositions must be major, original works, and be either **one large-scale piece** (30 minutes or more) or **a suite of smaller pieces**. *Revisions of previously composed pieces, fruition of current works-in-progress, or other commissions are ineligible.*
 6. Commissions must result in new, fully rehearsed performances open to the public and the press. The premieres must take place no earlier than December 2009 or later than June 2011. Co-produced works are eligible, but the world premiere of the composition(s) must occur in the San Francisco Bay Area.
 7. An interim report specifying production plans must be made to the Gerbode Foundation before all funds will become available. If the production schedule is altered, the Gerbode Foundation must be notified and give its written approval.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

1. All applications and requested attachments must arrive at the Gerbode Foundation office, no later than **4:00 p.m., Thursday, August 14, 2008**. No late applications will be eligible. **Applications will NOT be accepted electronically.**
2. Each applicant organization is required to submit:
 - Three (3) sets of DVDs depicting three (3) works composed by the proposed choreographer. *(Send full performances of the pieces, but if possible cue and/or identify short representative excerpts of no more than four minutes.)*
 - If the presenting/producing organization is a dance company, send three (3) sets of DVDs depicting two (2) works performed by the company. (If the applicant dance company performs the proposed choreographer's work on two of the choreographer's sample DVDs, additional discs are not required).
 - If possible, also send Two (2) samples of the proposed collaborating artist's prior work, on either DVD, compact disc, or other appropriate media.

Application and attachments will not be returned. If you would like the DVDs or other material returned, please include a stamped (without postage meter date), self-addressed mail pouch with your application and a completed *RETURN MATERIALS* form.

Note: professional-quality visual recordings of the dance performances are strongly recommended. DVDs which do not clearly represent the work to its best advantage are discouraged.

3. All application pages must be submitted on 8.5" x 11" paper, **single-sided**, and clipped together but **not stapled or bound**. Do not reformat application.
4. Applications are available for download in Word document format at the Gerbode Foundation website at www.fdncenter.org/grantmaker/gerbode.
5. The application form may be reproduced on the applicant's computer, but the applicant should allow the same amount of space for each response as is provided on the original application form. Upon completion, the applicant is required to print out the application on 8.5" x 11" paper, single-sided, and mail it in with the required submission materials. **Applications will NOT be accepted electronically.**

SELECTION PROCESS AND CRITERIA

Applications will be reviewed by an advisory panel of experts in the field. The Gerbode Foundation will conduct the final review of applications and make the final selection of grantees. **Grantees will be announced in early January 2009.**

Proposals will be judged by the following criteria:

1. Artistic merits of the primary choreographer and the proposed collaborating artist, as represented by previous artistic history and submitted materials.
2. The design, scope, inventiveness and other qualities of the proposed commission.
3. The goals, experience, and professional track record of the applicant organization, and its demonstrated commitment to producing contemporary dance.
4. Potential positive impact of the proposed composition(s) on the choreographer and presenter, including the immediate and long-term artistic goals of both. The choreographer's and collaborating artist's participation in residency activities (public talks, teaching, etc.) with the organization is encouraged, but not mandatory.
5. The practical feasibility of the project, including the applicant organization's ability to finance, rehearse, produce and premiere the commissioned piece, and the proposed participating artists' ability to complete the composition within the stated time frame.

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE 2008 CHOREOGRAPHER COLLABORATION AWARDS

This initiative is supported by the Gerbode Foundation and the Hewlett Foundation, and is *administered by the Gerbode Foundation*. If you have any questions regarding this awards process or if you are having difficulties downloading the 2008 Choreographer Collaborations Guidelines or Application forms, please contact:

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