

# BOSTON DANCE THEATER

64 Hillsdale Rd, Medford, MA 02155 | [www.bostondancetheater.com](http://www.bostondancetheater.com)

---

## Mission, Vision, Values

### Mission

BDT's mission is to build and sustain a professional contemporary dance company dedicated to providing high quality dance performances, dance education and community outreach, to strengthen the dance community in Boston and create new dance audiences. BDT will accomplish this through partnerships with international and world-renown artists to create high quality work performed by local dancers, mentoring local choreographers and dancers, and by performing dance in non-traditional performance locations, such as libraries, senior centers, art galleries and schools.

### Vision

In partnership with Global Arts Live and multiple community partners, BDT's programs will grow to include Local Productions of no less than three public performances each year in the city of Boston, education activities, a year-long trainee program for young dancers who one day aspire to dance within a professional company, environmental and civic engagement events. BDT's work will bring dance into public spaces via workshops and performances. Represented by Siegel Artist Management, BDT will tour its arts, education, and community programming on a national scale. Additionally, BDT seeks to build Partnerships with other community organizations in various reciprocal capacities. Presently, our active partnerships include: Brookline Ballet School who has hosted BDT as company in residence since 2019, The Dance Complex who has hosted BDT's education programs since 2018, Harvard University's Theater, Dance & Media Department + ArtLab, Goethe Institut Boston in Back Bay, and the Israeli Consulate General to New England.

### Values

#### Humility

- We are bold, creative, ambitious, hardworking, and courageous. We are all those things without hubris. BDT welcomes new ideas, engagement and critical insight into its art and company.

#### Innovation

- BDT strives to imagine what role contemporary dance can play within 21st century society. We develop innovative programming to bridge the artistic and cultural gaps found in contemporary society.
- Boston is a center for innovation in many sectors—but not in dance. We strive to harness the potential of collaboration between contemporary dance and emergent fields of research within the arts, sciences, technology, and wellness.
  - Examples include SURGE
- An interest in pushing the art of dance in the 21st century forward, acknowledging what has and has not worked historically and making commitments to change for the better.
  - Examples include the diversity of dance styles represented in the company

#### Accountability

- Clarity of communication, delineation of roles and responsibilities, and protocols on how to measure impact. Accountability, for BDT, includes accountability to each other, the organization, and the communities in which we operate. Accountability means:
  - Openly communicating constructive feedback often.
  - Receiving feedback with openness; listening to understand rather than to respond.
  - An understanding that conflict is a normal part of human interaction. BDT seeks to align on the level of interests and needs, rather than strategies.

#### Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice

- Agreements:
  - Assume good intentions and know that good intentions do not negate harm
  - Step up, step back. Leave room for others to contribute to the conversation. Pay attention to who is in the room and who is not speaking. Work to ensure that those impacted by the issue have a voice in the conversation.
  - Speak from the "I" perspective of your own experience. Do not speak for others.
  - Seek to understand, practice active and deep listening. Ask questions and make no assumptions.
  - Be willing to be uncomfortable and participate in challenging conversations.
  - Disagree without discord.
  - Accept there is no quick fix.

#### Artistic Quality

- BDT is committed to mastering the craft, techniques, and styles of and related to contemporary dance and in supporting other artists who share this value.
- BDT focuses on the quality of the artistic process at every level of the organization. From the conditions of the studio, to the salary structure of the artists, to the minutiae of everyday movements and administrative tasks- each contributes to the organization as a whole.
- BDT artists come from and embrace a variety of aesthetic and cultural dance backgrounds (street dance, ballet, somatics, etc.). This is evidenced in the company's daily class which is a different genre each day. BDT's artists and collaborators are all magnetized to one common idea: that BDT is a space where everyone brings integrity, passion, and commitment to the process every day. Bringing one's whole self into the space and giving their all to the process.