

# **Annual Report**

2020

#### Although The World May Look A Little Different

# The Healing Power Of Art Still Remains

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#### **Mission**

To achieve excellence in the arts through the creation of new works, live performances, and extensive outreach that nurtures and empowers at-risk youth in our community.

In furtherance of our mission, we are committed to....

Promoting the voices of female artists and creators

Making ballet accessible to all

Being a classical trained ensemble of diverse dancers

A repertory that is contemporary and cutting edge while maintaining its roots in classical ballet

Fostering a greater appreciation of ballet from a wide demographic





Dear Friends of MorDance.

MorDance was faced with a challenging new reality as the result of COVID-19, with the postponement of performances, rehearsals, and outreach programs. We worked creatively to bring art to audiences through virtual outreach programs, streaming previously recorded performances and Q&A's with the artists of MorDance. During the uncertain times of this year, your support remained steadfast enabling us to look forward to a bright future for MorDance. Today, we cast a hopeful gaze upon our upcoming season. I, along with the help of our board of directors, am working toward an exciting summer and fall season of dance that will be presented in a unique and safe way. Our new season will start with a residency at The Sky Hill Farm in New Woodstock, NY. We will then return to New York City to rehearse in the streets as part of NYC Open Streets Culture. Additionally, we are ecstatic about the return of our in-person outreach events made possible through NYC Open Streets Learning.

During these unpredictable times one thing has always been certain: the healing, inspiring, and unifying power of art remains. I look forward to returning to rehearsals and performances this year and the opportunity to breathe life into new ballets with our team of talented dancers and collaborating artists.

Sincerely,

Morgan McEwen
Artistic Director



The Company Page 06



**Antuan Byers** 



**Courtney Catalana** 



Jace Coronado



Wes Krokow



Mary Kate Reynolds



**Beth Rodbell** 



**Amy Saunder** 



**Jacob Taylor** 

MorDance works to support female voices in the male dominated fields of choreography, music composition, and lighting design.



Morgan shaping new choreography in February of 2020



Lighting designer Rebecca Heisler began her fourth season of collaboration with Mordance



Polina Nazaykinskaya colaborated with Morgan and composed an original score for solo piano



Costume collaborations with Kim Craig

In The Press Page 08

McEwen has created not only a rarity – an adult evening-length story ballet staged in a relatively small, black-box theater by a relatively small, non-established company with the financial issues that all such companies have, but a decidedly feminist Romeo and Juliet that tells the full story to much of the original Prokofiev score with significant twists that make it not just different, but outrageous – though within the parameters of acceptable commentary on the Shakespeare original. It's not easily forgettable. It's bloody good. Literally. Everything is here, and more. Lots more.

Crisp and clean dance maker with an eye for shaping the arc of a dance as carefully as the transitions and details within it.

-Sioban Burke, New York Times



Compelling, athletic, robust
-Karen Shapiro, Wet Paint

McEwen's choreography here takes a back seat to her ingenuity, originality, and vision. But it shouldn't. If you expect a lot of choreographic complexity or a performance level consistent with those Big Ballet companies that present Romeo and Juliet in New York, you won't be disappointed.

-Jerry Hochman, Critical dance





While the performing arts seemed out of reach this year, MorDance worked in new ways to bring dance to students.







My favorite part of being with MorDance was learning all the ballet steps and all the positive feelings I felt while dancing from the dancers.

-Sixth Grader, Anahla V.

Something I learned during the time with MorDance was how to not be afraid of doing things in front of people. The dancers taught me to have self confidence.

-Seventh Grader, Evelyn A.





MorDance taught me that dance is pretty cool. I think dance and art is important because it encourages creativity and individuality.

-Seventh Grader, Avon T.

Low-income students who are highly engaged in the arts are more than 2x as likely to graduate college as their peers with no art education.

Students who regularly participate in the arts are 4x more likely to be recognized for academic achievement.

Students who regularly participate in the arts are 4x more likely to participate in a math or science fair.

Students who regularly participate in the arts are 3x more likely to win an award for school attendance.

Students who regularly participate in the arts are 3x more likely to be elected to class office.

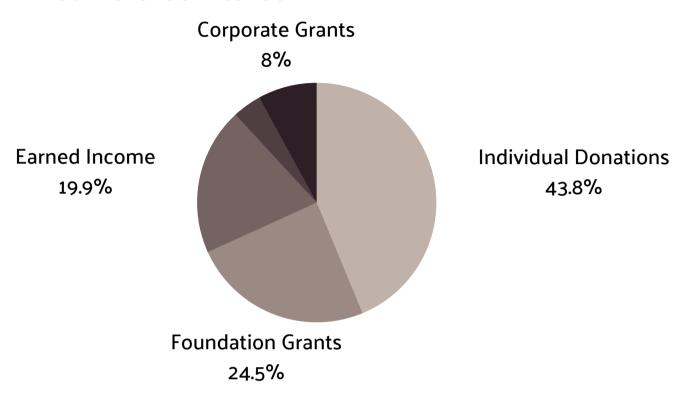
Statistics by Americans for The Arts



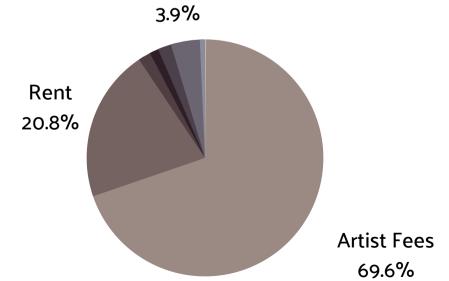
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Revenue	\$28,980	\$39,408	\$37,257	\$54,428	\$62,315	\$40,607
Expenditures	\$21,048	\$33,954	\$24,300	\$73,508	\$68,644	\$23,748
Net Assets/ Funds Balance	\$7,932	\$13,519	\$26,476	\$7,396	\$2,716	\$18,445



#### **Annual Revenue Breakdown**



## **Annual Expenditure Breakdown**



**Legal and Professional Services** 





Morgan McEwen
President



Caralyn Reiff Vice President



Dan McElwee Treasurer



Ora Solomon Secretary



Mayank Saksena



**Evelyn Swaim** 



Jessica Geiger