



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Leigh Lotocki

Email: press@dancewave.org

Phone: (347) 408-0643

Dancewave Awarded \$20,000 from National Endowment for the Arts Expanding and Awarding Full Scholarships for Arts Educator Training

BROOKLYN, NY, August 20, 2019 - National Endowment for the Arts Acting Chairman Mary Anne Carter has announced an Art Works grant of \$20,000 in support of SYAC, **Strategies for Young Artist Citizens**, Dancewave's innovative training workshop for arts-focused youth educators. The bolstered 2019 training takes place August 27-28 at the nonprofit's new dance and community center at 182 4th Avenue in Gowanus, Brooklyn, which opened its doors on June 7, 2019. NEA funding supports **full scholarships for select community-based educators**, take-away resources for trainees, and documentation of the program's impact. Event information available at dancewave.org/educator-training.

"Dance provides an embodied transformational experience for all participants. Dancewave has created a useful model that develops and nurtures community in any studio, classroom or professional setting. The NEA funding directly impacts Dancewave's ability to bring our extensive research in SEL, restorative practices and student leadership to educators of all backgrounds and encourage them to bring movement into their pedagogy. Our goal is to grow this training and reach more teachers throughout New York City and beyond using inclusive and supportive methods that will have an exponential effect on youth development best practices long into the future," said **Diane Jacobowitz, Dancewave Executive/Artistic Director and Founder**.

Dancewave requires all of its Teaching Artists to undergo this specialized training, both for classes held at the Dancewave Center and in public school residencies (in as many as 40 schools last year across New York City's five boroughs). To further support students' individualized mentorship and wellness throughout their rigorous dance education at Dancewave, trained professional Coaches are paired to assist Teaching Artists in youth dance classes at the Center.

Dancewave's unique Culture Model (DCM) is based in dance education infrastructure outlined in the NYC Dance Blueprint, NY State Standards and National Core Arts Standards. Guided by The Young Artist Citizens focus which is designed to empower students to lead, Dancewave cultivates their teachers to help students to take ownership of their learning and become active members of their learning community. Through this annual educator training and added support through the NEA, Dancewave helps educators create tools and curriculum for movement-based learning.

"These awards, reaching every corner of the United States, are a testament to the artistic richness and diversity in our country," said **Mary Anne Carter, acting chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts**. "Organizations such as Dancewave are giving people in their community the opportunity to learn, create, and be inspired."

Acting Chairman Mary Anne Carter approved more than \$80 million in grants as part of the Arts Endowment's principal grantmaking program Art Works for fiscal year 2019. The agency received 1,592 Art Works applications for this round of grantmaking, and awarded 977 grants in this category. For more information on this National Endowment for the Arts grant announcement, visit arts.gov/news.

Registration is currently open for the 2019 Strategies for Young Artist Citizens training. Visit dancewave.org/educator-training or email press@dancewave.org for more information.

About Dancewave

Dancewave provides access to a community dance experience that encourages individuality and whole person development throughout NYC and beyond. Dancewave's unique Culture Model (DCM) creates an inclusive environment for all ages, abilities, sexual orientations, racial and socio-economic backgrounds. Our innovative programming, which now serves over 6,000 annually, uses dance as a vehicle for transformation.

###