



A contemporary artist residency, dance and performance center,
for Martha's Vineyard and beyond

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THE YARD ANNOUNCES 2022 SUMMER SEASON PROGRAMS

[May 20, 2022] — (Chilmark, Massachusetts) Summer 2022 marks a momentous occasion at The Yard — the cherished dance organization's 50th summer season! The Yard is thrilled to celebrate with the return of in-person movement classes, *Kids Do Dance*, artist workshops, and a cohort of topflight artists-in-residence.

This summer, The Yard continues its practice of presenting innovative and invigorating works that excite, inspire, and encourage growth. Some artists will share completed works, while others invite the audience into the middle of their creative process. All are engaging in unique ways with the pressing social and cultural issues of the time. Events will be held at The Yard's Chilmark campus and at locations across Martha's Vineyard.

Dedicated to spreading knowledge and positively impacting the Island community through dance and movement, The Yard has focused on reinvigorating its in-person programming since the initial COVID-19 shutdown of 2020. The 2022 summer calendar has inclusive movement classes and varied engagement programs. Whether a long time dancer or a toddler just finding their balance, there is something for everyone.

What to expect at a glance:

- The return of in-person classes such as yoga, family friendly dance parties, movement classes, African rhythms, and more.
- Artist-led workshops open to all ages and abilities.
- Performances and other events across the island.

Entering its 50th year, The Yard reflects on the abundance of stories, people, and performances that make up its history. To celebrate that history there will be an exhibit at the Martha's Vineyard Museum from July 20 - October 21, 2022. The Yard looks forward to imagining the next five decades of magical performances, artworks, and experiences yet to be created.

Visit www.dancetheyard.org/summerseason22 to learn more about classes and residencies.

2022 Summer Residencies and Performances

Larissa Velez-Jackson/LVJ Performance Co

In Residence May 30 - June 9, 2022

Performance June 7 at 7 pm | Patricia N. Nanon Theater, 1 The Yard, Chilmark, MA.

Tickets:

\$30 Adult

\$25 Senior 65+/Military

\$10 Youth under 18

*Yard Access \$10 price is available. [Please use this application form.](#)

Larissa Velez-Jackson is a choreographer, interdisciplinary artist, performer, and teacher who uses improvisation as a main tool for research and creation, focusing on personhood and the dancing, sound-making body. Velez-Jackson currently survives multiple myeloma cancer. She is committed to the healing and transformative potential of art and integrated body/mind practice, as well as advocating for accessibility in the arts.

While in residence at The Yard, LVJ Performance Co. will share a late-stage-in-progress excerpt of their current work, ***Protecting Complexity with the Star Pû Method***. With healing as a core facet through movement, breath, communal connection, and vocal sound, LVJ asks whether the performance encounter provides a space that makes healing actually possible.

See *Protecting Complexity* on June 7th at 7:00 pm at the Patricia N. Nanon Theater, 1 The Yard, Chilmark, MA. For tickets and more information, visit www.dancetheyard.org/lvj-performanceco.

Lucky Plush Productions

In Residence June 9 - 20, 2022

Performances June 11 & 12 at 7 pm | Patricia N. Nanon Theater, 1 The Yard, Chilmark, MA.

Tickets:

\$30 Adult

\$25 Senior 65+/Military

\$10 Youth under 18

*Yard Access \$10 price is available [Please use this application form.](#)

Lucky Plush Productions is an ensemble dance-theater company based in Chicago, led by founder and Artistic Director Julia Rhoads. The company is committed to provoking and supporting an immediacy of presence—a palpable live-ness—shared by performers in real-time with audiences. A unique hybrid of high-level dance and theater, Lucky Plush's work is recognized for its layered choreography, nuanced dialogue, surprising humor, and socially relevant content.

While in residence at The Yard, Lucky Plush Productions will present ***Rink Life***. Lucky Plush brings its highly integrated approach to dance-theater into a communal space that nods to the visual aesthetics and social dynamics of 1970s roller rink culture. *Rink Life*'s staging and choreography are built from the rink's spatial rules and social codes, and its script-turned-libretto—created from passing conversations, distant

whispers, pop-song earworms, and found scripts—is entirely spoken and sung live. As the ensemble sings full-throatedly to score their experiences, they demonstrate through effort, risk, beauty, and failure that they—and we—are utterly dependent on one another.

See *Rink Life* on June 11 & 12th at 7:00 pm at the Patricia N. Nanon Theater, 1 The Yard, Chilmark, MA. For tickets and more information, visit www.dancetheyard.org/lucky-plush-productions.

Urban Bush Women

In Residence June 21 - July 3, 2022

Presentations TBA June 2022 | Off campus, on Island sites

Urban Bush Women (UBW), founded in 1984 by choreographer Jawole Willa Jo Zollar, is a Brooklyn-based performance ensemble and dance company under the artistic direction of Chanon Judson and Samantha Speis. UBW seeks to bring the untold and under-told histories and stories to light through dance. They do this from a woman-centered perspective and as members of the African Diaspora community in order to create a more equitable balance of power in the dance world and beyond.

Over the course of two years, Urban Bush Women is engaging with The Yard to develop a site-specific version of their work, ***Haint Blu***, on Martha's Vineyard. This year their residency will focus on community engagement. *Haint Blu* is an ensemble dance-theater work steeped in memory and magic. Known as the color that Southern families paint their front porches to ward off bad spirits, *Haint Blu* uses performance as a center and source of healing, taking us through movement into stillness and rest. It is an embodied look into familial lines and the movements, histories, and stories of our elders and ancestors. It reflects on what has been lost across generations and what can be recovered. *Haint Blu* takes us to the magical place where spirits share their legacies, journey onward, and leave the thick residue of their knowing behind. *Haint Blu* is inspired by *SCAT!*, Urban Bush Women's musical theater work in development.

Be a part of the process. UBW will offer movement workshops, a work-in-progress showing, and other community engagement over the course of their residency. Details TBA. Visit www.dancetheyard.org/urban-bush-women-1 to learn more.

Adele Myers and Dancers

In Residence July 9-18, 2022

Performances July 15 & 16 at 7 pm | Patricia N. Nanon Theater, 1 The Yard, Chilmark, MA.

Tickets:

\$30 Adult

\$25 Senior 65+/Military

\$10 Youth under 18

*Yard Access \$10 price is available [Please use this application form.](#)

Adele Myers and Dancers, Inc. (AMD) is a Miami based not-for-profit dance theater company hailed for its signature blend of robust physicality and personal theatricality, committed to advancing and amplifying female dance artists through process, performance, and community engagement.

While in residence at The Yard, Adele Myers and Dancers will present ***These Women In Space and Time (T.W.I.S.T.)***. *T.W.I.S.T.* is a visually stunning, physically powerful, heart-pounding evening-length dance theater performance and offers a variety of engaging acts of female solidarity. *T.W.I.S.T.* is performed by five female athletes of the heart.

Along with *T.W.I.S.T.*, Adele Myers and Dancers will host TWISTalks — a creative research and community engagement element of T.W.I.S.T. TWISTalks are gatherings for women to share, listen, laugh, and twist against the disempowering ways we move through the world in our daily choreographies.

See *T.W.I.S.T.* on July 15 & 16th at 7:00 pm at the Patricia N. Nanon Theater, 1 The Yard, Chilmark, MA. For tickets and more information, visit www.dancetheyard.org.

Information about TWISTalks events will be announced later in the season. Visit www.dancetheyard.org/adele-myers-and-dancers to learn more.

Ronald K. Brown/EVIDENCE, A Dance Company

In Residence, July 18-25, 2022

Performance July 23 at 7 pm | The Martha's Vineyard Performing Arts Center, 100 Edgartown Rd, Vineyard Haven, MA

Tickets:

\$40 Adult

\$35 Senior 65+/Military

\$10 Youth under 18

*Yard Access \$10 price is available [Please use this application form.](#)

Founded by Ronald K. Brown in 1985 and based in Brooklyn, New York, EVIDENCE, A Dance Company, focuses on the seamless integration of traditional African dance with contemporary choreography and spoken word. Through their work, EVIDENCE provides a unique view of human struggles, tragedies, and triumphs. Brown uses movement as a way to reinforce the importance of community in African American culture and to acquaint audiences with the beauty of traditional African forms and rhythms. He is an advocate for the growth of the African American dance community and is instrumental in encouraging young dancers to choreograph and to develop careers in dance.

While in residence at The Yard, EVIDENCE will present *The Equality of Night and Day (TEND)* at the Performing Arts Center. *TEND* is a new work by Brown examining the concepts of balance, equity, and fairness in light of the conflicting present-day issues that young people, women, and people of color now face. In a world where exploitation, gentrification, racism, and xenophobia are on the rise, the current shift in public discourse anchors the new piece. *TEND* is realizing that there is a need for mercy in a bigger way than you thought. The new work will be presented alongside *Ebony Magazine: To A Village* and *UPside Down* from Brown's remarkable repertoire.

See *Ronald K. Brown/EVIDENCE, A Dance Company* on July 23rd at 7:00 pm at The Martha's Vineyard Performing Arts Center, 100 Edgartown Rd, Vineyard Haven, MA. For tickets and more information, visit www.dancetheyard.org/ronald-k-brownevidence.

Danza Orgánica & Aquinnah Wampanoag Tribal Members

In Residence, July 25 - August 2, 2022

Performances Fall 2022 | TBA

Danza Orgánica is a dance theater company that creates anti-racist, anti-patriarchal, and decolonizing work. Through high-quality performance, education (Dance for Social Justice™), and the annual festival We Create, they work with-and-for communities interested in embodying a liberated future. They honor the right to express the BIPOC experience and leave a legacy that sheds light upon an untold side of history.

Danza Orgánica first connected with members of the Aquinnah Wampanoag Tribe during their 2018 residency at The Yard. Since then, the two groups have been collaborating to create **âs nupumukâunean (We Still Dance)**, which highlights traditional and contemporary stories of the Aquinnah Wampanoag People through dance, song, installation, and storytelling. They continue their work this summer with performances slated for this fall — a culmination of four years of creative, collaborative development.

Stay tuned for performance announcements. Visit www.dancetheyard.org/danza-orgnica-aquinnah-wampanoag-tribal-members for more information.

Brownbody

In Residence, August 2 - 15, 2022

Performances August 11 & 12 at 7pm | YMCA of Martha's Vineyard Ice Arena, 91 Edgartown Rd, Vineyard Haven, MA

Tickets:

\$40 Adult

\$35 Senior 65+/Military

\$10 Youth under 18

*Yard Access \$10 price is available [Please use this application form.](#)

Grounded in African diasporic perspectives, Brownbody's mission is to build artistic experiences that disrupt biased narratives and prompt audiences to engage as active participants in the journey. Brownbody accomplishes this through a blend of modern dance, theater, social justice, and figure skating.

While in residence at The Yard, BrownBody will present ***Tracing Sacred Steps***, which blends modern dance, figure skating, and Ring Shout. In her essay, "Hoodoo Religion and American Dance Traditions: Rethinking the Ring Shout", Katrina Hazzard states: "It was from the African sacred circle, that the first truly African American dance was born: the 'Ring Shout.'"

Tracing Sacred Steps engages elements of Ring Shout to illustrate how it continues to serve as a pathway to healing within so many Black spaces. It illustrates how this practice continues to be relevant, pays homage to these important cultural rituals, and its practitioners: forcibly displaced Africans that found a way, amidst grave adversity, to work towards restoration and wholeness. *Tracing Sacred Steps* features an all-Black cast of four professional skating artists and actor/vocalist Thomasina Petrus.

See *Tracing Sacred Steps* on August 11 & 12th at 7:00 pm at the YMCA of Martha's Vineyard Ice Arena, 91 Edgartown Rd, Vineyard Haven, MA. For tickets and more information, visit www.dancetheyard.org/brownbody.

Ephrat Asherie Dance

In Residence, August 16 - 29

Performances August 26 & 27 at 7 pm | Patricia N. Nanon Theater, 1 The Yard, Chilmark, MA.

Tickets:

\$30 Adult

\$25 Senior 65+/Military

\$10 Youth under 18

*Yard Access \$10 price is available [Please use this application form.](#)

Ephrat Asherie Dance (EAD) is a dance company rooted in street and social dance. Dedicated to revealing the inherent complexities of these forms, EAD explores the expansive narrative qualities of various street and club styles including breaking, hip hop, house, and vogue, as a means to tell stories, develop innovative imagery, and find new modes of expression.

While in residence at The Yard, EAD will present their new work, ***Underscored***. Created and performed by members of the company with special guest artists from New York City's underground scene, *Underscored*, is inspired by the intergenerational memories of club dancers. EAD invites audiences to join them on an exhilarating journey through the ever-changing physical landscape of New York City's underground dance community.

See *Underscored* on August 26 & 27th at 7:00 pm at the Patricia N. Nanon Theater, 1 The Yard, Chilmark, MA. For tickets and more information, visit www.dancetheyard.org/ephrat-asherie-dance.

2022 Summer Programs

Move Your Body Series

Ongoing classes throughout summer starting June 25th

\$20 per class* | \$85 for a 5 class pass | \$160 for a 10 class pass

Class passes expire at the end of summer 2022

*Yard Access \$10 price is available [Please use this application form.](#)

Move Your Body Series is intended for all ages and features dance, movement, fitness, and well-being classes throughout the summer! Visit www.dancetheyard.org/move-your-body-series for more information.

Morning Yoga with Mollie Doyle. Classes focus on intelligent sequencing, linking breath to movement, and building a practice that brings consciousness and ease to the body and mind.

June 25 - Aug. 27 (drop-in classes)

Tuesday and Thursday 7-8:30 am

Saturday 8-9:30 am

Adult Movement with Naomi Goldberg Haas. Created for the dancer coming back to the studio. Barre work moves to standing center opening the spine with a combination of contemporary and traditional dance techniques.

July 11,12,14, & 15 (drop-in classes)
M,T,Th,F 9:30-10 am at The Yard

Get It Started Movement Class with Claire Page. Moms, Dads, Kids, Grandparents! This workshop is perfect for all ages: pre-K to adult.

June 18, 25, July 2 (drop-in classes)
Saturdays 10-11:30 am at The Yard

East African Dances & Drumming. Ugandan-born dance educator, actor, and choreographer **Godfrey Muwulya** returns to the Island with his high-energy workshops in East African traditional dances, drumming, and music. For all ages.

Godfrey's classes at the Yard are made possible through support and collaboration from Slough Farm and Chilmark Community Center.

July 9, 16 (drop-in classes)
Saturdays 10-11:30am at The Yard

Ecstatic Dance MV is a freeform movement journey, held in a safe and sacred container & facilitated by **DJ Flavya**. A nationwide movement, Ecstatic Dance empowers people of all shapes, sizes, and backgrounds through conscious dance and sonic healing. Join us in a space where you can get great exercise, free your mind and body, and connect with yourself and others in vibrant health.

Saturdays at The Yard
Dates/times TBD

Kids Do Dance

Monday-Friday, 9:30 am-12:00 pm. For ages 6-11.
Participants can enroll in one week or multiple weeks

Pricing: \$400/week

*Two full and two partial scholarships (\$200/week) will be available for year-round Vineyard residents who need them. Scholarship requests can be sent to Yvonne Mendez yvonnemendez@dancetheyard.org

Session 1: July 18 - 22
Session 2: July 25 - 29
Session 3: August 1 - 5

Each weeklong program will challenge children through fun, active dance classes that build skill and technique; nurture the child's choreographic voice and individual artistic expression through composition studies; and develop the child's connections to professional dancers in residency at The Yard and to the community of Martha's Vineyard.

Directed by dance educators and choreographers **Deborah Damast** and **Daria Fitzgerald**, Kids Do Dance enables children to develop their original choreography and create work collaboratively. Weeklong classes culminate in an exciting family share day on Fridays where parents, grandparents, siblings, and friends join in the fun! Open to all levels of experience and ability.

To enroll visit www.dancetheyard.org/kids-do-dance.

Wednesdays With The Artists - Workshop Series at The Yard

Wednesdays 10 am (60-90 minute workshops)
Dates/Times TBA

\$20 per class* | \$85 for a 5 class pass | \$160 for a 10 class pass

Class passes expire at the end of summer 2022

*Yard Access \$10 price is available [Please use this application form.](#)

World-class residency artists offer movement, education, and engagement workshops open to the whole Island community! Workshops include embodied movement practice, story circles, and more.

Examples include:

- Lucky Plush Productions' nationally acclaimed dance-theater company will guide participants through their collaborative Devising Dance Theater workshop that includes improvisation and vocal exercises, culminating in a collectively created informal presentation.
- Using their new work, *Haint Blu*, as a basis for this workshop, world-renowned Urban Bush Women will lead participants on a journey through movement into stillness and rest: remembering, reclaiming, releasing, and restoring themselves.

Visit www.dancetheyard.org/wednesdays-with-the-artists for more information.

The Yard Summer Season Sponsors

The Yard's 2022 artist residencies are supported by the Jerome A. and Estelle R. Newman Assistance Fund.

The Yard's 50th summer season is supported by the Martha's Vineyard Bank Charitable Foundation.

The Yard has been approved for a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts that would support this summer season. To find out more about how the National Endowment for the Arts grants impact individuals and communities, visit www.arts.gov



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The Yard is a creation and performance platform for artists from around the globe, and we offer exhilarating, wide-ranging, and educational arts experiences through performances, residencies, and community activities. We present performances by international, national, and local artists; provide paid residencies for artists; offer inter-generational engagement programs and classes for our island community; and bring dance and creativity-centered education programs into schools. Our community programs run year-round and can be found on The Yard's campus and in partner locations across the island of Martha's Vineyard. Please visit www.dancetheyard.org for more information.

SEED. GROW. REAP. REPEAT: THE NATURE OF THE YARD.

TheYard 