

Healthy Dancer Canada BIPOC Emerging Artist Scholarship 2023

Call for Applications and Nominations

Applications are now open for **The Healthy Dancer Canada BIPOC Emerging Artist Scholarship!** An initiative **created to support emerging BIPOC artists pursuing careers in dance, this scholarship aims to address existing barriers faced by BIPOC artists, and improve access to supports** that will further racialized artists in their professional pursuits (e.g., education, cost of living, start-up capital, healthcare services, production costs, etc.). This opportunity is open to BIPOC artists ages 18 - 30 who self-identify as emerging/early-stage professional dance artists in any and all genres.

The dire discrepancy between opportunities available for white versus BIPOC artists is not only evidenced in the lived experience of these artists, but one further evidenced by rigorous scholarly research. According to 2016 research by [Data USA](#), approximately 79.5 percent of female-identifying ballet dancers are white, while only 6.72 percent are African American. Data USA also found that among post-secondary ballet students, white students earned 90.7% of Bachelor's degrees and 75% of Master's degrees awarded in this field in 2019. Another [recent study](#) by [Hill Strategies](#) on the Demographic Diversity of Artists in Canada in 2016 found that Indigenous artists make a median income of 68 cents for every \$1 for non-Indigenous artists, while racialized artists make a median income of 72 cents for every \$1 for non-racialized artists. These numbers not only clearly demonstrate the lack of diversity in the professional ballet world, but also exemplify concerning trends in the dance world at large (e.g., lack of funding and residencies given to BIPOC dancers, barriers to accessing higher education among marginalized groups, etc.) that are in urgent need of addressing.

Applicants may also express interest in HDC's Mentorship Program, which will pair the emerging artist with an established dance professional in a mentoring relationship for six, hour-long meetings over a designated six-month period (six sessions total). The Mentorship Program aspires to offer further **professional advice, guidance, resources, and emotional/social support** to BIPOC artists in the early stages of their dance career.

The HDC BIPOC Emerging Artist Scholarship is open to two types of applications:

1. Independent Submission
2. Nomination

Eligibility Requirements:

- Dance Artist (All Genres)
- Ages 18 - 30
- Early Stages of Career (Student or Professional)
- BIPOC Individual

Note: HDC Membership is NOT required.

Submission Deadline: May 1st, 2023

Successful Applicants will be responded to by no later than June 1st, 2023.



Application Format:

1. Full Name of Applicant/Nominee
2. Age of Applicant/Nominee
3. Email Address(es) (If you are nominating an artist, please include email addresses for both nominator and nominee)
4. Applicant/Nominee Short Biography (Max. 250 words)
5. Why are you applying/nominating this person?
 - a. **For Independent Applicants:** What do you intend to apply this scholarship to that will support the realization of your artistic goal(s)? What are the steps you will take to work towards your goal(s)? What is your anticipated or aspirational timeline for this action plan? (Max. 500 words)
 - b. **For Nominators:** What do you think this scholarship will provide the nominee with that will support the realization of their artistic goal(s)? What artistic aspirations does the nominee have that you would like to see them continue to work toward or achieve in the coming months/years? (Max. 500 words)
6. Please include up to 5 links to documentation of your/the nominee's work (e.g., website, video, photo, social media, reviews)
7. Attach CV of Applicant/Nominee, if applicable
8. Are you/Do you think your nominee would be interested in our Mentorship Program? If so, what would you/they hope to gain from a dance mentor at this time in your/their career? (Max, 250 words)
9. Submit to bipoc.healthydancercanada@gmail.com

Contact/Questions:

bipoc.healthydancercanada@gmail.com