

## Local dance companies announced for Momentum Greenway Dance Program, presented by Amazon

*The Greenway Conservancy has commissioned this series of fall 2023 performances*

**February 15, 2023 – Boston, MA** – The [Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy](https://www.rosekennedygreenway.org/) today announced the dance companies selected for the *Momentum Greenway Dance Program*, presented by Amazon. This new, site-responsive dance series will debut in the fall of 2023 with [Continuum Dance Project](#), [Jean Appolon Expressions](#), [Public Displays of Motion](#), and [Vimoksha](#).

The Greenway Conservancy is partnering with Boston-based choreographer/director [Peter DiMuro](#), who will guide the cohort through a year-long development process that includes workshops with guest artists, peer critical response, rehearsal space, mentorship, public work-in-progress performances, and documentation. “I am thrilled to be able to act as a conduit throughout the processes of research and actualization into dance works for all the companies creating performances,” said DiMuro.

Each choreographer has selected a portion of the 1.5-mile-long Greenway on which to base their work and each dance, lasting around 30 minutes, will respond to the context of the site, whether historical, social, anthropological, or environmental. All dances will be performed for the public over a series of weekends in September 2023, culminating in a final festival day of performance in early October 2023.

[Continuum Dance Project](#) (CDP), led by choreographers/co-directors **Adriane Brayton** and **Fernadina Chan**, has chosen to focus their work in Auntie Kay & Uncle Frank Chin Park on The Greenway. “CDP is excited to collaborate with The Greenway Conservancy and further our investigation of immigrant stories that began in our 2021 work *Crossing: Stories of Immigration*,” said co-directors Adriane and Fernadina. “Focusing on the Chinatown community, the company will utilize imagery from Cynthia Yee’s ‘Hudson Street Chronicles’ to create a work that honors the experiences of the people of Chinatown, while celebrating their resilient spirit. Exploring the element water as thematic inspiration, the work will strive to illuminate the authentic voice of the residents displaced by urban renewal and share their adaptability and toughness. Our personal connections with the community will empower us to convey the true spirit of the land and its people.”

[Jean Appolon Expressions](#) (JAE), led by Founder/Artistic Director **Jean Appolon**, will explore the themes of Armenian Heritage Park. “This collaboration means a lot to JAE because our work revolves around connecting different communities and cultures,” said Jean Appolon. “The

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Armenian Heritage Park is uniquely related to some of our most recent work, focusing on collective historical trauma and how arts and dance can create pathways towards healing.”

**Peter DiMuro** will lead his company [Public Displays of Motion](#) in creating a piece in the North End area of The Greenway. “All of us at Public Displays of Motion are excited to be delving into the multiple intersecting aspects of making site specific work here on The Greenway - and specifically our focus on the connections to the North End. With individual core members of the company, we bring collaborating artists that span six decades and whose individual lineages come from all corners of the world. These multiple points of view afford us the opportunity to look at this space and the people who've inhabited it, translating this into a flow of stories and movement that will become the basis of this work.”

**Chavi Bansal** is the founder and choreographer for [Vimoksha Dance Company](#) and has selected the area around Rowes Wharf Plaza on The Greenway to create a vision for her company’s performance. “I am extremely excited by the opportunity to work with such amazing fellow choreographers with years of experience working in the field. Site specific performance particularly interests me, as it is the best way to get instant feedback from the audience, understand their interest on a one-on-one basis, and build a relationship. My company and I are looking forward to the exposure that outdoor performances provide; we can reach the non-theater going audience and get more exposure for our company.”

“We’re thrilled to have a cohort of dance companies that are diverse, powerful, and committed to site responsive dance,” said Keelin Caldwell, Director of Programs and Community Engagement at the Greenway Conservancy. “Everyone is passionate about the themes of community, immigration, and shared spaces that emerged in our early conversations and we are all looking forward to seeing dance throughout The Greenway this fall.”

This series is made possible by presenting sponsor Amazon, as well as additional enhancement funding from the Greenway Business Improvement District (BID) and Meet Boston, and a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. The Greenway Dance series is funded exclusively through competitive grants and private sources.

“Amazon is proud to continue to invest in arts and culture programs in Boston so people of all ages and backgrounds in our city can enjoy them,” said Jerome Smith, Amazon’s Head of Community Engagement in New England. “We can’t wait to see the incredible performances on The Greenway in the fall.”

“Greenway BID members are dedicated to supporting exciting, welcoming, and inviting experiences on The Greenway through enhancement funding that helps to make activations like

this possible,” said Rick Dimino, President and CEO of A Better City and Executive Director of the Greenway BID. “This dance series will help to make The Greenway even more vibrant and engaging to all that enjoy and benefit from the park.”

### **About The Greenway and the Greenway Conservancy**

The Greenway is a contemporary public park in the heart of Boston. The Greenway welcomes millions of visitors annually to gather, play, unwind, and explore. The Greenway Conservancy is the non-profit responsible for the management and care of The Greenway. The majority of the public park’s annual budget is generously provided by private sources.

### **About Peter DiMuro**

For 30+ years, DiMuro has woven a career as a dancer, actor, choreographer, director, teacher, and facilitator of creativity. He was Artistic Director of Liz Lerman Dance Exchange 2003-2008, a White House Millennial Artist, and a Mayor of Boston/ProArts Arts Award recipient. His work has received support from the NEA, National Performance Network, the Mass Artists’ Foundation, Mass Cultural Council, and MetLife Foundation. DiMuro was a member of the inaugural cohort of the Mayor of Boston’s Artist-in-Residence program in 2015, the recipient of an Arts Fuse Award in 2016, and the 2018 inaugural choreographer-in-residence at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. DiMuro is currently focused on physically embodying public art by creating dance in and for public spaces. His work creates platforms for the often invisible histories of our shared spaces, allowing the viewer to see and move through places differently. Public Displays of Motion is a dance company under the creative umbrella of DiMuro that develops and performs artistic works in dance and dance/theatre that translate the poetic and humane within everyday lives into performance; they will be one of the four companies involved in this project.

### **About Continuum Dance Project**

Continuum Dance Project (CDP) is a Boston based dance company focused on creating site-specific work, cross-disciplinary collaboration, and reflecting the backgrounds of our collaborating artists. Founded in 2013 by Fernadina Chan, CDP choreographers/co-directors Adriane Brayton and Fernadina Chan work collaboratively with their dancers. In 2022 Continuum Dance Project received The Boston Dancemakers Residency, made possible with support from the Aliad Fund at The Boston Foundation, and an AiR Residency at Somerville Arts Council’s ArtAssembled. CDP is a 2022 Massachusetts Cultural Council Artist Fellowship Finalist in Choreography, and received a 2020 Live Arts Boston grant from the Boston Foundation. Continuum Dance Project pushes the boundaries of audience interaction and traditional vantage points, by presenting work in unconventional spaces.

### **About Jean Appolon Expressions**

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Jean Appolon Expressions (JAE) is a contemporary dance company deeply rooted in Haitian-folkloric culture that nurtures a global community through professional performances, educational opportunities, dance training, and the joy of movement for people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds. JAE shares the liberating power of Haitian-folkloric dance to cultivate hope and healing towards a more expressive and socially just world. Based in Boston and directed by Jean Appolon, JAE's professional company conducts performances, community classes and educational workshops, with the goal of using dance and dialogue to promote healthy communities and speak to topics of social justice. The Haitian contemporary dance company combines Modern technique and Haitian folkloric dance, bringing a new artistic vernacular to its audiences. With its dynamic repertoire, JAE educates audiences about Haitian culture, traditions, history and current issues.

The company has performed both at major venues such as Jacob's Pillow, Boston's Paramount Center, The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, the ICA, The Silver Spring Civic Building, and in city parks and community spaces in free performances accessible to the public. JAE has also performed at many schools and colleges, including American University, Harvard University, Lesley University, Salem State, Bridgewater State and Wheaton College. The company has been fortunate to share the stage with celebrities such as Danny Glover, Henry Louis Gates and Edwidge Danticat, and to collaborate with community partners around the greater Boston area.

### About Public Displays of Motion

Boston-based Peter DiMuro/Public Displays of Motion (PDM) creates dance and dance/theatre, translating the humane within everyday lives into extraordinary studies of the human condition. Driven by collaborative models, the company brings together a sum of ages, races, queer and disabilities communities to create diverse subject matter and metaphor to their works on site, on stage, on screens. Through creative practice and products, the company is an agent for advocacy and creativity literacy.

### About Vimoksha

Vimoksha's mission is to empower, inspire, and connect people through the healing power of movement. For this purpose the company runs various Movement and Wellness programs in different community centers, schools and art institutes across Boston. Vimoksha has performed internationally bringing high quality productions to audiences across the globe. Vimoksha's artistic Practice is rooted in Indian martial arts (Kalaripayatt), Modern dance, Yoga, Meditation. At its heart, regardless of the form, the practice is focused on three areas: self-inquiry, stillness, and connection. Started in The Netherlands in 2010 by Chavi Bansal, Vimoksha has found home in Boston in 2014, with Boston based dancers.



MEDIA CONTACT: Edwina Kluender  
617-888-5859; [eakluender@gmail.com](mailto:eakluender@gmail.com)

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### About Amazon

Amazon is guided by four principles: customer obsession rather than competitor focus, passion for invention, commitment to operational excellence, and long-term thinking. Amazon strives to be the Earth's most customer-centric company, Earth's best employer, and Earth's safest place to work. Customer reviews, 1-Click shopping, personalized recommendations, Prime, Fulfillment by Amazon, AWS, Kindle Direct Publishing, Kindle, Career Choice, Fire tablets, Fire TV, Amazon Echo, Alexa, Just Walk Out technology, Amazon Studios, and The Climate Pledge are some of the things pioneered by Amazon.

### About the Greenway Business Improvement District

The Greenway BID is designed to contribute \$1.5 million each year to support the maintenance, horticulture costs, and future enhancements of The Greenway. Properties that meet certain criteria within the BID boundaries pay a special assessment as part of their property taxes to support improvements that benefit property owners and the public alike. BID members also have opportunities to vote on enhancements and supplemental support along the entirety of The Greenway to create a more engaging and activated public realm. The Greenway BID plays an essential role in supporting an appealing, accessible, and vibrant experience in the BID district for all who visit The Greenway to gather, relax, unwind, and explore.

### About Meet Boston

Meet Boston is the primary private sector marketing and visitor services organization charged with the development of meetings, conventions and tourism-related business in the region. The Meet Boston mission is to elevate Boston's vibrant neighborhoods and diverse people, amplifying their stories and sharing them locally and across the globe. Meet Boston delivers exciting and inclusive programs and services that drive the local economy by unifying an eclectic range of community stakeholders around the opportunities, experiences and energy that define the destination and enhance the visitor economy.

### About the National Endowment for the Arts

This project is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts. To find out more about how National Endowment for the Arts grants impact individuals and communities, visit [www.arts.gov](http://www.arts.gov).

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