

BIG RANGE AUSTIN DANCE FESTIVAL

APPLICATION FOR CHOREOGRAPHERS

APPLICATION DEADLINE: JANUARY 31, 2009
NOTIFICATION: FEBRUARY 13, 2009
ACCEPTANCE DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 28, 2009

FESTIVAL DATES: JUNE 5-14, 2009

AUSTIN VENTURES STUDIO THEATER @ BALLET AUSTIN

HOUSTON DATES: TBA*

** If interested in performing in both Houston and Austin Big Range contact Ellen Bartel spankdance@hotmail.com for further information.*

BIG RANGE MISSION

Big Range Austin is a dance festival that strives to present quality contemporary dance exploring diverse concepts within the movement arts. We encourage experimentation from choreographers to stretch their own ideas of dance, collaboration, and performance excellence. We seek to engage the audience through fresh new ideas that are challenging and fun, with a strong emphasis on community building through each individual voice.

Big Range Austin is facilitated through Spank Dance and is a sister festival to Big Range Houston, founded in 2003 in part by Suchu Dance Company. Spank Dance encourages the growth and collaboration of the contemporary dance communities in Central Texas by bridging ideas, people, and diverse artistic expression.

FESTIVAL PROGRAMMING AND APPLICATION INFORMATION

Please **read all festival information carefully** before starting your application. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Program Dates

All Shows begin @ 8:00pm except Sunday, June 14 @ 6:00pm.

All Shows located at Austin Ventures Studio Theater @ Ballet Austin.

- Program A: Friday and Saturday, June 5-6, Contemporary Dance mixed program
- Program B: Thursday and Friday, June 11-12, Composer Challenge
- Program C: Thursday and Friday, June 11-12, Music and Movement Improvisation
- Program D: Saturday and Sunday, June 13-14, Contemporary Dance mixed program

Program Descriptions

Program A: Contemporary Dance mixed program

Works suitable for presentation as part of a mixed program of contemporary dance. Six to eight works will be selected between three and twelve minutes in length to make-up a program approximately one hour and a half in length. Must be available for tech and dress rehearsal week of June 1-4. Schedule TBA.

Program B: Composer Challenge

Choreographed works set to one of two original music compositions is called the Composer Challenge. Three choreographers will be chosen to present their interpretation of composition #1, by Austin Schell, and three choreographers will be chosen to present their interpretation of composition #2, by Laura Phelan. To hear the compositions, visit www.spankdance.com. Your preference for composer will be considered. Upon application acceptance you will get a CD of your composer choice. You must be available for tech the day of June 7. Schedule TBA. No separate dress rehearsal.

Program C: Music and Movement Improvisation

A live music and movement improvisation showcase to be performed after Program B (Composer Challenge). Program C will run between forty-five minutes and one hour in length. A list of participants and contacts will be made available, and a score will be developed as collaboration between dancers and Program Director Adam Sultan. This showcase is open to individuals, not for an improvisational dance company; there is no need to submit a description of ideas. **There will be no tech or dress rehearsal for this event.** Performers will have access to the space close to the performance date.

More about Program C

The improvisation is for outgoing performers and responsible individuals.

- 1. The performance is after the Composers Challenge (Program B) on June 11-12. The improvisation starts around 9:20 in the evening. Both program B and C are billed as one full event. The audience is expected/encouraged to stay for both.*
- 2. Big Range will not provide rehearsal space for your practices. Rehearsal space is considered part of the creator's budget. Upon request, we can send you a list of potential rehearsal spaces.*
- 3. Adam Sultan is the Program Director for the improvisation program. He will provide a structure from which the dancers should work.*
- 4. This program pays between \$50 and \$100/person for participation.*
- 5. One outgoing participant will become the main contact for all Program C performers to keep the group organized. Ellen Bartel can assist in appointing this person.*

Program D: Contemporary Dance mixed program

Works suitable for presentation as part of a mixed program of contemporary dance. Six to eight works will be selected between three and twelve minutes in length to make-up a program approximately one hour and a half in length. Must be available for tech and dress rehearsal week of June 8-10. Schedule TBA.

Programming Priorities

Please note that the festival will consider one or all of the following programming priorities in assessing in all proposals submitted:

- Works reflecting all forms of contemporary dance.
- Works that challenge conventional concepts of contemporary dance.
- Works incorporating multimedia or movement based performance art.
- Collaborations with composers or other local artists.
- New works.
- Suitable for children under 12 (ie: harsh language or images will be reviewed).

Please note that the festival will not consider the following programming and subject to refusal to present if:

- The work is incomplete, a work in progress, or over thirteen minutes in length.
- Dance other than contemporary dance.
- Does not adhere to any of the programming being offered.
- Previously performed.

Selected Choreographers will Receive

- \$50-\$300 (subject to funding and program placement)
- 2 comp tickets per choreographer
- a pass to see all events in the festival
- lighting designer
- technical and dress rehearsals
- box office, house and technical assistance
- theaters suitable for dance
- use of video projector

Requirements for Application

- Applying as an established choreographer / dance company: 2 years or more of operation. Please include a bio and any recent articles, reviews, or support material such as DVD, photos or links to online video. Submit a one page or less description of the dance you would like to have presented, include any possible technical requirement, props or sets. Please describe if you believe your work to be unsuitable for people under 12.
- Applying as an emerging choreographer/ dance company: less than 2 years of operation. Please include a bio, references, recent articles, reviews, or support material such as DVD, photos or links to online video (even if you were dancer and not choreographer). Submit a one page or less description of the dance you would like to have presented, include any possible technical requirement, props or sets. Please describe if you believe your work to be unsuitable for people under 12.

APPLICATION

Check boxes & Please write clearly.

General Information

1. Are you: Established or Emerging
2. What Program are you applying for: A B* C D (select all that apply)
2a*. If applying for Program B, please choose your preferred composer:
 Austin Schell Laura Phelan Undecided/Please assign
3. Do you plan to submit a video in lieu of a live performance? (A&D only, description attached)
4. Name: _____ 5. Address: _____
6. Email: _____ 7. Website: _____
8. Links to YouTube videos (in lieu of sending physical DVD): _____ 9. Phone numbers: _____

Information about your work. Please fill in what you know (except program C)

1. Title: _____ 2. Choreographer: _____
3. Music: _____ 4. Dancers: _____
5. Length: You must agree to creating a dance that is **no less than 3 minutes** and **no greater than 12 minutes** in length. Not agreeing to this could result in non-acceptance into the festival.

I agree

Checklist

- Complete Application (filled in above)
- Description (separate page)
- Support Material (separate attachments)

HOW TO APPLY

Mail or hand-deliver application and supporting materials to:

Big Range Austin
c/o Ellen Bartel
1110 South 1st. Street
Austin, TX 78704

Application deadline: January 31, 2009
Notification: February 13, 2009
Acceptance deadline: February 28, 2009

Those selected will receive an acceptance letter in the mail, which will serve as a contract. Choreographers selected will be required to complete their contract and mail back to the address above by **February 28, 2009**. We will review other applications if we do not receive your acceptance.

Questions or concerns can be directed to:

Austin: Ellen Bartel, spankdance@hotmail.com
Houston: Louie Salatan, louie@bigrange.org

Committee:

Mari Akita
Ellen Bartel
Mary Chase
Sarah Gerichten
David Justin
Sharon Marroquin
Adam Sultan

Spank Dance Board of Directors:

Sarah Gerichten, President
Sharon Marroquin, Vice President
Ellen Bartel, Executive Director
Mari Akita, Secretary

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