

# Request For Proposals

## Momentum: New Dance Works 2019

Hosted by The O'Shaughnessy at St. Catherine University  
Funded by The Jerome Foundation

**Release Date:** May 11, 2018

**Public Informational Sessions:** coming soon; updates listed on O'Shaughnessy website, oshag.stkate.edu

**Due Date:** Monday, June 11 2018, by 6:00 pm  
Questions: contact Michèle Steinwald at  
email momentum.newdance@gmail.com

**Series Participants Announced:** July 2018

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***Momentum: New Dance Works 2019*** is hosted by The O'Shaughnessy at St. Catherine University, in partnership with Walker Art Center and Movement Research (NYC) and with the support of the Jerome Foundation. The program's festival runs July 11-13 and July 18-20, 2019 at the Frey Theater at St. Catherine University, Saint Paul.

**History:** Since its inception in 2001, this commissioning and presenting program has been funded by the Jerome Foundation. Thanks to the vision of its founding partners (Walker Art Center, 2001-present; the Southern Theater, 2001-2017; and the now-defunct Dance Today/formerly Minnesota Dance Alliance, 2001) and previous partners (The Cowles Center for Dance & the Performing Arts, 2014-2017), *Momentum: New Dance Works* has become one of the most important platforms for early career/emerging dance artists in Minnesota today.

**Purpose of Series:** *Momentum: New Dance Works* was created to promote the work of an exciting new generation of dance creators in Minnesota. The series enables innovative, early career choreographers to have their work presented by *Momentum: New Dance Works* as well as provides professional development and creative exchange opportunities facilitated by program staff and partners. Momentum seeks out applicants from a full range of styles, cultures, aesthetics, and approaches that represent contemporary dance in the world today.

**Eligibility Requirements:**

- Early career/emerging professional choreographers/choreographic collaborations, who have produced/presented their own choreography at least three times in a non-student context, and who have not been recognized as established choreographers, are eligible to apply.
- Previous recipients may not apply.
- Applicants must be a resident of Minnesota, have lived in Minnesota for at least one year prior to application, and have produced choreographic works while living in Minnesota.
- Recognized as emerging/early career under [Jerome Foundation guidelines](#).
- Applicants must be 18 years of age or older.

- Students, who are at the time of the application and/or will during the program period be enrolled in degree-granting programs (including K-12, college, graduate or post graduate studies), are not eligible.

**Project Description:**

- **Presentation:** Artists are expected to present a half-evening (30-40 minutes) of work. The evening will be shared with another choreographer/choreographic collaboration, and will run a minimum of three nights at the Frey Theater.
- **Peer Sharing:** Selected choreographers will participate in peer review showings/ feedback sessions during the rehearsal stage. Virtual creative exchanges with New York City-based artists from Movement Research are scheduled for spring 2019. Final peer showings take place on April 1 and 8, 2019, 12-13 weeks prior to the public performances, and involve curatorial program staff and partners, all Momentum 2018-19 recipients, and invited guests of the artists. The goals of this showing are to support the creative process, to provide valuable observations of the works-in-progress, to learn about the works, and to build a community of artistic peers.
- **Meetings:** Choreographers will participate in professional development workshops (in partnership with Springboard for the Arts) and group meetings as scheduled by Momentum staff, from the commissioning date of the new work to its public presentation.
- **Campus Engagement:** Choreographers will design and lead activities to engage with St. Catherine University students and/or professors.

**Selected artists will receive the following:**

- **Commission/Presentation fees:**  
Artists will receive a commissioning and participation fee of \$7,000 per choreographer/choreographic collaboration, to be made available in installments in advance of the festival. There will also be a performance honorarium of \$2,000 per choreographer/choreographic collaboration paid on the last day of shows.
- **Marketing/PR provided by Momentum:**  
A series brochure will be created. The series will be marketed and promoted to the press, as well as in the partners' own publicity. Selected choreographers/ choreographic collaborations will strongly support social media and word of mouth marketing.
- **Tech production support:**
  - Light design, overall technical direction, and light and sound operators. Lighting, sound, masking, and marley dance floor (if needed) as owned by The O'Shaughnessy, will be provided.
  - A reasonable attempt will be made to accommodate any special needs, subject to time and budget constraints and consistent with the shared evening format.
  - Approximately 8-9 weeks prior to the first week of performances, a meeting with all choreographers and their individual collaborators will be scheduled to walk through the space, discuss resources available and get a sense of the artistic intention of each piece.
  - At 4 weeks prior to each performance week, we will schedule a meeting with both artists on a shared bill to discuss the particulars, logistics, and practical application of the technical ideas so an efficient plan can be created using existing personnel, resources and inventory.
  - An additional group tech showing on June 24, 2019 will be scheduled for all participants to run their completed pieces from start to finish without tech support.

**Selection Process:**

Up to four choreographers/choreographic collaborations will be selected for *Momentum: New Dance Works*. The selection panel will consist of a representative from the presenting organizations and an ad hoc panelist active in Minnesota's dance community. The panel will review applications and work samples to select the Momentum participants.

**Works previously supported by Jerome Foundation grants may not be submitted as seed material for the proposed Momentum project.**

The panel will make decisions based on the quality and innovation of the artist's work and interest in the project as described in the application. The selection process considers diversity in terms of race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, ability, and class, in addition to seeking projects that reflect the goals and objectives of the program. The panel seeks out a spectrum of dance styles and aesthetics, with a particular interest in contemporary and innovative approaches. However, the intent of the panel shall be to select applicants of high artistry and interest, rather than to make a distribution for the sake of balance.

**Selection Criteria:**

1. The artistic merit of the applicant as evidenced by the work sample(s) and resumé,
2. The quality of planning as evidenced by written materials and budget,
3. The potential of the project to have a meaningful impact on the artist as expressed in the written materials.

**TO APPLY:**

**Written Materials:** The written portion of the *Momentum* application must:

- Include a **cover page** with the title *Momentum: New Dance Works 2019*, listing: choreographer(s) name, contact name (if different), address, phone number (day/evening/cell), and email address. Include any unusual technical requirements you may have, and whether or not your performance requires a marley floor (ie, yes, no, or no preference).
- Answer the following **four questions**, on no more than 3 typed pages (12 point type):
  1. **Describe the work you propose to create for the festival, and detail its unique qualities.**
  2. **Outline the new directions you see your work taking and how these directions fit into your evolution as a choreographer and its alignment with Momentum.**
  3. **St. Catherine University, a Catholic women's liberal arts university, leverages the arts to play an integral role in the university's mission to drive social change. The University's values are Academic Excellence, Community, Integrity, Social Justice, and Reflection. Describe how you would like to engage with the university students and/or professors during your creative process.**

- 4. The Momentum program is a group process leading up to the culminating festival. List the qualities you bring to group processes and what you would like to take from this experience with the other choreographers and Momentum staff and partners.**

**Resumé:**

Submit a resumé or vitae (no more than two pages). Your resumé must clearly indicate your role in each work listed: choreographer, co-choreographer, performer, etc. Please also indicate what inspired you to make this work and which tools you used (i.e. specific dance/performance forms, fields of research, personal experiences).

**Work Samples with Information Sheet:**

It is important that you submit **the best quality representation of your choreographic work:**

- Select a minimum of 2 and maximum of 4 works (preferably of work created within the last 1-2 years).
- Submit media online through vimeo (preferably) or youtube. Provide the URL links, and passwords if needed, to view work samples.
- Work samples must be ready to be viewed by the panel upon submission. Please **note sections** (timecode, start and stop points) to the twenty minutes you feel best represents your current creative output. These twenty minutes may consist of a mix of different works or one continuous selection. If you include edited sections, we encourage you to allow each to unfold enough to give a sense of how your choreography develops. The panel will watch a minimum of five minutes from your selections.
- It is extremely important to include an **information sheet** that clearly indicates the title and duration of each work, as well as performance dates, venue, and **your role in creating the work** (no more than 1 page).

**Budget:**

Download budget form at [oshag.stkate.edu/momentum/application](http://oshag.stkate.edu/momentum/application). Complete the budget form using Microsoft Excel, Google Sheets, or Apple Numbers to the best of your ability and submit along with written materials. This budget form should provide a general outline of the estimated costs and possible income sources for your proposal and will be useful to the panel as an indication of the scope as well as technical elements in your new work. The financial management and oversight of the actual budget will remain the artist's responsibility.

**TO SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION:**

Upload Narrative Application, Resumé, and Work Sample Info Sheet as a single PDF file at [oshag.stkate.edu/momentum/application](http://oshag.stkate.edu/momentum/application). You must use the following naming convention: **YOUR\_NAME\_MOMENTUM2019\_APP.pdf**

Upload Project Budget at the same location. You may submit the budget as an XLS, XLSX, CSV, Google Sheets, or PDF file. You must use the following naming convention: **YOUR\_NAME\_MOMENTUM2019\_BUDGET.\*\*\***

**Application Due Date: Monday June 11, 2018**

Complete application and budget must be received by 6:00 pm CST

**Series Participants Announced: July, 2018**

*Please contact Michèle Steinwald with any questions regarding these application guidelines: [momentum.newdance@gmail.com](mailto:momentum.newdance@gmail.com) or 612-607-4246*