

For Immediate release

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Dance Heritage Coalition announces 2014 Fellows **IMLS Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program supports third year of Fellowships**

WASHINGTON - The Dance Heritage Coalition (DHC) has named the 2014 recipients of Fellowships in Dance Preservation and Archives for master's degree students, supported by a generous three-year grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

The 2014 Fellows are Brittany Austin, Heather Darnell, Natalie de Almeida, Katherine Isham, Ellen LeClere, Keahiahi Long, Lotus Norton-Wisla, and Ailina Rose. Year 3's eight finalists were selected from a large applicant pool of highly qualified candidates and represent the geographic, ethnic, and cultural diversity of the field's young professionals, as well as the diversity of interests encompassing digital collections, traditional dance forms, audiovisual preservation, and community engagement.

The fellowship program will kick off with a week of orientation workshops and site visits for the cohort, held for a second year in the dance- and library-rich city of Chicago. Fellows will receive training in dance-related librarianship and archival practices at one of the DHC's nationally distinguished dance archives, a practicum placement at a smaller dance collection like a dance company or historical society, and travel to national conferences. Fellowships for Summer 2014 are \$10,000 each.

This grant was the first time that this IMLS program had supported a dance-specific project, and only two other previous awards in the history of the grant program had singled out performing arts librarianship. "Dance is a part of our nation's rich cultural heritage," said Susan Hildreth, IMLS Director. "It is important that we share this knowledge and ensure these valuable resources are available to the widest audiences."

DHC Executive Director Libby Smigel observed, "This new crop of fellows is ready to take on the challenges of helping an underfunded field save and share their multiformat legacy materials. Each of their applications demonstrated a strong connection to the arts as well as a range of personal and professional talents that will help carry forward the important work of Susan Hildreth's words."

See bios of this year's Fellows here. www.danceheritage.org/previous.html
See the blogs of the previous two summers' Fellows here.
<http://www.danceheritage.org/imlsfellowshipsfirstyr.html>

Read the IMLS news announcement here.

[http://www.imls.gov/grant awards announcement laura bush 21st century librarian program.aspx?CategoryId=1&pg=4](http://www.imls.gov/grant_awards_announcement_laura_bush_21st_century_librarian_program.aspx?CategoryId=1&pg=4)

2014 Fellowship Placements

[American Folklife Center, Library of Congress](#) — Lotus Norton-Wisla, University of Wisconsin, Madison

[Dance Notation Bureau](#) — Natalie de Almeida, University of California, Los Angeles

[Houghton Library, Harvard University](#) — Heather Darnell, University of Maryland

[Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival Archives](#) — Brittany Austin, San Jose State University

[Museum of Performance + Design](#) — Keahiahi Long, University of Hawaii

[Museum of Performance + Design](#) — Ailina Rose, Pratt Institute

[Newberry Library](#) — Katherine Isham, University of Texas, Austin

[University of Minnesota](#) — Ellen LeClere, University of Wisconsin, Madison

The **Dance Heritage Coalition** is the sole national nonprofit organization that works to document and preserve the records of America's dance legacy and to ensure access to the materials for use by scholars and critics, faculty and their students, and the general public. www.danceheritage.org

The **Institute of Museum and Library Services** is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. The Institute's mission is to create strong libraries and museums that connect people to information and ideas. www.imls.gov