

# **Bay Area Dance Counts**

Shawl-Anderson Dance Center launched "Bay Area Dance Counts" in 2009. This project consisted of an online survey four times in 2009 for professional level dancers and choreographers of any dance form.

These statistics, made available to the public, are a valuable resource for the Bay Area dance community - artists, teachers, college programs, and schools. This information supports fundraising, grant proposals, advocacy, and programming.

## **Survey #1: Rehearsal Spaces and Costs**

## **Survey #2: Bay Area Professional Dancers' Education Background and Teaching Experience**

## **Survey #3: Cities Where Bay Area Dancers Live, Work, Rehearse, Train, and Perform**

## **Survey #4: Roles within Dance and Income Sources**

January 2009

## **Survey #1 Results - Rehearsal Spaces and Costs**

*Twenty-nine San Francisco Bay Area choreographers responded to this survey. The survey was for anyone identifying as a choreographer, in any style of dance.*

**Are you affiliated with a K-12 school, college, or dance studio?**

Yes 63%

No 37%

**If yes, do you have access to space for rehearsals?**

Yes 100%

**Is the space free, offered at a reduced rate for employees, or must you pay the regular rental fee?**

Free 45%

Reduced rate 45%

Regular rate 10%

**Thinking about all of the spaces you regularly use for rehearsals, how much do you pay per hour?**

**You may select more than one answer.**

0-\$10/hour 44%

\$11-\$15/hour 37%

\$16-\$20/hour 37%

\$21-\$25/hour 18.5%

\$25+/hour 3.7%

February/March 2009

## **Survey #2 Results - Bay Area Professional Dancers' Education Background and Teaching Experience**

*How many dancers went to college and graduate school, and specifically for dance? How many dancers are educators, and did their higher education experience prepare them for this? This survey was completed by 85 Bay Area dancers.*

**Do you currently, or have you in the past, taught dance?**

Yes 98.8%

**Do you currently teach on a regular basis?**

Yes 69%

**Select all of the settings you have taught in or currently teach in:**

Dance studio or center 89.3%

K-12 public school (during the school day) 45.2%

K-12 public school (after school) 35.7%

K-12 private school (during the school day) 25%

K-12 private school (after school) 11.9%

Community college 23.8%

College or university 60.7%

Community center or rec center 38.1%

YMCA, YWCA, YWHA, YMHA 13.1%

Theatre 32.1%

Hospital 7.1%

Senior center 14.3%

**Do you have a bachelor's degree?**

Yes 83.3%

No 14.3%

I am currently completing my degree 2.4%

**Is your bachelor's degree in dance?**

Yes 59.5%

**Do you have a master's degree?**

Yes 41%

No 53%

I am currently completing my degree 6%

**Is your master's degree in dance?**

Yes 52.6%

**Regarding bachelor's programs: did you have an opportunity for any of the following?** *(Please note that 47 respondents have a bachelor's degree in dance and 42 of the 47 responded to this question.)*

Courses in dance education, pedagogy, dance for children, etc. 92.9%

Teaching internship 42.9%

**Regarding master's programs: did you have an opportunity for any of the following?** *(Please note that 30 respondents have a master's degree in dance and 29 of the 30 responded to this question.)*

Courses in dance education, pedagogy, dance in higher education, etc. 79.3%

Dance education internship 20.7%

Teaching assistant position 79.3%

November 2009

## **Survey #3 Results – Cities Where Bay Area Dancers Live, Work, Rehearse, Train, and Perform**

*Is there consistency in where dancers live, work, and dance? This survey asked questions of geography and was completed by 67 Bay Area dancers.*

### **In which city do you live?**

Oakland 46.4%  
San Francisco 33.9%  
Berkeley 14.3%

### **In which city do you perform most of your paying work, whether your work is dance or non-dance related?**

San Francisco 55.4%  
Berkeley 26.8%  
Oakland 8.9%  
San Jose 3.6%  
Hayward 3.6%

### **In which city do you mainly rehearse, as a dancer or choreographer?**

San Francisco 41.3%  
Berkeley 31.7%  
Oakland 25.4%  
Walnut Creek 1.6%

### **In which city do you mainly take dance classes and train?**

Berkeley 36.9%  
San Francisco 32.3%  
I do not regularly attend classes 16.9%  
Oakland 9.2%  
Mill Valley 1.5%  
San Jose 1.5%  
Walnut Creek 1.5%

### **In which cities do you regularly perform? (Respondents could select more than one city, and responses exceed 100%.)**

San Francisco 91.7%  
Berkeley 51.7%  
Oakland 45%  
San Jose 6.7%  
Hayward 5%

December 2009

## **Survey #4 Results – Roles within Dance and Income Sources**

*The final survey of Bay Area Dance Counts asked dancers about their roles within the art form and about their jobs, both dance and non-dance jobs. Fifty-six dancers completed the survey.*

### **Looking at your job or various jobs, how would you describe your work?**

All of my paying work is "dance-related" (performer, choreographer, dance teacher, arts administrator, etc.) 51.8%

Most, but not all, of my paying work is dance-related 12.5%

I perform both dance and non-dance related work 28.6%

My work is entirely non-dance related 7.1%

### **As a dancer, what are the many hats you wear? "I identify myself as a...." (respondents could select several options, and the top ten are listed below)**

Performer 90.6%

Teacher/teaching artist 81.1%

Choreographer 71.7%

Arts administrator 37.7%

Writer 22.6%

Rehearsal assistant 18.9%

Costume designer 11.3%

Videographer 11.3%

Publicist 9.4%

Photographer 9.4%

Dance historian 9.4%

### **What is your annual income? Please list your individual annual income, not total income for your family. Please answer this question based on all income sources - dance and non-dance related jobs.**

\$0-\$14,999 10%

\$15,000-\$19,999 16%

\$20,000-\$24,999 10%

\$25,000-\$29,999 14%

\$30,000-\$34,999 6%

\$35,000-\$39,999 6%

\$40,000-\$49,999 10%

\$50,000-\$59,999 12%

\$60,000-\$69,999 10%

\$70,000-\$79,999 2%

\$80,000+ 4%