

ANNUAL REPORT

2025

Providing dance services
and education across
Western Australia

auSDANCE
WA



The community of Ausdance WA acknowledges the Traditional Owners of all Lands and Countries on this continent. We pay particular respect to Elders, Cultural and Community Leaders, and emerging leaders. With this understanding of the country's First Peoples, we are grateful for our place in learning and serving dance, Arts and Culture in Western Australia.

Always Was. Always Will Be.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Ausdance WA is committed to fostering a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment for all children and young people engaged in dance. We actively support initiatives that increase awareness, understanding, and compliance with child safety practices across the dance sector.

Through collaboration, education, and best practice, we strive to empower our community to prioritise the wellbeing and protection of children in all aspects of their involvement in dance.

OUR COMMITMENT TO CHILD SAFETY

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT
AUSDANCE WA 4

CHAIR'S
FOREWORD 5

DIRECTOR'S
REPORT 6

MANAGEMENT 7

MEMBERSHIPS 8

MARKETING 10

PROJECTS 14

DANCE & HEALTH 20

ADVOCACY 21

REPRESENTATION 22

ABOUT AUSDANCE WA

Ausdance WA is the peak service body for advocacy, promotion, participation and education for dance in Western Australia.

Established in 1977, Ausdance WA is a not for profit membership organisation, providing support services to dance artists, teachers in schools, studios and community cultural and recreational contexts, and dance companies and organisations across the state. We exist to ensure West Australians have access to the best experiences of dance - as participants, audiences, creators and performers. We do this through the delivery of a suite of programs offering access and participation, education and training, employment, and promotion of artists and companies, along with audience development and, therefore, contribute significantly to the capacity building and sustainability of the sector. We support engagement with dance across all ages, all genres, all abilities, and across the state. As part of a national network, Ausdance WA contributes to the national voice representing the dance sector.

MISSION STATEMENT

To educate, inspire and support the dance community in reaching its potential as a dynamic force within local, national and international communities.

OUR VISION

To be a voice and provide leadership for dance in Western Australia as its leading advocate, and to be a sustainable organisation that is well prepared for future challenges, provides accessible platforms for information and dialogue, and contributes to the growth and profile of the sector.

OUR VALUES

- Inclusivity
- Diversity
- Excellence
- Accountability
- Sustainability

OUR AIMS

- a. To provide a voice in the development of dance in Western Australia.
- b. To provide leadership in dance education, advocacy, lobbying, policy development and debate.
- c. To champion innovation, creativity and diversity in dance.
- d. To encourage access to and understanding of dance in communities throughout Australia.
- e. To assist in the identification and promotion of all dance traditions which exist in Australia, in recognition of their cultural importance.
- f. To foster national links with dance and dance related organisations.

KEY PRIORITIES FOR AUSDANCE WA

Strengthen sector networks & resource access

- Expand and strengthen strategic partnership initiatives
- Develop/facilitate live and virtual opportunities for engagement and participation across WA

Capacity building & industry sustainability

- Identify and respond to industry issues and needs
- Provide programs to support sustainable sector development
- Build online communication resources to strengthen sector capacity
- Sustain viable revenue streams for the organisation

Access, engagement & participation

- Facilitate and develop programs that enable participation across WA
- Promote the work of members & the organisation nationally & globally
- Raise membership and E-News subscribers

Advocacy & development of artform & sector

- Provide representation for WA dance to key government figures
- Establish mechanisms & programs to support WA dance initiatives

CHAIR'S FOREWORD



It is my pleasure to present the 2025 Annual Report for Ausdance WA — a year marked by renewed momentum, strengthened partnerships and growing confidence across the organisation and the broader Western Australian dance sector.

Throughout 2025, Ausdance WA continued to advance its mission of supporting lifelong engagement with dance through advocacy, professional development, sector leadership, and community collaboration. The year demonstrated the important role dance plays not only as an artform, but also as a contributor to education, health, wellbeing and social connection.

A significant focus during the year was strengthening advocacy and policy engagement. Ausdance WA brought the evidence-base of the full benefits and value of dance directly into government discussion and decision-making through engagement with the Western Australian Minister for Culture and the Arts, the Chief Scientist of Western Australia and the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (CITS). This work reinforced the importance of dance within broader cultural, educational and health policy frameworks.

Another major milestone was the release of the Ausdance WA Whole of Life Engagement with Dance Discussion Paper and the delivery of the Breaking Barriers, Building Lifelong Dance Career Pathways symposium in partnership with the Edith Cowan University School of Education. The symposium brought together international and local leaders in dance health and career sustainability, including representatives from Scottish Ballet, creating important dialogue around lifelong participation and wellbeing through dance.

It has been particularly encouraging to see continued growth in membership, participation, and regional sector engagement during the year. The expansion of digital communication platforms, member services, and professional learning opportunities reflects a renewed appetite for connection, advocacy, and shared leadership across the dance community.

On behalf of the Board, I extend sincere thanks to my fellow Board members, staff, volunteers, advisory groups, funding partners, and the many artists, teachers, organisations, and community members who contribute their expertise, energy, and passion to Ausdance WA. The organisation's achievements are founded on collective effort and a shared belief in the enduring value of dance.

As Ausdance WA moves toward the implementation of a new five-year strategic plan in 2026, the organisation is well positioned to continue advocating for a strong, sustainable, and inclusive dance sector — one that recognises the profound contribution dance makes to the cultural, educational, social, and physical wellbeing of Western Australians.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Gary Hodge". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

2025 has been a year of consolidation, clarity, and renewed direction.

Building on the insights gathered through our 2024 //IN MOTION// WA dance sector consultation, we entered the year with a strong foundation of sector-informed recommendations. These findings not only helped us prioritise key areas of work, but also enabled us to re-establish and strengthen critical networks and partnerships across the dance community. This work has ensured that Ausdance WA can respond directly to the needs of artists, educators, organisations, and communities across Western Australia while fostering stronger collaboration across a highly diverse sector.

A major internal focus for the year was the development of our new five-year Strategic Plan. With guidance and in-kind support provided by Donna Shepherd from Creating Communities, we carried out a considered consultative process to define our strategic direction, ensuring it is responsive, bold, and aligned with sector needs. This work has positioned us with greater clarity and purpose as we move into the next phase of organisational growth.

We have also been privileged to work with First Nations consultant Vickey Hill in 2025, whose expertise and generosity have supported our thinking and planning, particularly in considering approaches to cultural dance and health research.

Our commitment to safe and inclusive practice was strengthened through the release of our Child Safe Guidelines that align with the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations. Collaboration with sector partners and government working groups further supported the development of consistent and informed approaches to child safety across the dance community.



Professional learning and workforce development also remained central priorities. Expanded professional development programs for P-12 dance teachers, ongoing advocacy for dance teacher traineeships and stronger engagement with regional practitioners all contributed to building sector capability and connection throughout the state.

Internally, our Board remains active and engaged, providing valuable oversight and support. While sad to farewell our long-term treasurer Tatiana Kozyreva, we were delighted to welcome two new board members in 2025; Leanne Bishop and Ekaterina Osipova, whose perspectives and expertise further strengthen our governance and capacity.

We undertook a voluntary financial audit for both 2024 and 2025, demonstrating a commitment to transparency, accountability, and best practice. In addition, we prioritised an audit of our website and digital management systems, informing future investment and launching a new Member Hub, designed to enhance accessibility and provide greater value to our members.

Overall, 2025 has been a year of purposeful progress—grounded in consultation, strengthened through collaboration, and focused on building a sustainable and responsive future for the WA dance sector.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Amy Wiseman'.

Amy Wiseman
Executive Director

MANAGEMENT

BOARD

Chair	Gary Hodge
Secretary	Dr. Maria Gamble
Treasurer	Tatiana Kozyreva (to November 2025) Ekaterina Osipova (from November 2025)
Members	Deanna Faust Amanda Leigh Leanne Bishop (from May 2025) Nina Levy (leave of absence from July 2025)

PERSONNEL

Executive Director	Amy Wiseman (0.4-0.6FTE)
Marketing and Membership Officer	Christina Kasahara (0.4FTE to February 2025) Phoebe Tempra (0.34FTE from February 2025)
Finance Officer	Amanda Scoble (Contracted)

VOLUNTEERS

A number dance industry professionals, teachers, studio owners and independent artists have contributed time and knowledge to support Ausdance WA in 2025, including those in our Advisory committees. Thank-you to Terri Charlesworth OAM, Diana de Vos OAM, Jessica Wynn, Narelle Codalunga, Tarryn Runkel, Vanessa Best, Mollie McPhail, Rachael Bott, McKenzie Goldsmith, Candice D’Adamo, Caroline Stevenson, Kate Buchan, Deby Holmes, Sharon Dalla Costa, Tania Shillington, Kristal Twilight, Kristin Keighery, Natasha McCann, Jacinta Ehlers, Rita Nita, Amanda Leigh, and Virginia Norris.

SPECIAL THANKS

Thanks to Donna Shepherd, CEO of Creating Communities for her generosity and time in kind to support the development of a new Five Year Strategic Plan, which will commence mid-2026.

FUNDING & DONATIONS

Our contribution to the dance sector is made possible by support from our members, income generated through our programs and through investment from our funding partners.

Ausdance WA have been successful in the Department of Creative Industries, Tourism and Sport (CITS) Arts Projects for Organisations: Annual Program of Activities - both in Round 24/25 and again for 25/26. Both years, the organisation has been granted \$80k for “Capacity building for the dance sector”, developing programs and initiatives in direct response to the //IN MOTION// WA dance sector consultation in the first half of 2024.

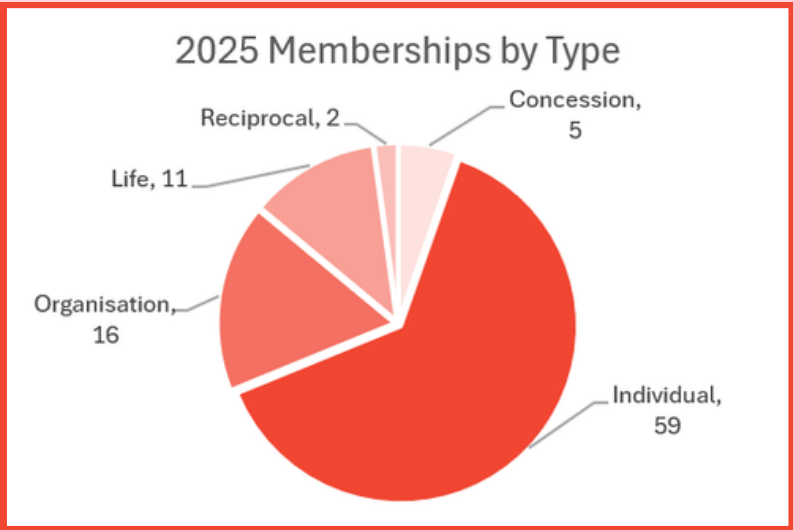
Ausdance WA was also grateful to receive \$1470 in donations thanks to generous & invested community members.

MEMBERSHIPS

DETAILS & STATISTICS

Ausdance WA membership is made up of dance professionals (artists, choreographers), teachers and educators across studios, schools and community settings, organisations including companies, associations and studios, and lifelong dancers and dance enthusiasts. Since increasing our PD program offer and introducing Child Safety resources and forums, we are noticing membership increases in these areas.

In 2024, we offered a free membership initiative to rebuild our membership base, which saw growth from a baseline of 19 Life and Reciprocal Members to nearly 200 members. Member numbers have shown a natural decline following the end of this free period (June 2025), but the organisation has sustained between 80-90 paid members over the 6 months from July to December 2025.



Total Memberships	93
Individual	59
Organisation	16
Concession	5
Life	11
Reciprocal	2

Membership Fees	
\$33 Concession	
\$66 Individual	
\$110 Organisation	

MEMBER BENEFITS

- Discounted Education Programs (Professional Development series)
 - Access to the Online Member Hub
 - Access to the Members Only Child Safety Resources
 - Information and Dance sector updates via monthly e-news
 - Employment opportunities - Ausdance WA hires members, including local dance teachers, workshop leaders, and guest presenters, for annual programming
 - A voice in the future of dance in WA
- Marketing Support and Event Promotion - exclusive event promotion on our social media, subject to alignment with our values and standards
 - Member discounts - partnerships with retailers and local businesses who offer a specialised discount for their services
 - Specialist advisory services
 - Affiliate membership with World Dance Alliance
 - Letters of support for project funding
 - Auspicing for projects (if capacity permits)

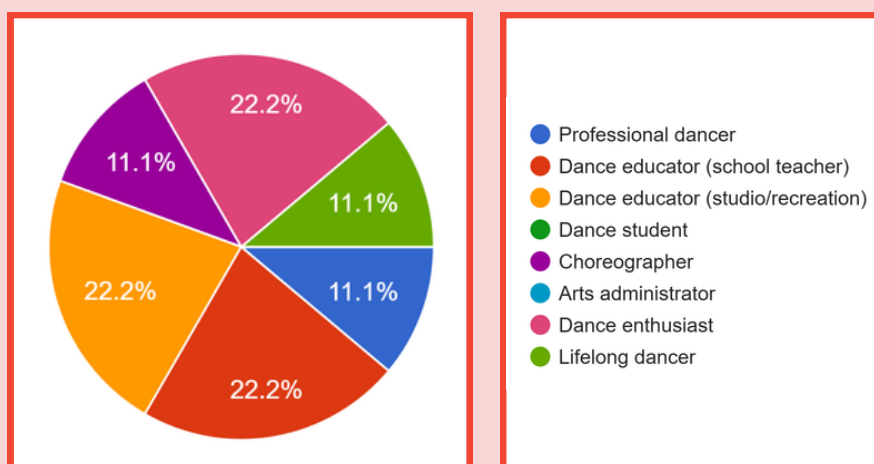


MEMBERSHIP SURVEY RESULTS

JUNE 2025

Membership demographics

Our members operate across a range of areas in dance - reflected in our member survey:



What do you believe are the key services that Ausdance WA as an organisation provides to the community?

- "Connecting services together and bringing regional and metro dancers together."
- "Support for all aspects of the dance sector in WA."
- "A central pillar and a voice for the sector, linking all the various branches."
- "A central body to promote, advocate, look after and push for change in the dance world."
- "Advocacy and power for change."

Do you have any other comments about Ausdance WA's membership or services?

- "You are all amazing keep up the good work."
- "Ausdance is an invaluable organisation."
- "Love your work! Thank you, so happy Ausdance WA is back in business."
- "Very affordable. I like to support the work of Ausdance."
- "Keep up the great work everyone!!!"

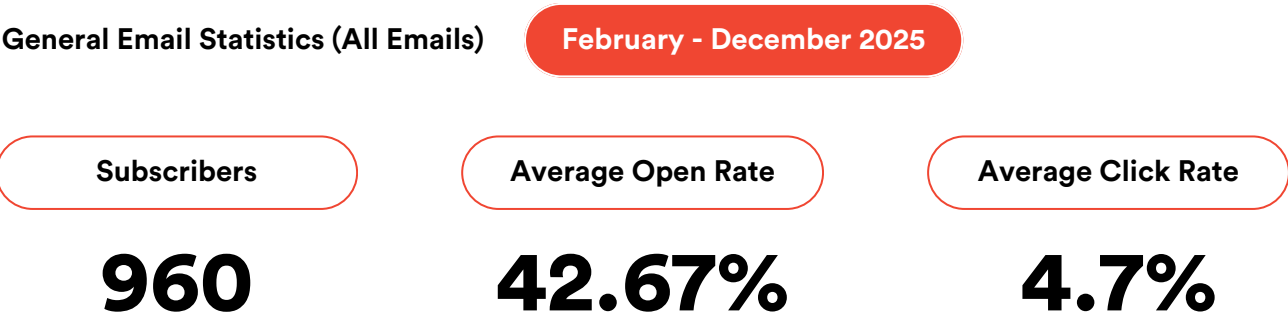
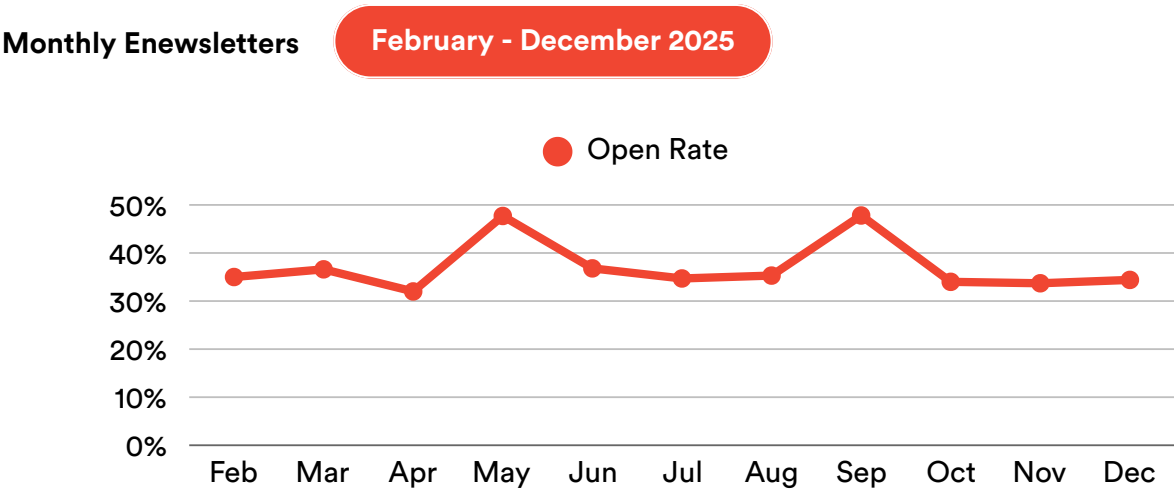
MARKETING

The marketing focus for Ausdance WA in 2025, was to continue growing our reach, re-establishing networks and relationships with members, while articulating clearly what we do and why it matters. As part of this work, we increased the scope of our Enews EDMs (Electronic Direct Mail), refined the branding on our social media channels, and expanded our output, publishing a Dance and Health discussion paper, the first suite of Child Safety in Dance resources, and a range of longer articles on dance in regional WA.

Printed A5 postcards and a pull-up banner created in 2024 were again shared at Professional Development workshops, and industry presentations to promote Ausdance WA’s activity and brand.

E-NEWS

The Ausdance WA E-news newsletter increased in scope and content in 2025, reflecting our growing networks and position in the sector. Our focus has been to reflect the breadth of sector activity - through advocacy and industry updates, promotion of our program, longer-form articles, and snapshots of upcoming events and opportunities. 11 issues were distributed to an audience of nearly 1000 subscribers including current members and broader community, building knowledge and a sense of connection across the dance sector.

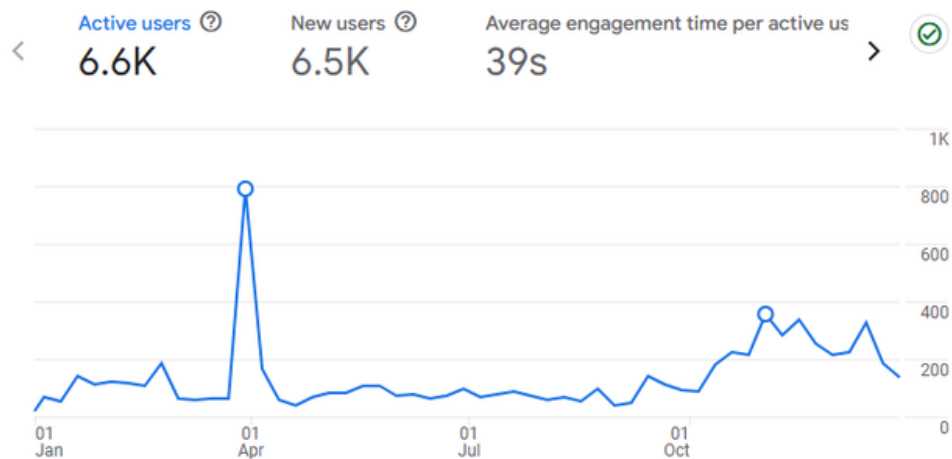


WEBSITE

The Ausdance WA team underwent a website audit in 2025 to analyse the existing digital framework and consider approaches for improved integration and automation. An achievement for 2025 was the inclusion of a new Members Only Hub - accessible by current paid members featuring additional resources as an additional member benefit. The website audit identified a range of improvements to prioritise, particularly in membership on-boarding and data systems, to enable segmentation of groups, assisting with strategic marketing and information sharing by member-type.

2025 saw the addition of a landing page for the Dance Teacher Traineeship FAQ and the online publication of the Child Safety resources. A number of articles were again published on the News blog in 2025, continuing Ausdance WA's previous achievements in publication (dancwest magazine, and dancwest online magazine), and in particular, highlighting dance activity in regional WA. This section of the website serves an important purpose to inform and educate in both short and longer form pieces, and helped to spotlight wonderful industry stories and achievements in newly generated work, engagement projects and touring opportunities.

WEBSITE USERS JANUARY - DECEMBER 2025



TOP PAGES

Page title and screen class		Views	Active users
Total		13,958 100% of total	6,596 100% of total
1	Ausdance WA - Education, Support & Advocacy for Dance	2,179 (15.61%)	1,681 (25.49%)
2	My Account - AUSDANCE WA	1,438 (10.3%)	292 (4.43%)
3	Ngalang Djinda Midariny (Our Dancing Star) - AUSDANCE WA	1,069 (7.66%)	832 (12.61%)
4	Cart - AUSDANCE WA	743 (5.32%)	520 (7.88%)
5	Checkout - AUSDANCE WA	494 (3.54%)	162 (2.46%)
6	Dance Teacher PD Program - November 2025 - AUSDANCE WA	478 (3.42%)	268 (4.06%)
7	Ausdance WA Membership - Join today for fantastic benefits.	441 (3.16%)	324 (4.91%)
8	Set Solo Workshops 2025 - AUSDANCE WA	312 (2.24%)	218 (3.31%)
9	Dance Teacher Traineeships - AUSDANCE WA	307 (2.2%)	244 (3.7%)
10	Learn more about AUSDANCE WA - The leading dance service organisation.	281 (2.01%)	202 (3.06%)

SOCIAL MEDIA

Statistics - Instagram

January - December 2025	Views ⓘ	Reach ⓘ	Content interactions ⓘ	Visits ⓘ	Followers ⓘ
	72.6K	11.3K ↑ 58.1%	1.1K ↑ 100%	1.1K ↑ 64.4%	Lifetime 1,261

Top posts by organic reach:

 Instagram post by ausdancewa showing a dancer in a black dress performing in a studio. Posted 17 July 2025 Overview <table><tr><td>Views ⓘ</td><td>Reach ⓘ</td><td>Interactions ⓘ</td></tr><tr><td>3,358</td><td>1,326</td><td>49</td></tr></table>	Views ⓘ	Reach ⓘ	Interactions ⓘ	3,358	1,326	49	 Instagram post by ausdancewa showing a group of young dancers in orange shirts sitting on the floor in a studio. Posted 3 November 2025 Overview <table><tr><td>Views ⓘ</td><td>Reach ⓘ</td><td>Interactions ⓘ</td></tr><tr><td>2,390</td><td>1,339</td><td>36</td></tr></table>	Views ⓘ	Reach ⓘ	Interactions ⓘ	2,390	1,339	36	 Instagram post by ausdancewa showing a male dancer in a black shirt performing in a studio. Posted 29 April 2025 Overview <table><tr><td>Views ⓘ</td><td>Reach ⓘ</td><td>Interactions ⓘ</td></tr><tr><td>2,188</td><td>1,328</td><td>62</td></tr></table>	Views ⓘ	Reach ⓘ	Interactions ⓘ	2,188	1,328	62
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2,390	1,339	36																		
Views ⓘ	Reach ⓘ	Interactions ⓘ																		
2,188	1,328	62																		

Statistics - Facebook

January - December 2025	Views ⓘ	Content interactions ⓘ	Link clicks ⓘ	Visits ⓘ	Followers ⓘ
	89.2K	1.8K ↑ 282.2%	400 ↑ 76.2%	2.2K ↑ 80.9%	Lifetime 3,174

Top posts by organic views:

A Facebook post from Ausdance WA. The post text reads: "An exciting new contemporary dance work is headed to Geraldton this month! Nadia Priolo & Dancers are presenting 'Shifting Ground' - a bold new work involving Regional and State artists working together with young people of the Mid-West region. Young dancers will be creating and performing alongside professional dancers, Nadia Priolo and Jessica Pettitt, together with an original sound score, by composer Dane Yates. Shifting Ground is a dynamic, engaging and exciting new work that merges stories, movements and sounds from the young people within the region. Shifts can be exciting yet challenging, and this work embraces growth, change and artistic expression, in this supportive and collaborative environment. Don't miss it!! 📅 19 July, Queens Park Theatre, Geraldton 🎟 Tickets at https://qpt.cgg.wa.gov.au/_/shifting-ground-by-_/10287 🌐 🖼 Hero image by Richard Attrill". Below the text is a collage of three black and white photographs showing dancers in various poses.

Posted 3 July 2025

Overview

Views ⓘ	Reach ⓘ	Interactions ⓘ	Link clicks ⓘ
10,072	3,989	48	45

A Facebook post from Ausdance WA. The post text reads: "WAAPA Alumni share final frolic at Mount Lawley campus 🌟 ... See more". Below the text is a large group photograph of many young people, presumably the WAAPA alumni, posing together in a studio setting.

Posted 16 December 2025

Overview

Views ⓘ	Interactions ⓘ	Link clicks ⓘ
5,028	80	--

A Facebook post from Ausdance WA. The post text reads: "Flying Bicycle Collective are about to take off on a HUGE regional tour of 'Dreams of a Lonely Planet' and we got to chat with them before they left! 🌟 ... See more". Below the text is a collage of four photographs showing performers in elaborate costumes and stage lighting, including one with a large red umbrella.

Posted 25 August 2025

Overview

Views ⓘ	Interactions ⓘ	Link clicks ⓘ
3,905	36	7

Statistics - LinkedIn

May - December 2025

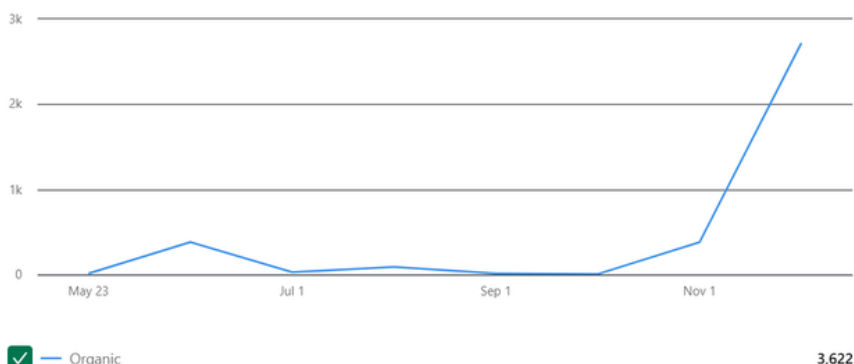
Data only available from 23 May.

- 3,622 Impressions
- 133 Reactions
- 7 Comments
- 2 Reposts

The graph, right, shows the steep increase in impressions - a result of more consistent posting on this platform. We aim to improve upon these positive results in 2026.

Metrics

Impressions ▾



BLOG

An exciting improvement on content creation in 2025 included regularly publishing blog articles to the News section of our website. These articles often spotlighted regional projects and practitioners in particular, and were amplified through enews distribution and social media posts. We look forward to continuing with consistent blog posts in 2026.

The below headlines are examples of some of the articles posted in 2025.

News

Ground-breaking opportunity for regional youth in Nadia Priolo's bold new dance work

July 17, 2025

Total Blogs Posted:
January - December 2025

15

News

Touring big Dreams to the regions with Flying Bicycle Collective

August 24, 2025

News

Denmark Dance Company Forges New Regional Shire and Community Partnership

February 24, 2025

News

Is seated dance the movement genre of the future?

April 28, 2025

News

Advocacy in Action

March 10, 2025

PROJECTS

Child Safeguarding

When the state government implements legislation and responses to the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Response to Child Sexual Abuse, the dance sector (including private dance studios) needs to be prepared and supported. As a sector with minimal regulation, it is essential that Ausdance WA has the capacity to communicate with and offer resources and training for those working with children in the dance sector.

As peak body, we continue to represent the broader dance industry in discussions for implementing the Royal Commission's recommendations. The benefit and impact of this work will encourage safe spaces for students of dance in all contexts; and well-informed studio owners, teachers, competition and eisteddfod managers.

In 2025, Ausdance WA continued to consult with the Child Safeguarding Implementation Unit (CITS), who provided examples of existing Child Safeguarding Initiatives in similar industries, such as TrueSport through Sportwest, and Sport Integrity Australia. Following two meetings with the Child Safe Dance Advisory Group in late 2024, Ausdance WA developed a Child Safety website landing page in early in 2025, and began developing a suite of Child Safety resources aligned to the 10 National Principles for Child Safe Organisations. Feedback from the Advisory Group ensured the support and guidance is specific to the dance sector.

Meeting 3: April 2025

Drafted resources were shared with representatives from the Child Safeguarding Implementation Unit, the Advisory Group along with additional studio teachers for input and further feedback.

First Suite of Resources

Published in October 2025, Ausdance WA's first suite of Child Safety resources included:

- An Action Plan - detailing where to start and how to work through the resources
- Tips for Dance Studios, Schools, and Initiatives - an introduction to the 10 National Principles and how they apply to dance businesses/projects. It can be used as a support document to the Child Safe Organisation's Self-Assessment tool, giving insight into areas that are already working well, and areas for improvement

- Sample Statements of Commitment - supporting dance business to commit to Child Safety in Dance
- Concerns for Child Welfare Reporting Chart - handy resource detailing what to do if you suspect a child or young person is at risk of harm, with information and scenarios specific to dance.



As well as these free resources, Ausdance WA launched four (4) additional resources available only to members and hosted on the new Members Hub on the website:

- Child Safe Code of Conduct - General Information
- Having a Voice in Dance - Child Safe Code of Conduct for Children and Young People
- Child Safe Code of Conduct for Parents and Families
- Child Safe Code of Conduct for Teachers and Staff

Child Safety in Dance - Free Webinar

12-1pm, 23 October 2025

Co-presented by Child Safeguarding Implementation Unit representatives Mae Sta Maria and Alexa Wilkins and held within Children's Week 2025, Ausdance WA presented a free webinar with updates about Child Safety in WA, and what support and resources are available. The webinar was attended by 7 dance teachers/community members and recorded to provide a future resource.

Ausdance WA's Executive Director Amy Wiseman was also invited to join the Supporting Communities Forum - Child Safe Organisations Working Group 24/25, where strategies for statewide sector readiness, resource mapping and awareness campaigns were progressed ahead of imminent legislation changes. This provided a direct advocacy channel to express challenges in creative industries and dance for small businesses / organisations where people are volunteering, and are not well resourced or used to compliance-based systems.

Ausdance WA regularly contributes to conversations with the national Ausdance network, discussing the various phases of legislation and implementation between states and territories, and strategies to support the sector.

Child Safe Dance Advisory Committee:

- Natasha McCann (Head of Education and Community Engagement, West Australian Ballet)
- Jacinta Ehlers (Independent Teacher and Dance Competition Manager)
- Rita Nita (Creative Director, Choreographer, Community Development Consultant, Cultural Events Coordinator, Ex-Studio Owner of Elan Dance Est.)
- Sharon Dalla Costa (Managing Director, ATAR Dance Coordinator and Teacher - Youth Ballet WA)
- Kristal Twilight and Kristin Keighery (Co-Owners, K2Dance)
- Tania Shillington (Committee Member, West Australian Classical Ballet Teachers Association, Physiotherapist and Ex-Studio Owner)
- Kate Buchan (Owner, Dance Etc., Starz Dance and Co-Owner Creative Dance Method)
- Amanda Leigh (Independent Teacher, Customer Experience, Ausdance WA Board Member).

Professional Development for Teachers

Ausdance WA has delivered Professional Development workshops and classes throughout its history. With annual program funding secured across 2025 through two separate grants from CITS, three suites of Professional Development

programs were delivered throughout 2025. Representatives from Ausdance WA's Teachers in Schools Advisory Group was consulted across the year to ensure workshop timing and content would be optimal for strong attendance.

Suite 1: Set Solo Workshop

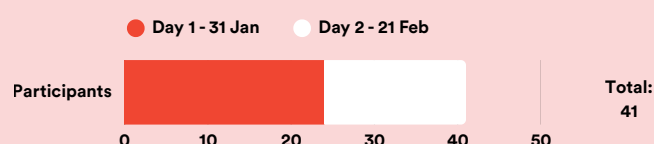
Day 1: 31 January 2025, Studio A, Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts, Mt Lawley
Attendance: 24

Day 2: 21 February 2025, Royal Park Hall, West Perth
Attendance: 17

This full-day workshop (repeated twice) was aimed at ATAR Year 12 Teachers and independent contemporary practitioners. It covered a breakdown of the Set Solo material originally choreographed by Rhiannon Newton, that would feature in the 2025 WACE Practical Dance Examination. Both workshops were facilitated by Amy Wiseman, and assisted by Jo Omodei.

Participant Feedback:

- "The workshop felt like such a safe and welcoming environment."
- "Highly educational with nuanced approaches."
- "It was a wonderfully organised event, Amy is an amazing facilitator and Jo was a fantastic demonstrator."



Below: Set Solo Workshops Professional Development, February 2025.



Professional Development for Teachers

Suite 2: Primary and Secondary Days

Day 1: Beyond Boundaries: Secondary Teaching Dance. 27 February 2025.

Held at Royal Park Hall, West Perth, this full-day workshop aimed at secondary teachers included four facilitated workshops, providing PD for 20 dance educators. The content was developed to support and expand learning for teachers in schools, including ATAR, General and Certificate level / VET.

Workshops included: Genre Taster sessions by Illy from The Spot (House Dance) and Miska from Selendang Sutra (Gandrung Dance from Lombok), case studies for upper secondary by Seanne Sparrow (Régir Dance), and a deep dive into choreography and artistic practices.

Participant Feedback:

- “Great mix of practical dance workshops and theoretical content. New ideas to use with dance classes. Wonderful network opportunity.”
- “Super informative and engaging throughout the entire day.”

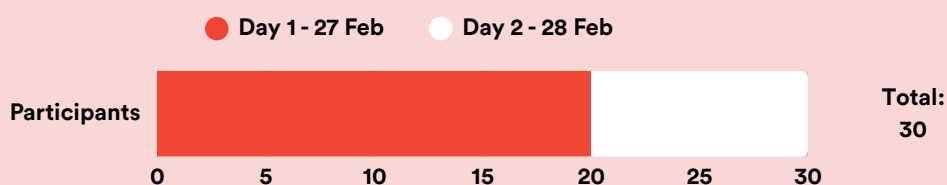
Day 2: Teaching Primary Dance with Creative Moves WA. 28 February 2025.

Held at Royal Park Hall, West Perth, this full-day workshop was presented by Rachael Bott from Creative Moves WA. Aimed at both PP - Year 6 Performing Arts specialist teachers, and generalist teachers, the workshop focused on building skills in delivering the primary dance curriculum. Ten primary dance educators attended.

Workshops were led by Rachael Bott of Creatives Moves WA and included sample warm-ups and games, exploring a theme - creative activities, creating a whole class dance and responding/assessment.

Participant Feedback:

- “Covered a lot of content, was pitched at a great level regardless of experience.”
- “These events are always good. It's nice to talk to others and to either confirm what I doing or to get new and fresh perspectives.”



Below: Beyond Boundaries: Teaching Secondary Dance Professional Development, February 2025.



Professional Development for Teachers

Suite 3: Teacher Professional Development

Day 1 content was designed for Year 11 and 12 dance teachers, with workshops aimed across ATAR, General and VET pathways, while Day 2 was designed for Year 7-10 teachers, with workshops aimed at lower school/ generalised secondary information.

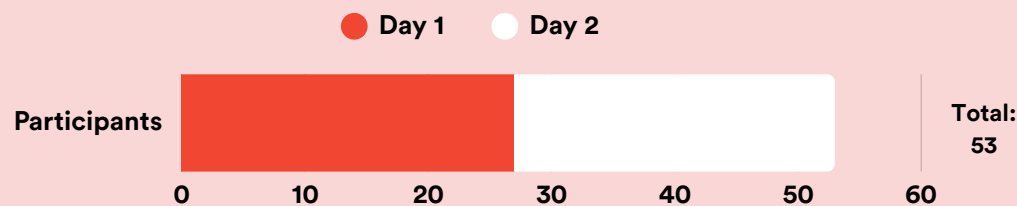
Held in the Rehearsal Room at Subiaco Arts Centre, this two day series saw 53 teachers attending over the two days. Expert facilitators, relevant content and excellent timing ensured this suite sold out and we even had to turn people away. The same dates and venue have already been booked for 2026.

Day 1: Dance Educators - Year 11 and 12, 6 November 2025.

Linton Elethios	Improvisation approaches for structured tasks and movement generation
Logan Ringshaw	Genre Taster: Street Dance
Dr Luke Hopper	Understanding and applying biomechanical principles
Clair Lang	Networking discussions facilitated by principal consultant in Dance/Drama, SCSA

Day 2: Dance Educators - Years 7-10, 7 November 2025.

Ellen Paterniti	Focus on warm-up and cool-down with Perth Dance Physio.
Deby Holmes	Genre Taster: Broadway Jazz
Christine Polglaze	Theory session with Chair of SCSA's Curriculum Advisory Committee for Dance
Christine Polglaze	Networking discussion facilitated by Chair of SCSA's Curriculum Advisory Committee



Below: Dance Teacher Professional Development workshops, November 2025. Left image by Zendra Giraudo.



Sector Connection

Metro

WA Dance Orgs Gathering (WADOG)

Following the sector consultation, Ausdance WA also reinstated regular gatherings with WA professional dance companies and producing organisations in order to strengthen communication and collaboration. The first gathering was held in Oct 2024 and was attended by key representatives from West Australian Ballet, Co3 Australia, STRUT Dance, Marrugeku, PICA, The Blue Room Theatre, Performing Lines and Perth Festival. Three gatherings were held in 2025, in May, August and October, strengthening collaborations, planning and support between organisations.

Ausdance WA also had three (3) representatives attend the Perth Dance Sector Gathering in June 2025, hosted by Theatre Network Australia (VIC), Dance Makers Collective (NSW), GUTS Dance (NT) and Creative Australia. This gathering was specifically targeted to discuss independent dance artists and recommendations arising from the national Independent Dance Artist Report published by TNA, and ways to improve support and communication between dance organisations and independent artists.

Education

Ausdance WA remained actively involved in a range of meetings, presentations and forums relating to dance and education in 2025. This included consultation with FutureNow - Creative and Leisure Industries Training Council on the establishment of the Dance Teaching Traineeship, presentations with ECU Education students, Australian Council for Health, Physical Education and Recreation WA (ACHPER WA) State Conference and Catholic Education WA and Association of Independent Schools WA Networking Days.

AGM 2025

As part of the Annual General Meeting held on 5 June 2025, Ausdance WA presented a Life Membership to Gabrielle Sullivan, recognising her outstanding contribution to the organisation and to dance advocacy across decades. Gabrielle attended the evening with twenty other Ausdance WA members and board members to celebrate. The evening concluded with a presentation by Scott Ewen (Onyx Movement) who shared his approach to functional movement and wellbeing, supporting falls prevention, health and the importance of movement as we age.

Regional

WA Showcase - Get Together Session

Ausdance WA presented a session at the WA Showcase presented by Circuitwest at Subiaco Arts Centre on 24 July 2025. The session invited dance organisations with regional dance artists, teachers, and venues/presenters to discuss sector needs and invite feedback on a proposal to hold a monthly Regional Dance Artists Hub online - offering continuity, support, education or other identified needs, depending on the cohort. A pilot program is planned for 2026.

Regional Dance Mapping

Ausdance WA together with Regional Arts WA have commenced some regional dance sector mapping, to identify dance artists, teachers, schools / studios and venues in regional WA and support shared knowledge, .

Ausdance WA Blog

In 2025, Ausdance WA re-commenced regular blog posts on the website, with a focus on highlighting regional dance stories. These included local artists and their work, metro artists touring to regional locations, and dance company engagement programs.



Ausdance WA Executive Director, Amy Wiseman (right), with former Executive Director Gabrielle Sullivan at the 2025 AGM, inducting Gabrielle as an Ausdance Life Member.

National

Online MEAA Dance Industry Code of Practice

On 27 November, the national Ausdance network organised for Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance (MEAA) to provide a comprehensive online briefing and Q+A session about the Dance Industry Code of Practice 25/26. The online session was open to Ausdance WA members, and was very well attended with great discussions from representatives in dance training and professional practice across Australia.

National Ausdance Network

The National Ausdance Network continues to meet monthly online to coordinate national initiatives and projects, and stay connected on issues such as Child Safety, teacher qualifications and Australian Dance Week celebrations. The network is made up of representatives from ACT, QLD, VIC, SA and WA.

Ausdance National Board

Amy Wiseman, Executive Director of Ausdance WA is now a representative on the Ausdance National Board, with fellow West Australian dance artist Natalie Allen, Secretary. The Ausdance National Board meets quarterly, and continues to build capacity for the dance sector through national advocacy, contributing through federal submissions, strategic partnerships and through projects and initiatives. Ausdance National has representatives in ArtsPeak, National Advocates for Arts Education, Tertiary Dance Council, World Dance Alliance and International Young Choreographers Project.

Establishment of Teacher Traineeships

Ausdance WA have been working alongside FutureNow Creative and Leisure Industries Training Council over a number of years to support accessible pathways into training for dance teaching. The outcome of these opportunities also contributes to raising the standard of dance teaching and provides sustainable careers for West Australian workers. In May 2024, a proposal was submitted to the State Training Board for the establishment of two traineeships for dance teachers in WA:

- Certificate III in Assistant Dance Teaching
- Certificate IV in Dance Teaching and Management

In May 2025, we received news that the establishment of two Class B Traineeships had been confirmed and approved. The process involved extensive sector consultation, and was guided expertly by Ann-Marie Ryan at FutureNow. Ausdance WA, in consultation with stakeholders, developed a landing page with Q+A section to provide information and support the implementation of the Traineeships. Providing more accessible pathways into the profession will encourage new and existing teachers to increase their knowledge and skills, which will have an impact more broadly on the standard of dance teaching in WA.

Below: Dance Teacher Professional Development, November 2025. Image by Zendra Giraud.



DANCE & HEALTH

In November 2025, we published a discussion paper that marks a new era for dance advocacy and research in WA - the 'Whole of Life Engagement With Dance: Training and Careers as Qualified Dance-Health Specialists in Western Australia' paper.

Global peer-reviewed research identified in this discussion paper demonstrates that the core elements of dance as an art form are uniquely effective as valid complementary therapies. The paper seeks to broaden the professional career opportunities for professionally qualified dancers in the dance industry and in the allied health sectors.

This discussion paper formed the basis of a Discussion Forum hosted by Ausdance WA and Edith Cowan University on Wednesday 26 November. The forum was titled 'Breaking Barriers, Building Lifelong Dance Career Pathways', and was an insightful look into the ways in which dance artists can extend their careers into allied health pathways and beyond. We were joined by special guests, Scottish Ballet Health UK, and a panel of five exceptional WA dance health leaders who have each taken their dance careers and moved into areas of allied health, education and leadership. The Forum was attended by 35 guests from a range of backgrounds in dance, education, medicine and research.

Following further consultation with government, industry and community stakeholders, Ausdance WA will engage with education and training providers, career advisory bodies, unions, peak professional associations and accrediting authorities to formalise a number of these pathways. This is to ensure that trained dancers have access to portable, credible, resilient and professional career opportunities in both dance and allied health should they choose to pursue them.

These include the efficacy and robustness of the dual qualifications pathways with:

- Edith Cowan University (includes the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts - WAAPA), Curtin University, The University of Western Australia, Notre Dame (University Careers and Employability Services);
- Training.gov.au and TAFE WA, FutureNow Creative and Leisure Industries Training Council (WA),
- School Curriculum and Standards Authority (Western Australia);
- NATA National Australia Training Association;
- Health Services Union of Western Australia (HSUWA);
- Education Department of Western Australia;
- Media, Entertainment & Arts Alliance (MEAA);
- Career Industry Council of Australia (CICA);



- TNDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission, and Services Australia (under the eligibility criteria defined within the Health Insurance Act 1973 and related regulations);
- Teacher Registration Board of Western Australia (TRBWA);
- National Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services (NAGCAS);
- Australian Centre for Career Education (ACCE); and
- Catholic Education WA (CEWA) and Association of Independent Schools WA (AISWA)

Interest Groups and Health Stakeholders

- Office of the Federal Minister for Health and Ageing
- Office of the Western Australian Ministers for Health, Preventative Health, Ageing and Cultural Industries
- Australian Medical Association (AMA National and WA State Chapter)
- National Mental Health Commission (NMHC)
- Western Australian Association for Mental Health (WAAMH)
- Autism Awareness Australia and Autism Association Australia
- Parkinson's Western Australia and Parkinson's Australia
- Alzheimer's Australia and Western Australia
- Primary and Secondary Principals' Associations (Government and Non-Government)
- WA Council of State School Organisations Inc. (Peak parent body Government Schools)

ADVOCACY

As the state advocacy body for dance, coupled with a voice in the national network, Ausdance WA champions the call for recognition of the value of the dance sector at every opportunity. We contribute to industry research, policy reviews and development and ensure that the voice for dance in Western Australia is heard at local, state and national levels. We bring expert knowledge and input from key stakeholders to policy reviews and developments to ensure the best outcomes for our sector – companies, organisations, teachers across all contexts, and independent dance artists and students.

Progressing recommendations from //IN MOTION// Report 2024

The //IN MOTION// Sector Consultation report assessed sector needs and made 66 recommendations across 10 categories, ranking priorities and the role Ausdance WA should play. Ausdance WA uses these recommendations to design projects and initiatives, alongside consultation with members, partners and stakeholders to ensure our program is responsive, relevant and can have the greatest possible impact to support and build capacity for the dance sector in WA.

Kidsport Vouchers

Ausdance WA continues to advocate for dance of all styles to be included in the Kidsport voucher initiative. The voucher currently enables eligible WA children aged 5 to 18 years to participate in community sport and recreational activities with financial assistance of up to \$500 per financial year towards club fees. In 2025, a Kids Access All Areas voucher was announced, supporting WA's young people to access more arts and cultural events. This is promising, but does not eliminate the need for ongoing advocacy to ensure young people can participate in dance, and have the same support to do so, as a child enrolled in sport. Ausdance WA has once again sought to clarify the classification of the CITS 'recognised state sporting association' in WA to broaden the scope and ensure all forms of dance are represented and included. We recognise the significant benefit of this initiative both to families and their associated dance schools, and aim to remove barriers to access this program.

Dance Teacher Pay Rates and Conditions

Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance and the Dancers Australia union have progressed the inclusion of pay rates and working conditions for dance teachers, which was previously not part of the Industry Code of Practice. Ausdance WA supported MEAA's survey regarding pay rates for teachers in 2024, and continues to promote the Dance Industry Code of Practice.

Insurance

In 2025, the national Ausdance network launched a new tailored insurance program designed specifically for the dance sector. After listening to our members, we've partnered with Austbrokers Countrywide to offer an insurance option that understands the unique needs of dance; from classes, workshops and competitions to productions and community events. The program has been benchmarked against industry peers and offers market-leading value, contributing a significant benefit to Ausdance membership.

Submissions

The national Ausdance network made a significant submission in February 2025 to the National Office for Child Safety, in response to the public consultation paper, Child Safety Annual Reporting Framework. In September, Ausdance WA also made a submission to the Department of Communities regarding Working With Children Check reform, and briefed the Child Safeguarding Implementation Unit on child safety in dance ahead of their inter-jurisdictional meeting with the National Office for Child Safety.

WAAPA Buildings

Ausdance WA consulted with a range of stakeholders throughout 2025 to advocate for the future of the dance studios in Mount Lawley and their outcome when the West Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA) moves to the new ECU City campus in 2026. These safe, purpose-built dance and movement studios are an important asset to the arts and cultural sector, and are vital for dance practice and sustainability. We will continue to advocate for their preservation.

Australian Dance Week - Bridge Lights, Media Release and Celebration

To celebrate Australian Dance Week in 2025, Ausdance WA lit up the city with key Main Roads landmarks including Matagarup Bridge, Sky Ribbon and Joondalup Drive Bridge illuminated in Ausdance colours (red and white) on Tuesday 29 April - International Dance Day. A media release featuring Co3's IN.CLASS program and highlights of their events during ADW was distributed, and Ausdance WA Chair Gary Hodge took part in a radio interview with the ABC. On social media, Ausdance WA also shared thoughts from our Directors - with Dance Week comments from David McAllister (West Australian Ballet), Raewyn Hill (Co3 Australia), Dalisa Pigram and Rachael Swain (Marrugeku) and Sofie Burgoyne and James O'Hara (STRUT Dance).

ADVOCACY

Youth Dance

Ausdance WA continued to support youth dance initiatives in 2025, meeting with past and present members to discuss and support opportunities and approaches. While a Youth Dance Advisory Group was planned, organisational capacity dictated a more informal and responsive approach.

Other Support

Dancing on a Knife's Edge Film - Ausdance WA supported Dawn Jackson and Fleur Alder, connecting to national contacts and venues through the national Ausdance network, and promotion of the WA screenings.

Right: Matagarup Bridge lit up in Ausdance WA colours to celebrate International Dance Day on 29 April 2025.



REPRESENTATION

Within our limited capacity, we talk to people each week, providing advice to members, connecting members to the industry, advocating to governments and ensuring we remain connected on the sector's behalf. In 2025, Amy Wiseman was also joined the Ausdance National Board as a Western Australian representative, and was selected to join both the Service and Creative Skills Australia's Technical Committee to review qualification CUA30320 Cert III in Assistant Dance Teaching, and the Supporting Communities Forum Child Safe Organisations Working Group.

Staff and Board members have represented Ausdance WA in committees, meetings and events, including:

- Meeting with Simone McGurk MLA, Minister for Creative Industries
- Meeting with Professor Sharath Sriram, Chief Scientist of Western Australia
- Dept of Creative Industries, Tourism and Sport
- National Ausdance Network (monthly meetings)
- Child Safeguarding Implementation Unit
- Creative Australia and Creative Workplaces
- Dept of Creative Industries, Tourism and Sport
- Media, Entertainment, and Arts Alliance
- Network of National Dance Organisations (NoNDO, quarterly meetings)
- Office for the Arts
- Service and Creative Skills Australia
- School Curriculum and Standards Authority
- Chamber of Arts and Culture
- Supporting Communities Forum - Child Safe Organisations Working Group
- Sport Integrity Australia
- Perth Dance Sector Gatherings
- Stakeholders for Youth Dance in WA
- FutureNow - Creative and Leisure Industries Training Council
- WAAPA Dance Consultative Committee
- Circuitwest's WA Showcase and State of the Industry Day
- ArtsPeak - Peak Organisations Group (via network)
- Tertiary Dance Council of Australia (via network)
- World Dance Alliance (via network)
- ECU Mt Lawley - Education students - presentation
- ACHPER WA State conference - presentation
- CEWA / AISWA Networking Day - presentation



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