

Leela Dance Collective
Dancer Recruitment & Training Manager
Position Description

Status: Part-Time, Exempt
Reports to: Artistic Director

Organization Profile

Leela Dance Collective is an internationally touring dance company that advances kathak, classical dance from North India. Through traditional works and cross-genre collaborations, the Collective brings the richness and depth of Indian classical dance to contemporary audiences worldwide. Leela Dance Collective has garnered critical acclaim under the artistic direction of renowned kathak artists Rukhmani Mehta (previously Rina Mehta), Seibi Lee, and Rachna Nivas, and engages some of today's leading dancers and musicians, as well as collaborative artists of other genres. Leela Dance Collective has created groundbreaking productions including *SPEAK, Son of the Wind, ReSound*, and more. Past highlights include appearances at Ford Theaters, The Broad Stage, Kimmel Center, the Green Music Center, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, National Center for the Performing Arts in Bombay, Maui Arts & Cultural Center, and NC State LIVE. In addition to its performances, Leela Dance Collective provides world-class education to aspiring kathak dancers through its pre-professional training programs in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Denver and New York and engaged communities through a diverse range of educational programming.

In 2016, Leela launched a campaign to establish The Leela Foundation, the first United States-based endowment for North Indian artistic and cultural heritage. The Leela Foundation aims to build the financial infrastructure necessary for kathak dance and Hindustani classical music to thrive for generations to come. The Foundation reached its initial \$1 Million goal in September 2023 and annually disburses 4% of the fund to support artist salaries, residencies and awards.

Position Overview

The Dancer Recruitment and Training Manager is responsible for creating and implementing programs and activities that ensure a pipeline of talented and dedicated dancers for Leela Dance Collective. The manager is responsible for working with the Artistic Director to create and implement a comprehensive outreach and training plan for aspiring dancers ages 18-26. The manager will work to create strategic partnerships with key institutions in Southern California such as universities, independent dance and music schools and fine arts institutions.

This position is a part-time, exempt position and reports directly to Leela's Artistic Director. Salary and benefits package, DOE.

Primary Responsibilities

- Work with Artistic Director to develop and implement outreach strategies to recruit dancers (ages 18-25) interested in training and performing kathak, classical dance of North India, at the pre-professional and professional level with Leela Dance Collective.
- Work with the Artistic Director to develop and implement pre-professional and professional training programs for new and incoming dancers.
- Manage all aspects of dancer recruitment and training including marketing & outreach, inquiries, enrollment and registration, auditions (if applicable), studio booking, community building and relationship management with strategic partners.
- Develop and maintain relationships with key strategic partners
- Work to ensure that outreach, marketing and program strategies are aligned with Leela Dance Collective's vision and core values and reaching the right demographic.
- Develop and implement key digital marketing and branding strategies to support recruitment and training programs
- Support Artistic and Administrative staff in fundraising activities for dancer training programs.

Qualifications

- Energetic and passionate about the arts; effective motivator of staff, dancers, partners and volunteers
- Some experience with program design and implementation for talent recruitment, nonprofit arts or dance organizations
- Strong communications and relationship building skills
- Well-versed in current social media practices and online advertising/promotion for target demographic
- Strategic, resourceful and creative; responsive to changing priorities, opportunities and challenges
- Able to effectively recruit and convert resources for the program - talent, partnerships, in-kind support, donations, etc.
- Able to work and interact well with individuals from various backgrounds in a culturally diverse, fast-paced, and team-oriented environment to problem-solve and contribute ideas
- Some experience with Indian classical dance and the South Asian community a plus
- Some experience with arts programs in the Southern California a plus
- Bachelor's degree in dance, music, fine arts, marketing and communications, or related field

Compensation & Benefits

Nonprofit salary commensurate with experience. Part-time employees receive paid time off, sick leave and flex days. All Leela Dance Collective staff take two weeks off in June and one week off in December. Employees at Leela have access to Leela's performances and dance classes at a subsidized rate.

To Apply

Submit cover letter, cv/resume, and three references to info@leela.dance. Reference “Dancer Recruitment & Training Manager” in subject line. Applicants must be eligible to work in the United States. Position is open until filled.

All applications and expressed interest in this position will be handled confidentially and references will not be contacted without the candidate's permission.

Although we appreciate your interest, only candidates selected for an interview will be contacted. No phone calls, please.

We understand that it is not likely you will meet every qualification. We welcome applicants with varied backgrounds and different applications of skills. If you believe you can excel in this role, we encourage you to apply!