MICHAEL CALDWELL is a Toronto-based choreographer, performer, curator, director, producer, and arts advocate. His choreography has been commissioned/presented throughout Canada at major festivals, in traditional venues and in site-responsive contexts. He will premiere a new web-based movement work online and a large-scale performance/sound work in Toronto’s Year of Public Art in 2021, in addition to a new commissioned work for Toronto Dance Theatre. He is a two-time K.M. Hunter Charitable Foundation Artist Award finalist. Michael has performed/collaborated with over 50 of Canada’s esteemed performance creators/companies, and toured across North America, Europe, Asia, and Australia. His performances have earned him two (2) Dora Mavor Moore Awards for outstanding performance in dance. Michael serves as Executive Producer for Fall for Dance North and as Associate Artistic Director for Festival of Dance Annapolis Royal in Nova Scotia, and now sits on the national board of directors at the CanDance Network and the Dancer Transition Resource Centre.

DAVID FORTEAU was born and raised in Toronto, Canada... and knew at a young age he wanted to be a leader for his communities. He spent his early youth working as a professional dancer, a studio owner, a motivational speaker, and an industry entrepreneur. Fast forward to now, David has made his mark as a leader and advocate for the underground arts & business class of Toronto Culture.

Where my attention is in 2021
- artist mgmt @teakittagucci
- founder of @tinyloftstudios
- host of @keepyourdistancepod
- marketing/brand consultant

DIANE DAVY serves as the part-time Executive Director of WorkInCulture (WIC), a not-for-profit arts service organization that supports the professional lives of artists, creative and cultural workers and the organizations that support and engage them. WIC creates and delivers training programs, connects the community through its robust website, www.workinculture.ca and curates research and other career resources.

Davy is also the President of Castledale, a consulting company specializing in the business of the cultural sector. Her areas of expertise include strategic business planning, corporate structure and management, marketing strategies, revenue generation, board governance, project management and other related topics.
SORAYA PEERBAYE has been the Program Officer for Dance and Touring programs at the Ontario Arts Council since January 2020. Her experience with funding agencies includes her time as Equity Coordinator at the Canada Council for the Arts, Dance Officer at the Toronto Arts Council, and Senior Program Advisor at the Department of Canadian Heritage (Canada Arts Presentation Fund). She has also worked in the dance community as a project manager, producer and curator, and in the broader arts sector as an equity consultant. Lastly, she is a poet who has authored two books (Poems for the Advisory Committee on Antarctic Names, and Tell: Poems for a Girlhood).

MODERATOR:

NICOLE INICA HAMILTON is the Founder and Artistic Director of Inica Dance Industries. An award-winning choreographer and a Dance Educator, Nicole serves as a certified Teaching member of Dance Masters of Canada and Dance Masters of America. She has operated as a Guest Teacher, Mentor and Speaker at institutes across Canada including but not limited to; George Brown College, University of Toronto and York University.

As a touring Educator and Speaker, she has presented in national and international conventions and championships including; En Avant - RAD world convention, Toronto Dance Teacher Expo, Creation Dance Championships, the Performing Arts Medicine Association and more.

Hamilton serves as an On-Air Radio Host on The Career Buzz Show and is a Producer/ Host with Turn Out Radio broadcasting on CIUT 89.5 FM. In her work in health, Hamilton is a Counsellor and actively works to advocate for and promote healthy practices for Dance Artists. Learn more about Nicole: www.inicadance.com/nicole-hamilton  Follow Nicole @n_hamilton_

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

SAMARA THOMPSON is dance educator and an award-winning independent choreographer with a specialization in the integration of computer technology with contemporary dance. She is the recipient of a Paula Citron Award for choreography. She presented her creations throughout Canada and has her BFA and MA in dance from York University. She wrote for the Dance Current, and was recently on the Dora Mavor Moore Awards Dance Jury search committee.

As a radio broadcaster with over a decade of experience, Thompson is a founding creator, producer, and co-host of the Toronto radio show Turn Out. She interviewed a multitude of Canadian and international artists such as Ohad Naharin, Bill T. Jones, Veronica Tennant, Akram Khan, Crystal Pite, and Christopher House. Thompson currently teaches at dance at York University and is the Chair of the Board of Directors of Dance Ontario.