MARY FOGARTY is a writer and researcher of popular culture, music and dance. She is also an avid gardener, bookworm, and supporter of Black and Indigenous community and youth-led programs. Recent publications include a chapter about Toronto’s formal contributions to breaking aesthetics in We Still Here: Hip Hop North of the 49th Parallel (edited by Charity Marsh and Mark V. Campbell), and a chapter about dance fandom online in Beyoncé: At Work, On Screen, and Online (edited by Martin Iddon and Melanie Marshall). Her forthcoming project is the Oxford Handbook of Hip Hop Dance Studies, that she co-edited with Dr. Imani Kai Johnson featuring chapters from internationally recognized hip hop dancers, scholars, activists and advocates. Fogarty is Associate Professor in Dance at York University, Toronto, Canada.

IRMA VILLAFUERTE is a Salvadorian-Canadian dance artist and educator in Tkaronto. Graduate of George Brown Dance. She’s performed in Rhubarb Festival, DanceWeekend Ontario, Aluna Theatre’s RUTAS and Caminos Festival, Panamania 2015, La 12 Bienal de la Habana 2015 for (IN)DISCIPLINAS, Vanguardia Dance Projects Festival, International Dance Meeting in Guantanamo, Cuba, CounterPulse Performing Diaspora in San Francisco, etc. With the honour to be part of works by Jaberi Dance Theatre, Kaha:wi Dance Theatre, Victoria Mata, Aria Evans, Alejandro Ronceria, Kaeja D’dance, Arsenio Andrade, Derek Sangster. Since 2016, she has engaged in developing her choreographic practice, through residencies with Dancemakers, Emerging Voices with TDT and George Brown Dance, which has led her into creation process for nudoDESnudo and Xilopango with a focus on social justice and embodied historic memory. She’s a TDSB creates Resident artist, is on the faculty at Casa Maiz’ Semillas Latinas and Randolph College for the Performing Arts.

GIULIA TRIPOLI has been dancing, choreographing and creating on local, national and international stages since 2008. Building a career based on respect for the discipline and passion for the art, dance has been her vehicle for change both in herself and in those she is fortunate enough to teach. Her unique style has become a trademark for the growth and innovation that can exist in the dance industry. She is the founder of both Tripoli Studios Inc. and its Agency of professional dancers. has developed a reputation in the industry for precision, professionalism and polish. Her studio has become a Montreal staple for any dancer looking to train in an open and accepting environment. Giulia continues to use her voice to advocate for artists in order to create great change within the community.
GRACE WELLS-SMITH is a Toronto-based journalist. She is currently the managing editor at The Dance Current magazine and has been published by CBC, Toronto Star, Intermission and the Ryerson Review of Journalism. In 2020, she also produced the podcast Why, Tho? with author Alicia Elliott. She holds a Master of Journalism from Ryerson University and a BFA in Dance Performance and Choreography from York University and has completed an internship with the CBC’s investigative unit in Toronto. www.gracewellssmith.com

CRAIG BERGGOLD is a filmmaker, media artist, teacher, and a key organizer for The Case for Basic Income and the Arts campaign. He is the co-author of an open letter calling on the Canadian government to implement a basic income for all, and signed by 3,000 artists and endorsed by 30+ national arts groups representing 75,000 artists, technicians and performers. The #artist4basic income campaign garnered national and international media attention, and highlighted how artists and dancers have lived precariously for decades without benefits or pensions. “A basic income will lift up the precarious ensuring financial stability and support the remarkable creative capacity of individuals and a living culture.”

ROBIN SOKOLOSKI has been working in the arts and culture sector for over fifteen years. Currently, as the Director of Organizational Development of Mass Culture, Robin is working with academics, funders and arts practitioners to support a thriving arts community by mobilizing the creation, amplification and community informed analysis of research.

For 10+ years, Robin was the Executive Director of Playwrights Guild of Canada (PGC). She has led the organization’s negotiating team for its triennial contract negotiations with the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres. She has also assisted playwrights one on one with specific contract agreements and taught a three-day course in Montreal on copyright and professional contract agreements.

MATTHEW ELDRIDGE is a registered social worker, having completed his Master of Social Work degree in 2013. He currently works as an independent psychotherapist, working out of the AI and Malka Green Artists’ Health Centre, and in his own private practice. Matt has a background as a competitive trampolinist/gymnast, and prior to becoming a social worker, he performed as an acrobat in the Cirque du Soleil production of Dralion. Matt’s professional experience includes co-ordination, program development, workshop facilitation, and individual/group psychotherapy.
LEIF NORMAN has been photographing performances of all kinds since 2005 and is one of the Winnipeg go to people for dance, theatre, circus, music and festivals. Each one of these types of shoot have different venues with their own challenges and Leif has figured out how to make them work to get a good shot. Position, timing, lighting all come into play when trying to make the performers look their best. By using what is available and not going out to buy more equipment Leif hopes to instruct everyone on how to self film at home and get great results.

ELISSA HORSCROFT is the Director of Production at Canadian Stage overseeing productions at their four theatres including the Dream in High Park. In addition to this role she is also the Facilities Manager for the company. She spent the sixteen years previous to this at the Stratford Festival working as Technical Director, in each of their four theatres there, and has toured numerous productions from the Festival including Jesus Christ Superstar, Christopher Plummer’s one man show A Word or Two, and most recently Coriolanus, as directed by Robert LePage. Previous to this Elissa was Production Manager with Theatre Orangeville, while also working as a freelance Production Manager, Designer and Technical Director on productions through the GTA and Southern Ontario.

ROBERT SAUVEY has an extensive background in arts and cultural leadership positions and is currently the Executive Director of the Dance Umbrella of Ontario. Before joining DUO he was the Executive Director of Dancemakers the second oldest contemporary dance company in Ontario, recently celebrating their 40th anniversary. At Dancemakers Robert successfully developed and implemented a new curator led operating model to position the organization for the future. His experience in dance also includes over five years as the Director of Touring and Artistic Administration for Canada’s Royal Winnipeg Ballet.