



An Introduction to Festival Dance

Festival Dance and Performing Arts Association (Festival Dance) is one of the leading non-profit arts institutions on The Palouse, and is well-known for its vibrancy, quality, and community engagement.

The mission of Festival Dance is, “Bringing the arts to the people and the people to the arts,” and our work is guided by our core values - diversity, accessibility, nurturing local talent, community involvement, and artistic excellence.

Since 1972, Festival Dance has been enriching, inspiring, and vitalizing the communities of the Inland Northwest with the best of dance and other performing arts through public performances, education, and outreach.

Our signature activities include:

The **Great Performances Series** features public performances by internationally acclaimed ballet, modern dance, jazz, musical theatre, and ethnic dance companies who would not otherwise be available in our area. Three events are performed annually. Recent attractions include “The Nutcracker,” by Ballet Victoria of Canada, Quiero Flamenco & Special Guests from the Pacific Northwest and around the country, Repertory Dance Theatre from Utah and Cleo Parker Robinson Dance from Denver.

The **Festival Dance Academy** offers classes in Moscow and Troy that provide children and adults with professional instruction in ballet, jazz, hip hop, tap, musical theatre, lyrical, contemporary, and creative dance. Summer workshops attract students from throughout the region. Free classes are offered in schools through the **Discover Dance** program and in the community through our **Summer Dance** program. The **Motion Fever Dance Troupe** (commonly referred to as MOFE), is an audition-based academy dance group that offers performances throughout the community. Academy students also have the opportunity to dance alongside professionals during the holiday season presentation of *The Nutcracker*.

YouthReach is a program that accompanies each of our professional performances in the Great Performances Series and presents educational and inspiring professional arts programs free for area schools. In 2023-24, approximately 1,500 school children were served, including students from Moscow and Pullman as well as from area rural schools in Colton/Uniontown, Garfield/Palouse, Potlatch, Genesee, Troy, Deary, Kendrick/Juliaetta, and the Nez Perce and Coeur d’Alene reservations.