



DANCE VICTORIA

THE WORLD'S BEST DANCE

111-2750 Quadra Street,
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Chrystal Dance Prize Recipients Receive \$44,000 to Support International Projects

VICTORIA, B.C. - Since 2010, Dance Victoria has awarded more than \$384,000 through its annual [Chrystal Dance Prize - Projects](#) to support western Canadian dance artists collaborating with international artists. Dance Victoria is excited to announce the recent recipients of this award, committing \$44,000 in commissioning support in 2022.

Kevin Fraser (Vancouver) receives \$36,000 for his dance collective, [Immigrant Lessons](#), to travel and collaborate with dance artists/producers Margarida Macieira and Nicolas Ventura and other international dance associates at *Meeting Point: Portugal*. Fraser will use the funds to support an artistic residency at [Performact](#) studios in Portugal in July and August 2022. The work will be co-authored by the collective's dancers with the creation process documented on film. Fraser is a Jamaican born, interdisciplinary artist who founded *Immigrant Lessons* to create artistic opportunities for marginalized, qt - bipoc, and underrepresented youth and communities. The company consists of Fraser and artists Sophia Gamboa, Simran Sachar, Sevrin Emnacen-Boyd, Joshua Cameron, Hayden Pereira, Joanne Park, and Vanessa Yuen. International associate artists include Alesya Dobysh (Russia/Netherlands), Lua Carriera (Portugal), Ariel Gelbart (Israel), Panos Malactos (Cyprus), Maria Fonseca (Portugal), and Hugo Marmelada (Portugal). As predominantly street dancers, the collective is a continual mentorship where the emerging artists can express gratitude for the innovations of black and Latinx people and culture.

Kayla Henry (Victoria) receives \$8,000 for her project *Luminaries*, which draws inspiration from mycelium, a network of underground fungal threads acting as a communication system for mushrooms. Henry, through her company [Noble Riot Dance Theatre](#), feels called to create work that moves people to make meaningful change in response to our climate crisis. Henry will use the Chrystal Dance Prize – *Projects* funds to support travel, research, and performances at the Arts University of the City of Vienna, collaborating with Austrian choreographer Christina Medina, and with dancer Alia Saurini and musician Finley Rose. You can learn more about Henry [here](#).



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About the Chrystal Dance Prize

The [Chrystal Dance Prize](#) is generated from a bequest made by Dance Victoria patron, Dr. Betty “Chrystal” Kleiman, to the Victoria Foundation. The Chrystal Dance Prize – *Projects* supports exceptional dance research and/or creation between a Western Canadian dance artist, collective or company and an international dance artist (interpreter or choreographer). A committee of dance professionals is assembled each year to select the recipients. The prize recipients may also have the opportunity for a two-week residency at Dance Victoria Studios. Recent Chrystal Dance Prize winners include Victoria’s David Ferguson, Stacey Horton, Dancers of Damelahamid, Kidd Pivot (*Revisor*), Ballet BC (*Romeo + Juliet*), OURO Collective, and Ralph Escamillan.

About Dance Victoria

Dance Victoria brings the World’s Best Dance to the Royal Theatre and supports the development of new dance for the international stage from its studios in Quadra Village. Dance Victoria is a non-profit charitable society. DanceVictoria.com.

For headshots of the prize recipients, contact:

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