

MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP

For Immediate Release

Press Contact:

Tara Treffiletti, tara.treffiletti@mmdg.org

DANCE FOR PD® CALLS FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE 2023-2024 LUCY BOWEN AWARD FOR INCLUSIVE CHOREOGRAPHY, A \$12,000 ANNUAL AWARD FOR CHOREOGRAPHERS CREATING AND PERFORMING NEW WORK WITH PEOPLE LIVING WITH PARKINSON'S DISEASE

The annual grant supports the next generation of choreographers in creating and producing collaborative, inclusive, and accessible new work.

New work by inaugural Bowen Award recipient Valeria Solomonoff (2021-2022) will premiere at the Mark Morris Dance Center Showcase in Brooklyn in June.

BROOKLYN, NY – The Mark Morris Dance Group's Dance for PD® program announces a call for proposals for the 2023-2024 **Lucy Bowen Award for Inclusive Choreography**, an annual award aimed at supporting choreographers who want to create a new dance in collaboration with and publicly performed by people living with Parkinson's. The Award grants up to \$12,000 towards the creation of an original work of choreography and the associated production costs of a performance that shares that choreography with the public.

Award applicants must be emerging or established choreographers whose body of work reflects quality, craft, creativity, and innovation and who are proposing a collaborative partnership with a specific, established Dance for Parkinson's class community anywhere in the world. A selection committee chaired by Lucy Bowen McCauley will review applications on artistic merit, as well as on the feasibility of presenting performances of the project as proposed. Funds may be used for such expenses as choreographer fees, space rental, theater rental and production costs, and marketing. The award is representative of the work of Lucy Bowen McCauley, a certified Dance for PD teaching artist who places community engagement at the forefront of her artistic vision. McCauley, who is dedicated to nurturing and supporting the next generation of inclusive choreographers, provides generous financial assistance to uphold this award, with additional support from an anonymous donor.

Now entering its third year, prior recipients include: NYC-based Argentinian choreographer, dancer, and teaching artist Valeria Solomonoff (2021-2022), whose resulting work will premiere at the Mark Morris Dance Center Showcase in Brooklyn, June 9-11, 2023; and Robin Dekkers (2022-2023), choreographer and Artistic Director of Berkeley Ballet Theater and Post:ballet, who will premiere their new dance film in Berkeley, CA and via livestream in August 2023.

A single recipient for the 2023-24 season will be announced in October 2023.

WHAT: **Call for proposals for the Lucy Bowen Award for Inclusive Choreography**, an annual grant of up to \$12,000 awarded to choreographers for the creation and production of new work for people living with Parkinson's Disease.

WHEN:

May 15, 2023:	Call for proposals for 2023-24 Award
June 9-12, 2023:	Premiere performance of 2022 Award recipient's work
June 30, 2023:	Deadline to submit proposals for 2023-24 Award
August 2023:	Premiere of 2023 Award recipient's new work
October 2023:	Announcement of 2023-24 Award recipient

WHERE: More information online at www.danceforpd.org.

About Dance for PD®

Dance for PD offers internationally-acclaimed, research-backed dance classes for people with Parkinson's disease online, in New York City, and through our network of partners and associates in more than 300 other communities in 25 countries. In Dance for PD classes, participants are empowered to explore movement and music in ways that are refreshing, enjoyable, stimulating and creative. A program of the Mark Morris Dance Group, Dance for PD also provides teacher training, creates innovative instructional media, and nurtures relationships among other organizations so that classes based on our model are widely available. Evidence from 43 peer-reviewed scientific studies serves to underpin the effectiveness and benefits of the Dance for PD teaching practice.

About the Mark Morris Dance Group and the MMDG Music Ensemble

Founded in New York City in 1980 by artistic director and choreographer Mark Morris, praised by *The New York Times* as "the most successful and influential choreographer alive, and indisputably the most musical," the Mark Morris Dance Group has been called "the preeminent modern dance organization of our time" (Yo-Yo Ma). Its members have received the "highest praise for their technical aplomb, their musicality, and their sheer human authenticity." (*Bloomberg News*). Live music and community engagement are vital components of the Mark Morris Dance Group, which has toured with its own musicians, the MMDG Music Ensemble, since 1996. The Mark Morris Dance Center, opened in Brooklyn in 2001, is the home of the Dance Group and provides educational opportunities in dance and music to people of all ages with and without disabilities.