

## CoDEO Talking Points - Virtual Town Hall Sessions on August 8th, 2020

### Session 3 - 3:30 - 4:30

#### **Inclusion and Equity**

- Access (internet, technology, financial, and family support)
  - Some schools are able to provide technology to students when they register.
  - Providing training for students and families on how to use different platforms.
  - Sending out surveys to families asking what technology they will be using (if not from the school) and if they have access to the internet, who is staying with them while they are attending school online, if they have multiple households and how to reach everyone involved with helping the students.
  - Using virtual backgrounds for students who might not want to share their home, or feel more comfortable with using this.
  - Virtual trainings for families - your support is necessary, how to support a virtual dance class, create a safe space for them to dance at home, removing distractions
  - Really establish guidelines prior with how families are involved, or not, when they have class.
- Diversifying a set curriculum
  - Sharing articles on how different cultures have been affected throughout the years with association.
  - Changing the perception of “Ballet is the Foundation of everything”
  - Fusing in cultural movements in technique classes.
  - Exploring using different music for classes.
  - Teach about fusion choreographers.
  - Working with other departments in your organization and school to collaborate with them.
  - Resource Books -
    - “Native American Dance Ceremonies and Social Traditions”
    - “Moving Histories/Dancing Cultures”
    - Nyama McCarthy Brown “Dance Pedagogy for a Diverse World”
- Diverse costumes and dance supplies
  - Considering costumes with various skin colors and how they work on all body types.
  - Utilizing at home items to be creative with making costumes.
  - Allowing for choice with different options.
  - Costumes are becoming more pedestrian.
  - Providing options with skirt vs. pant and non-binary options.
  - Making sure to let families know you are open to being supportive of options for your students.
  - Being mindful of your class attire etiquette and how you can accommodate students that are questioning identity and still feeling safe in the dance studio.
- Teaching more than western dance
  - Inviting guests from different cultural dance styles to guest teach.
  - Incorporate dance around the world units.
  - Dance History classes that discuss the history of dance in all countries and cultures and how they have impacted current dance trends.