

# Ausdance Queensland Inc.

## Annual Report 2017

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ATTACHMENT – AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT YEAR END 2017

### **ABOUT AUSDANCE QUEENSLAND**

#### **Mission**

Ausdance Queensland supports, informs and connects dance professionals, and inspires participation that enriches communities with dance.

#### **Vision**

The Queensland dance sector develops and thrives within an environment where artists can explore, excel and enjoy sustainable careers; communities can see and participate in dance; and where dance is

#### **Background**

The association was established in 1992 and provides professional advocacy and industry development for Queensland dance through strong local, regional, national and international networks. We work to bring recognition to the many roles that dance plays in the cultural life of Queensland and to maximise opportunities for practitioners.

Our services and programs address the needs of dance artists at any stage of their careers, community dance practitioners, educators and the broader community in relation to dance. We are the state dance industry's primary advocate and advisory representative in regards to government policy, sector planning and industry initiatives.

Ausdance Queensland is supported by the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland, part of the Department of Premier and Cabinet with four year organization funding for 2017 – 2019. The organisation actively pursues industry and funding partnership to enhance the scope and impact of our outcomes.

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

When the baton was handed to a new team of skilled professionals to drive forward the Ausdance agenda, it was on the back of a great legacy left by outgoing Management Committee members who had committed their personal time, some up to a decade, who secured the company's position within the performing arts industry.

This renewal was necessary, not only as a technical need to replace seven outgoing Committee members, but more holistically to ensure the right experience and skills of the selected five incoming members were aligned with the priorities of the company that focused on the two principles that would underpin our future sustainability: building our artistic reach and strengthening our governance.

As the elected Chair, I was honoured to lead the new Management Committee which consisted of a blend of dance industry specialists including a professional dancer, dance producer, dance company administrator, dance educator, and then to balance the equation two lawyers and a governance specialist.

It was an exciting team to be part of and I thank them personally for their vote of confidence and support: Bradley Chatfield, Lisa Wilson, Lynne Masters, Renee Pace, Belinda Breakspear and Sheree Harrison (Deputy Chair).

Our priority was to understand the state of relationships with key stakeholders, most particularly with our members and funding partners both of who had invested their trust in the company.

Fortunately, good governance was also a priority of our key funding partner (Queensland Government's Arts Queensland) who, through a grant process, allowed us to audit and benchmark the state of our corporate health through the specialist services of David Fishel from Positive Solutions.

This investment created a twelve-month workplan that will give critical assurance of our quality management practices to our members (for who we act).

Hence our need to better understand our membership base: who they are, what they want and how we support them. Whilst quantity of members has not grown, the quality is underpinned by the 23 Honourary Life Members who continue as patrons of our art. Better analysis and engagement will continue to be a priority into the future.

Our program of events created opportunities to **network** (Whinge, Wine & Realign), **learn** (Ausdance Educators Queensland Conference), **inform** (National Dance Forum & Awards) and **engage** (Career Dance Slam, All the Dancing I have Known, Dance Week, North Queensland Community Tour).

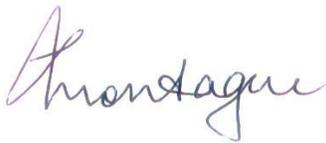
Each activity was delivered with the value and qualities expected of Ausdance, thanks to the talent of Executive Director Angela Chaplin and her team, Sandi Woo, Lizzie Vilmanis and Joanne Eager. They, and their network of enthusiastic supporters, brought to life a program funded by Australia Council, Arts Queensland, Tim Fairfax Family Foundation, Community Gambling Fund and College of Tourism & Hospitality, for who we are truly grateful.

As the year ended, we reflected on the highlights and challenges and agreed to continue the program of renewal, that is necessary for corporate health and an expectation of all benefactors of public funding.

Never easy, decisions to move on carry mixed emotions, but the knowledge that you leave room for new people with new ideas to assure the passion for dance continues in Queensland, outweighs any regrets.

My term as President and Chair was short and as I hand over the baton, I only regret not meeting more dancers. However, I leave Ausdance Qld as I came in; a stakeholder in the art of dance, the hidden language of the soul!

Happy Dancing,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads 'L. Montague'.

**Liliana Montague GAICD, FAMI, MIIPA**

President/Chair – Management Committee

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

Stepping into the role as Executive Director and in the office for just on 5 weeks has been a wild ride ! Whilst I have been finding my feet, meeting with many of you, strategizing and preparing to deliver a reimagined and refreshed 2018 program, it is important we reflect on what has come before so we can take stock of what and where we need to go as a diverse, dynamic and relevant community.

In 2017 the following activities were delivered:

- *All the Dancing I have known* with Lutheran Services.  
Aged care outreach program for community workshops and creative development of a performance work. Professional artists working closely with the elders in our community to create a performance outcome driven through a long-term facilitated workshop process.
- *Whinge, wine and realign*  
A community gathering and critical discussion forum
- *New Move Network*  
A long-term legacy program spanning 4 years completing at the end of 2017. This program was designed for artists to work on new ideas and creative developments within paid and supported infrastructure
- *Regional Hip Hop Videos*  
Engaging with remote communities throughout regional Queensland using the medium of dance on film to engage both professional artists and dance lovers.
- *Careers Dance Slam and Community Bounce*  
The second iteration of this program and building on the successful pilot delivered in 2016. Engaging with regional Queensland and it's communities through dance.
- *Making Space*  
Subsidized studio space for Ausdance Queensland Members. The following artists took up this support: Emma Wilson, Jacob Watton, Stephanie Pokoj and Kristian Santic to the value of 194 studio hours.
- The inaugural *Queensland Dance Forum* presented in association with Supercell: Festival of Contemporary Dance Brisbane
- *Bangarra Dance Theatre workshop*
- *Mate Mezarous workshop* for professional dancers presented in association with Supercell: Festival of Contemporary Dance Brisbane
- Dance Massive travel funds for Ausdance Staff Angela Chaplin and Jo Eager to attend plus the following artists: Anja Ali-Haapala, Clare Dyson, Courtney Scheu, Melissa Lanham, Nerida Matthaehi, Rebecca Youdell and Zaimon Vilmanis
- Australian Dance Awards and National Dance Forum attended by Ausdance Queensland Staff Angela Chaplin and Jo Eager
- Ausdance Queensland Christmas Party for members and the community to wrap up and review the year

In addition to these activities Ausdance Queensland supported various applications and projects from the community including: Bris Asia, Seniors Week, Big Dance, Ausdance Educators Conference and WaW dance plus numerous letters of support for grants and funding bids.

Ausdance Queensland in 2017 provided the following services to its members:

- Member newsletter
- Advice and support
- Advocacy and representation
- Promotion and employment
- Professional development and connections
- Teacher and artist resources
- Access to Ausdance Educators Qld
- Community Engagement opportunities
- Access to portable high quality vinyl dance floor for hire
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Looking ahead I have two key priorities:

- Communication
- Contextualization

How do we talk to and engage with the community Ausdance Queensland serves and represents and, what are the trends, cultural zeitgeists, audience appetites and flow of cash for projects to empower our members and broader community to:

- Develop and create work across fields of expertise in Dance
- Capacity building to expand knowledge and lifelong learning of dance as art form, community catalyst and education resource
- Readiness skills to achieve the above
- Continue to develop a relevant, bright and diverse profile of dance in Queensland.

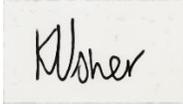
Fundamentally my work will focus on identifying and actioning opportunities to entangle ourselves further in the National and International Arts and Culture environments. Ultimately championing the view to embed dance, the love of dance and the appreciation of movement and kinetic experiences as catalyst to civic engagement. To do this I put on firmly my strategic and partnerships 'hat' as I begin the hunt for like-minded partners, connect people together through Ausdance as a conduit for critical mass, and in deep consultation with our community roll out a 2018 program that is responsive to the needs of its artists, teachers, producers, researchers, arts managers and dance lovers.

Looking ahead I am excited to work with the incoming Management Committee and broader community to take the foundations and existing framework of the current strategic plan and program offerings and mold these roots that have been laid down by amazing predecessors (Angela Chaplin, Ann Mclean,

Marcus Hughes, Julie Chenery to name the few that have been in my working life !) in new ways for more dance!

Bring on 2018 ! I can't wait to champion dance in Queensland with you all.

Kindly,

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'K Usher'.

**Kate Usher**

Executive Director, Ausdance Queensland

### **AUSDANCE EDUCATORS QUEENSLAND (AEQ) ANNUAL REPORT 2017**

Ausdance Educators Queensland (AEQ) is a voluntary subcommittee of Ausdance Queensland. AEQ consists of a group of dedicated dance educators who work across primary, middle and senior secondary schools, from all schooling sectors to support the delivery of quality dance education in Queensland schools.

#### **Executive Committee members:**

Renee Place (Chair)  
Sue Fox (Business Manager)  
Helen Mullins (Programs Manager)  
Lisa Marshman (Communications Manager)  
Erin Lansbury (Partnerships Manager)

#### **Committee members:**

Jess Kavanagh, Jacob Williams, Jessica Briggs, Jo Eager and Amanda Waddell

#### **Annual AEQ Conference:**

The 2017 AEQ two-day conference *In Motion* was held on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> of May. The conference was a great success with over 80 participants from all over Queensland in attendance at Queensland Ballet Thomas Dixon Centre. Secondary dance specialists, primary dance specialists and primary generalist classroom teachers were in attendance from all three educational sectors. The participants engaged in workshops from

Queensland Ballet in conjunction with Bob Smith, Regional Community Education Counsellor, South East Region DET and Dr Beth Tailby, Principal Project Officer, EATSIPS, South East Region DET, Phluxus Dance Collective, Expression Dance Company, VHUB, Empire Swing, QCAA and a range of independent artists and dance educators. The focus of the conference was on the continued implementation of the Australian Curriculum: The Arts (Dance) and preparation for the upcoming New Senior Dance Syllabus. The conference aimed to provide teachers with relevant and practical professional development. Participants were also provided the opportunity to network with other dance educators to help bridge the geographical gap and isolation that regional teachers face.

AEQ would like to thank the Queensland Ballet for their in-kind support for the 2017 conference.

#### **Osmotherly Award**

The Osmotherly award is an annual award presented by Ausdance Educators Queensland to a dance educator whose work has earned them a distinguished reputation in a school, a district, across the State of Queensland or across Australia. The award is named in honour of Robert Osmotherly, who in 1986 ran the first teacher trainer course for dance specialists in Queensland. Robert had a deep ability to inspire students of dance.

Previous recipients of the Osmotherly Award include Julie Chenery (2006), Sue Fox, Barb Snook (2007), Maggi Sietsma (2008), Julie Dyson, Jude Smith (2009), Kristin Bell (2010), Brian Lucas (2011) Helen Mullins (2012), Angela Pratt (2013), Sharon Boughen (2014) and Shona Press (2015).

In 2017, AEQ presented two consecutive Osmotherly Awards at the conference. The award recipients were:

OSMOTHERLY AWARD 2016 for contribution to the development of dance education in Australia was presented to Jeff Meiners.

OSMOTHERLY AWARD 2017 for contribution to the development of dance education in Queensland was presented to Gail Hewton.

**THANK YOU TO AUDANCE QUEENSLAND MEMBERS:**

With heartfelt thanks we would like to acknowledge and thank all the Ausdance Queensland Members, staff – both current and past- as well as the volunteers, artists, teachers, dance companies, organizations and everyone who contributes to and makes up our wonderful dance in Queensland community.

To review our current matrix of funding, sponsorship and philanthropic supporters please refer to the Ausdance Queensland website, or email: [admin@ausdanceqld.org.au](mailto:admin@ausdanceqld.org.au)