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Luna Dance Institute establishes bell hooks Dance Education Scholarship for future dance teachers

Berkeley, CA – Luna Dance Institute announces the establishment of the **bell hooks Dance Education Scholarship** to support a student in the California State University East Bay (CSUEB) Dance Teaching Credential Program. To offer this scholarship, Luna is partnering with CSUEB, which offers the first dance teaching credential program in the State of California. The CSUEB Dance Teaching Credential Program provides a clear pathway for a dancer with an undergraduate degree to acquire the coursework and training to teach dance full-time in a California public school.

“To educate is the practice of freedom.”
- bell hooks

Named after the writer, teacher and philosopher, whose life-long activism with issues of race, class and gender and whose pedagogical theories are aligned with the educational and social justice values of Luna Dance, the new **bell hooks Dance Education Scholarship** includes partial tuition funds, 6 hours of coaching with Luna faculty, and a copy of the *Body, Mind, Spirit in Action, ed. 2* by Luna Co-Executive Director, Patricia Reedy. The scholarship is intended for dancers who seek to teach in an urban public school in the San Francisco Bay Area upon graduation. QBIPOC and teachers from marginalized communities are encouraged to apply.

According to Nancy Ng, Luna Co-Executive Director, “Luna is committed to seeing that all children and young adults enrolled in public schools and universities have access to dance learning. For over a decade, Luna played a vital role in advocating for the reinstatement of the dance teaching credential in California. With this CSUEB Dance Teaching Credential Program and funds from Prop 28 to hire art teachers, this goal is closer than ever. We hope the bell hooks Dance Education Scholarship will create access to CSUEB for a future dance educator for one of our regional public schools.”

To learn more about this new program and scholarship, visit <https://www.csueastbay.edu/theatre/theatre-and-dance-credential-program.html> and contact Chris Chamberlain, Interim Associate Dean, College of Education and Allied Studies at chris.chamberlain@csueastbay.edu.

Prospective students must apply both to CSUEB and to the Department of Teacher Education/Credential Program. Application forms for CSUEB and the Credential

Program may be found here: <https://ce.csueastbay.edu/ce/programs/single-subject-teaching-credential/>.

About Luna

Founded in 1992, Luna has become the most comprehensive dance education organization on the West Coast. Luna is a recognized arts leader and nationally acclaimed institution that supports families, artists, teachers, leaders, schools, community and cultural arts organizations through programs that promote creativity and self-determination through the transformative power of dance. Locally, Luna serves children and families through partnerships with schools, social service agencies, and arts and culture organizations. Luna re-opens its new fully ADA-accessible dance studios in 202s3 for in-person dance learning. Discover more at lunadanceinstitute.org.