

May 2, 2022

Traci Winn, Co-Director
100 + Women Who Care About Whidbey

Dear Traci:

The Whidbey Island Dance Theatre's Board of Directors were delighted to hear that we have been nominated as one of the three non-profits to potentially receive funding as part of 100+ Women's May giving cycle. Thank you!

Enclosed is our video about Whidbey Island Dance Theatre (WIDT). We would like to share a bit of history about WIDT, including its mission statement and who we serve within the Whidbey Island community in the information below.

WIDT was founded by Charlene Brown in 1993 with a love for dance and received non-profit 501(c)(3) status in 1997. The organization began with the idea of creating a new and exciting opportunity for young people in its community, especially those who love dance and wished to find their place on stage with their peers.

For twenty-nine years, WIDT has been an important and consistent fixture in the greater South Whidbey Community. Its mission statement: "WIDT seeks to be a significant cultural resource for the Whidbey Island community and its visitors, while providing dancers the opportunity for artistic growth and achievement by adhering to the highest possible standards of technique, choreography and production."

WIDT has the distinction of being the only pre-professional dance company on Whidbey Island that provides real dance experience to outstanding young dancers, ages eleven to twenty. WIDT ensures that its dancers participate annually at national dance festivals, which expose them to a wide variety of dance professionals and styles during master classes and workshops. The juried, national association of ballet companies, "Regional Dance America" chose WIDT as an RDA performing company from 2001-2012.

Each year, WIDT graces the stage with two major productions, "The Nutcracker" and "A Celebration of Dance". Both highlight the diverse talents of its broadly trained dancers and features works of both resident and guest choreographers. WIDT's annual productions are a gift to our community, making the creative, athletic, joyful and fun-to-watch magic that is dance.

WIDT prides itself in building strong skills for life-long success in whatever our dancers pursue. In thanks to the many professional and leadership opportunities given to its Company Dancers throughout the organization's history, many WIDT

dancers have pursued dance at the University level and have made careers in dance.

We sincerely appreciate the opportunity to be considered for your May giving cycle and hope that you enjoy the enclosed video that was created just for your group.

Sincerely,

Tonya Henny and the WIDT Board members