May 28, 2020

Hon. Doug Ford
Premier, Province of Ontario

Via email at: doug.fordco@pc.ola.org



SAFE. STUDIOS. ONTARIO.

Hon. Christine Elliott Minister of Health Deputy Premier christine.elliott@pc.ola.org

Hon. Todd Smith Minister of Children. Community and Social Services todd.smithco@pc.ola.org

Hon. Vic Fedeli Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade Chair of Cabinet vic.fedeli@pc.ola.org

Hon. Lisa MacLeod Minister of Heritage, sport, Tourism and Culture Industries Lisa.macleodco@pc.ola.org

Hon. Jill Dunlop Associate Minister of Children and Women's Issues jill.dunlop@pc.ola.org

Hon. Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria Associate Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction

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Hon. Michael A. Tibollo Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions michael.tibollo@pc.ola.org

Dear Hon. Doug Ford and Ministers,

We are writing to you today as a group of small business owners across Ontario. Each of us are owners of dance & performing arts schools serving children of all ages and adults by providing extracurricular activities in dance disciplines including ballet, jazz, tap, contemporary and more. As the COVID-19 pandemic progressed, each of us closed to protect our students, ending in-studio instruction, cancelling year end performances and dance competitions that students have been preparing for since the beginning of our season.

The long-term health of our dance communities depends on our coordinated focus to enact the necessary precautions and begin serving our patrons with the prescribed measures in-person as soon as possible.

Recognizing the risk of spread of COVID-19 in group environments, we know that granting us permission to re-open can only be done with the assurance that we are taking the right measures to ensure the prevention of spread, the protection of our staff and students, and by extension their families. In order to ensure this is possible, our group has worked together to adapt *Ontario's "Workplace Guidance for Business Owners"* to the dance and performing arts industry.

As there is no dance and performing arts industry association in Ontario, we came together to submit for approval the attached *Performing Arts & Dance Studio COVID-19 Protocols*, and are seeking

approval to re-open under this framework as part of Ontario's relaunch strategy Stage 1 for summer camps, and as part of Stage 2 for fall programs.

Over the years, we have all witnessed the incredible benefits our dancers receive from the physical activity, team environment and family atmosphere of our dance schools and we look forward to welcoming our students back as soon as it is safe. We have poured our hearts and souls into our businesses and we are prepared to do what is necessary to open our locations under heightened measures to ensure our viability now and in the future.

We would be pleased to virtually meet with you or a member of your staff to discuss any amendments needed to our protocols, how we can reopen safely, and protect our businesses from never opening again due to financial hardship.

Thank you for your consideration,

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Linette Doherty
The SPACE
Toronto, ON

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The Martha Hicks School of Ballet Inc.
Toronto, ON

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Angela Prosser Hoofers Performing Arts Ltd Oshawa, ON

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Carolyn Bristowe Innovative Dance Baden, ON

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Dana Hanes Dana Hanes Dance Company Nepean, ON

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Cheryle Bodrug's Burlington Dance Company
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Jennifer Campbell The DanceRoom Stayner, ON

Krista Cardwell Ignite Dance Project Burlington, ON

Madison MacDonald Like10 Dance Company Kempville, ON

Aly Apter A2Y Dance Inc. Aurora, ON

Jessica Julien Bodies in Motion Dance Company Barrie, ON

Caroleen Harding Creative Edge Dance Academy Carp, ON Jessica Bartlett Ajax Dance Company Ajax, ON

Jim Nagy Pure Energy Perfoemance Inc. Hamilton, ON

Jacqueline Marie WIllis Jacqueline 's School of Dance Pickering, ON

Penny Stauth Steppin' Up Dance Co Sarnia, ON

Katrina Heckhaus KMH Dance Productions Barrie, ON

Frank Giorgio Canadian Dance Unit Bolton, ON

Kimberley Langdon Chelsea's Dance Pac Innisfil, ON

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Jacqueline' Cook Barber JCB Danceworks King City, ON

Jenny Cairney iDance Studio Newmarket, ON

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Sandra L D'Arsie Let's Dance Ltd Kitchener, ON

Tania Ferreira Elite Dance Corps Bradford, ON

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Christie Mckay-Hofland Dancemakerz Dundas, ON

Brenda Branco All 4 One Dance Company London, ON

Jesslyn Truax Take 5 Dance Oshawa, ON

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Nicola Saclamacis The Dance Pac Mississauga, ON

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Tina Nicolaidis

City Dance Corps

Toronto, ON

Tina Rath

Pure Rhythm Dance Company

Ancaster, ON

Tania Infante

Burlington Dance Academy

Burlington, ON

Richard Kim

Studio Dance Arts

Sault Ste. Marie, ON

Chrystal Galic

Encore Dance Studio

Elmira ON

Kent McCord

All That Jazz Dance Company

Chatham, ON

Kent McCord

Dance Attack Inc

Durioo / maon me

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The Dance Edge

Oshawa, ON

Valerie Scannura

Ritmo Flamenco

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Georgie Donais mutable ARTS Meaford, ON

Ashley Summers
The Dance Class

Milton ON

Kelly Summers
The Dance Class

Milton ON

Allyx Smith

Apex Dance Industry

Sarnia ON

Jasmin Yeung

VYbE Dance Company

Markham, ON

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Rajka Kupesic School of Classical Ballet

Mississauga, ON

Shawna Chambers

Dynamic Dance Force

Cambridge ON

Laura Pascolo McRury

International Dance Academy

Thunder Bay, ON

Cathy Ross Dorion

Dancers' Studio

Midland ON

Brittany Carter & Trisha Carlton

TJ's Dance Troop

Bowmanville, ON

Jacqueline Sims

KV Dance Studio

Ottawa, ON

Victoria Boomer

Bloom Dance Company

Guelph, ON

Penny Stauth

Steppin' Up Dance Co

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Becky Collins Dance District Oakville, ON

Laura Belliveau

Platinum Dance Project

Oshawa, ON

Laura Ramsay

Grand River Academy of Dance

Cambrodge, ON

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Angela Mota

Needham School of Dance

Strathroy, ON

Donna Bayley Dance Steps London, ON

Angela Tucker

York Dance Academy

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Samantha Paul The Dance Centre Kitchener, ON

Erin McCuaig DanceWorks Kenora, ON Maria Elent

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Sandra Amodeo

Sandra Amodeo Dance Studio

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Peacock School of Dance

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Orillia, ON

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Port Perry, ON

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Suha Ozler

Beach Dance School

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Margarita Camera

Hype Danz Courtice, ON

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The Woodbridge School of Dance

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Leah Anna Sanguinetti

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Erin Moore & Sharon Harris

Arabesque Academy of Dance

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Julia Mounsteven

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Jessica's Dance Innovations

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Amanda Whitney

Spotlight Dance Productions

Lindsay, ON

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Body Lines Dance and Fitness

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