



2022-23 ANNUAL REPORT

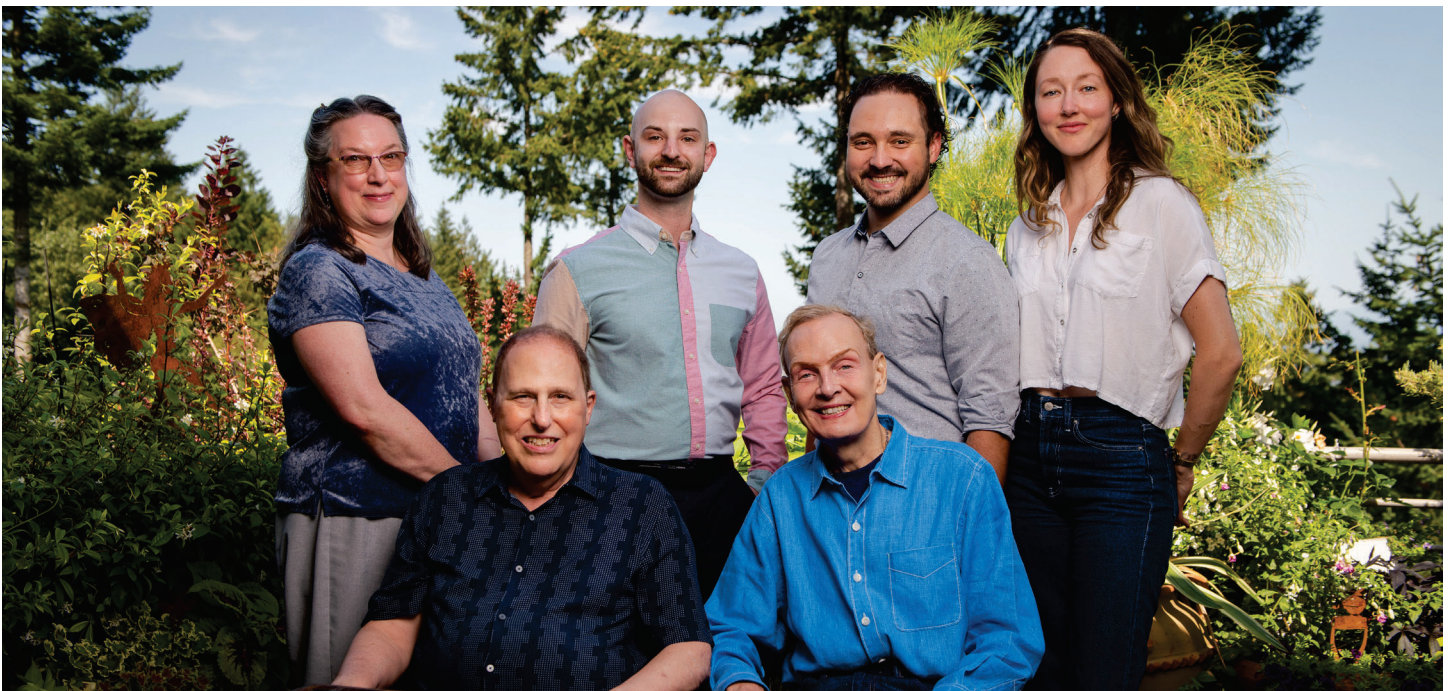
White Bird's 25th Anniversary was a year of resurgence. We presented our first full season of dance since before the pandemic, bringing back our celebrated White Bird Dance Series and Uncaged Series. This, combined with the new offerings we unveiled during our Winter/Spring 2022 Season - the WE ARE ONE Festival and White Bird at the Reser, made for a thrilling season of eleven shows across four venues.

Our 25th Anniversary Season was an opportunity to celebrate the dance companies who have been especially crucial to White Bird's history - and we took it! We focused on major American dance companies who visited White Bird in the critical first few years of our existence: Paul Taylor Dance Company, Trinity Irish Dance Company, and Parsons Dance. We also highlighted several audience favorites, who have visited Portland many times over the past 25 years: Ballet Hispánico, MOMIX, and Ronald K. Brown/EVIDENCE.

As COVID-related restrictions eased throughout the country we joyfully, but cautiously, resumed the traditions we've built over more than two decades: our Friday night post-show talkbacks, masterclasses at local schools, pre-show meet and greets, and more. The highlight of our year was once again presenting a free matinee performance to a full house of PPS students and teachers at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall; this year it was the magical *Alice*, by MOMIX.

Thank you to everyone who helped make our 25th Anniversary Season a success!

- Graham Cole, Executive Director



Gretchen Westlight, Operations Manager & Executive Assistance; Graham Cole, Executive Director; Christopher Carvalho, Director of Patron Services & Communication; Deanna Reeves, Communication Manager & Production Assistant; Walter Jaffe, Co-Founder; Paul King, Co-Founder. Photo by Jingzi Zhao.

OUR VALUES IN ACTION - SEASON 25

EXCELLENCE IN PERFORMANCE

- Welcomed back three of the first companies White Bird presented – Paul Taylor Dance Company, Parsons Dance, and Trinity Irish Dance Company - all powerhouses of American dance.
- Presented the World Premiere of Micaela Taylor's *BlueNav* with The TL Collective and the United States Premiere of Shay Kuebler's *Momentum of Isolation* with Radical System Art.



Photo by: Lois Greenfield

GENEROSITY OF SPIRIT

- Expanded a partnership with long-term partner Vibrant Table Catering, providing healthy, locally sourced meals to visiting artists.
- Resumed our partnerships with Hotlips Pizza and Portland State University to throw our first volunteer appreciation party since 2019.



DIVERSITY IN MOVEMENT

- A banner year for representation: five of eleven companies presented were led by LGBTQ+ artists, and five of eleven were led by BIPOC artists.
- Presented *An Untitled Love* by Kyle Abraham, the most recent choreographer to receive our sought-after Barney Commissioning Prize.

ACCESSIBILITY AND INCLUSIVENESS

- Reengaged long term White Bird NEST Partners - Central City Concern, Reach CDC, and Transition Projects - serving Portland's most vulnerable populations.
- Began new partnerships with Steps for Youth and Ballet Bridges, providing free tickets to young and disadvantaged dance students.



DEDICATION TO COMMUNITY

- Resumed our annual Outreach Project with Portland Public Schools, culminating in a performance of MOMIX's *Alice* for over 2,500 students and teachers.
- Facilitated community-focused discussions moderated by Dr. S. Renee Mitchell at the Soul Restoration Center with both Dallas Black Dance Theatre and A.I.M by Kyle Abraham.



FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

- White Bird thanks the 450+ individuals, families, foundations, businesses, and organizations who make our work possible through their financial support.
- Increased our operating budget by over \$500,000 (compared to FY22), while maintaining a six-figure cash reserve.

2022/23 SEASON IN REVIEW

Subscribers
1197

Volunteer
Opportunities
256

Volunteer
Hours
640+

NEST
Donations
120

Comp Tickets
3255