

# CURTIS STEDGE

## ARTS & CULTURAL EXECUTIVE

📍 New York City Metropolitan Area

🌐 [linkedin.com/in/curtis-stedge/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/curtis-stedge/)

### SUMMARY

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A visionary and entrepreneurial leader, with 19+ years of experience in the arts and education sectors; committed to fostering innovation, inclusivity, and community; while leading transformative, strategic initiatives that drive institutional success and sustainability.

### MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

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**Executive Director** 07/2019 - Present  
**Laban/Bartenieff Institute of Movement Studies** Brooklyn, NY

Successfully lead day-to-day operations of an educational/research/arts & cultural institution, advancing and promoting a framework for better understanding human movement.

- Rebuilt and rebranded a failing organization over a 4½ year period, strengthening and improving established programs, creating successful new program and operational initiatives, and increasing revenue by over 49%.
- Navigated the organization through the uncertainty of the global COVID-19 pandemic, making necessary and successful programmatic shifts, while retaining all staff, embracing the virtual environment, stabilizing operations, and leading to a 54% increase in revenue.
- Committed and continue to lead the organization through necessary work in DEI to investigate, understand, and undo the ways in which we are complicit in perpetuating systems of oppression, and systemic and institutionalized racism.
- Expanded the organization's research and educational activities through overseeing the collaborative development of four new programs: a hybrid educational format of our certification program (New Pathways), a scholarly peer-reviewed journal (Journal of Laban Bartenieff Movement Studies), an international conference platform (LBMS 2025), and a regular community series to advance the field through consistent dialogue (Community Conversations).
- Systematized organizational operations, leading to significant improvements in internal and external communications, employee work-flow and job satisfaction, and community/constituent relations.

**Founder/Executive Artistic Director** 06/2017 - Present  
**KineoLab** Old Forge, NY

Founded and lead a not-for-profit dance/movement arts & cultural organization, managing day-to-day operations while defining and advancing the artistic and strategic direction of the company. Develop and implement educational dance-centered programming for students of all ages. Devise and produce immersive, communal, dance-theater experiences for live audiences in traditional and non-traditional spaces.

**Managing Director** 07/2011 - 07/2013  
**Neglia Ballet** Buffalo, NY

Managed day-to-day operations for a half a million-dollar not-for-profit ballet company alongside the Executive Director. Oversaw marketing, development, and conservatory programming and activities. Led board development, policy development and implementation, organizational budgeting, and long-term strategic planning.

- Implemented a connected network of information systems, which led to increased efficiencies in conservatory and fundraising management.
- Built a partnership between the organization and The University at Buffalo Arts Management Program to develop a corporate sponsorship program, and future opportunities for collaboration.
- Drove the rebranding and further professionalization of the organization, resulting in improvements to administrative operations, programming, and public perception.

**Associate Director of Box Office Operations** 08/2005 - 08/2009  
**Geva Theatre Center** Rochester, NY

Managed and developed a team of twelve customer service representatives in sales and support for Geva's subscriber base and the general public. Created and executed internal and external marketing campaigns as a member of Geva's Marketing Team. Produced marketing and executive sales and demographic analysis reports. Developed and implemented box office ticketing policies and procedures with Director of Box Office Operations. Oversaw and performed office systems troubleshooting.

- Collaborated on departmental restructuring and realignment of policies and procedures, resulting in: strengthened and refocused staff experience and knowledge base; empowered part-time staff allowing for improved order accuracy and improved level of customer service throughout the entire department.
- Improved inter-shift relations and flow of communication between fulltime and part-time staff, resulting in a substantial increase in overall part-time employee retention and job satisfaction.

### EDUCATION

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**MFA - Dance**  
**University of Maryland**  
**College Park**  
2013 - 2016

**MA - Arts Management**  
**SUNY at Buffalo**  
2009 - 2011

**BS - Dance and Business**  
**Administration**  
**SUNY Potsdam**  
2000 - 2004

### CERTIFICATIONS

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**Standard K-12**  
**Instructional - Dance**  
**New Jersey Department**  
**of Education**

**Certified Movement**  
**Analyst**

**Laban/Bartenieff**  
**Institute of Movement**  
**Studies**

### ACHIEVEMENTS

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#### Crisis Management

Navigated the uncertainties of the COVID-19 pandemic with strategic programmatic shifts, achieving a 79% revenue increase while retaining all staff and embracing virtual environments to stabilize operations.

#### Organizational Turnaround

Spearheaded the strategic rebuilding and rebranding of a failing organization over a 4½ year period. Strengthened existing programs, launched innovative new initiatives, and achieved a revenue increase of over 49%.

## EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

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Assistant Professor of Dance 08/2019 - 02/2023  
BARD High School Early College - NBOE Newark, NJ

Developed, coordinated, and taught culturally responsive dance curriculum in alignment with New Jersey State Standards for Dance, to 150+ students each year, at the secondary and undergraduate levels. Collaborated with a multidisciplinary team of faculty, administrators, parents, and students to create a supportive learning environment and ensure student success. Awarded Bard Early College Fellowship to develop curriculum around site specific performance and the politics of space.

Long-Term Substitute Teacher - Special Ed. 10/2017 - 06/2019  
Vanguard High School - RCSD Rochester, NY

Provided direct instruction to students with special needs, utilizing evidence-based strategies and differentiated instruction. Developed and implemented individualized education programs (IEPs) for students with special needs. Collaborated with a multidisciplinary team of teachers, administrators, and parents to create a supportive learning environment. Monitored and assessed student progress through data-driven assessments.

- Established a school-wide stress/anxiety reduction program, the M.A.T. Technique (Meditate, Affirm, Touch) which provided students with the tools to manage educational and socially induced stress and anxiety.

## SERVICE

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Advisory Council Member 2022 - 2024  
PhysFestNYC New York, NY

Supported the leadership team as needed, offering feedback and guidance around management, operational, and programmatic needs.

Program Grants Reviewer 2022, 2023  
Jersey City Arts & Cultural Trust Fund Jersey City, NJ

Reviewed 2022 and 2023 Program Grant applications, provided feedback to grantees and made funding recommendations to JCACTF grant staff.

Founding Member 2018 - 2019  
Rochester Arts & Cultural Working Group Rochester, NY

Collaborated with other group members to address funding inequality and the lack of diversity and inclusion in the Rochester arts community, through planning and advocating for necessary policy change at the municipal and county levels, as well as within local foundation and corporate funding institutions. Additionally, worked to bring together and unify the various arts and cultural communities within the Greater Rochester Metropolitan area.

Individual Artists DEC Grants Reviewer 2012  
New York State Council on the Arts Buffalo, NY

Reviewed 2012 Individual Artist DEC Grant applicants, made recommendations to the general panel and collaboratively selected 2012 grantees.

Founding Board Member 2011 - 2013  
DanceWNY!/Buffalo Dance Collective Buffalo, NY

Co-founded the organization with dance colleagues to provide resources and much needed services to the Western NY dance community.

Founding Board Member 2008 - 2009  
TheatreROCS Rochester, NY

Chair of Events Committee - responsible for development and production of TheatreROCS fundraising and promotional events.

Regional Recommendation Panel Member 2008  
New York Foundation for the Arts Rochester, NY

Evaluated and made recommendations to NYFA staff regarding Upstate New York programming and Organizational/Artist needs.

Board Member - Treasurer 2007 - 2013  
Old Forge Ballet Rochester, NY

Served on the board of a small regional not-for-profit dedicated to bringing the art of ballet to the Adirondack Park.

## LANGUAGES

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English native ●●●●●

Spanish novice ●●○○○

## SKILL SETS

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### Artistic

Artistic Direction  
Choreography  
Concert Direction/Production  
Graphic Design

### Education

Assessment & Evaluation  
Conservatory Management  
Curriculum Development  
Dance & Arts Mgmt Education  
Program Development

### Executive

Board Development  
Strategic Management  
Trade Negotiations

### Operational

Advocacy/Lobbying  
Archive/Catalogue Management  
Budget Development/Mgmt  
Contract Negotiation/Mgmt  
Donor/Volunteer Mgmt  
Event Planning/Management  
Grant Writing/Management  
Human Resource Management  
Marketing/Public Relations  
Program Development/Mgmt

Additional experience  
available upon  
request.