B. Wilson Foundation

B. Wilson Foundation (BWF) alleviates financial burden by providing microgrants for college-level, self producing dance artists. Through funding and administrative guidance BWF seeks to address the funding disparities between college students and established dance companies.

BWF is operated by a Founding Director and Advisory Board Members. As dance artists, activists, musicians, creators, teachers, writers and philanthropists, BWF vows to make decisions based solely on the directions of the rubric set forth. BWF does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression, age, height, weight, physical or mental ability, veteran status, military obligations, and/or marital status.

BWF is fiscally sponsored by FJC: A Foundation of Philanthropic Funds. B. Wilson Foundation is a Scholarship Award Account at FJC, a 501c3 public charity. As such, all donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

***Award Terms Breakdown & Application Instructions* October 8, 2026**

***Application Opens* October 9, 2026**

***Application Closes* November 23, 2026**

Application closes at 11:59 PM EST.

All supplemental materials must be submitted by this time.

Any applications submitted after 11:59 PM EST will not be reviewed.

All dance forms are encouraged. All levels of choreography are welcome (newcomer, intermediate, and advanced)

Please read through the application thoroughly before answering any questions. Please refer to the Criteria & Application Instructions before answering any questions. It is strongly suggested to answer questions in a separate document, then pasting your final answers into each Google Form box.

If you have any questions please contact bwilsonfoundation@gmail.com.

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Award Terms

BWF will be awarding **two** dance producers $500 each toward the production of their first evening-length performance. In the case of this grant, evening-length is considered a dance performance that is a ***minimum*** of 1-hour.

Award Amount: $500

1. Production period may begin as early as January 1, 2027.
2. Applicants must be able to premiere their performance by June 30, 2027.
3. Funds awarded must be used toward performance production costs only.
4. Applicants are required to be a resident of NYC (in one of the 5 boroughs).
5. Applicants must be a senior or recent graduate of an College or University based in the following states:
    a. Tri-state: ***New York, New Jersey, Connecticut***
    b. DMV: ***Washington, D.C., Maryland, Virginia***
6. Applicants must be prepared to apply as an individual producer.
7. Applicants must be producing dance.
8. Applicants must produce in New York City (in one of the 5 boroughs).
9. Applicants must submit a projected budget (via application).
10. Applicants must submit a projected timeline (via application).
11. This must be the applicant's first time producing an evening length dance performance.
12. The Grantee must utilize the award to produce an off campus show.
13. The Grantee must attend 3 check-in meetings with the Founder between January-June 2026.
14. The Grantee must submit a final report and budget by July 31, 2026.

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Award Terms Breakdown

1. The project may begin as early as January 1, 2027.
    a. The Grantee has a 6-month period to produce.

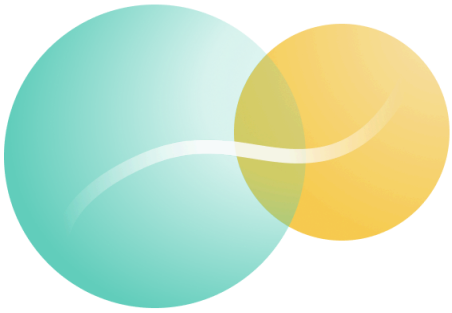
2. Grantee must be able to premiere their performance by or before June 30, 2027.

3. Funds awarded must be used toward performance **production costs only**.
    a. Production costs may include, but are not limited to, theater/performance space rental fees, rehearsal rental fees, artist fees, costumes, programs, and marketing materials (paper & digital).

4. Applicants are required to be a resident of NYC (in one of the 5 boroughs

5. Applicants must be a senior or recent graduate of a Tri-state or DMV based College or University (review eligible states above).
    a. If you are a current student, you must be considered a senior, meaning Spring 2027 is your final semester as an undergraduate student. Considerations may be given to students who need to enroll in the Summer 2027 semester.
    b. If you are an alumnus, you are eligible to apply for this award no further than 2 years from your initial graduation semester. ***Qualifying graduating classes: 2024, 2025, and 2026.***

6. Applicants must be prepared to apply as an individual producer.
    a. We are asking that there be a sole producer for each application so there is one point of contact. Producers are welcome (and encouraged) to collaborate with co-producers, choreographers and dancers with the understanding that they are solely responsible for liaising with BWF.
    b. Applicant can be the following:
        i. Producer
        ii. Producer with Co-Collaborator(s)
        iii. Producer & Choreographer
        iv. Producer & Choreographer with Collaborators



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   c. We understand that a 1-hour (or more) time slot may be difficult to fill with one choreographer so we do encourage collaborations. The role of a producer is to bring all elements together for a final product. Please consider working with other collaborators.

7. Applicants must be producing dance.
   a. We are asking that the production be dance centered. Other art forms may be included but should not overshadow a dance driven focus.
   b. We understand that the term “dance” can be subjective. Therefore, the advisory board will aim to consider the creativity of the pieces put forth while also taking into account their definitions of what dance is.

8. Applicants must produce in New York City (Includes all 5 boroughs).

9. Applicants must submit a projected budget (via application).
   a. By submitting a projected budget, applicants will show how they plan to use the money awarded. Please note that the total budget cannot be less than $500.
   b. If the overall budget exceeds $500, applicants must show how they will raise additional funding.
   c. We understand that $500 may not be sufficient in producing an evening-length production. Our goal is to encourage first time producers to practice other fundraising techniques and approaches.

10. Applicants must submit a projected timeline (via application).
    a. Applicants are asked to submit a timeline to show a plan of action over the course of 6 months. Examples of what the timeline will entail are audition dates, rehearsal dates, deadline to find a venue, tech dates, show dates, etc. The applicant is not limited to these examples.
    b. The timeline should be used as a tool to manage their time and hold their collaborators/dancers/artists and themselves accountable.

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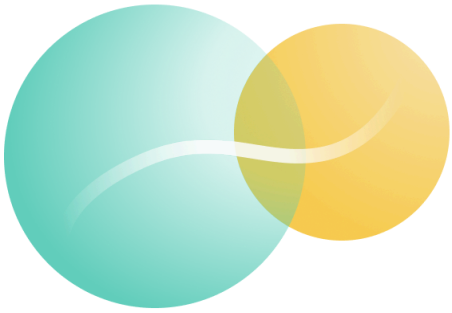
11. This must be the applicant's first time producing a dance performance.
    a. We are asking that this be the applicant's first time producing an evening-length performance, to allow equal opportunity for all who apply.

12. The Grantee must utilize the award to produce an **off campus show**.
    a. This encourages Grantees to connect with theaters/performance spaces throughout NYC and become familiar with the rental process (e.g. pricing, contracts, accessible location). Grantees will learn to effectively plan their project so they can clearly communicate what they'd like a theater/performance space to provide.
    b. Performance spaces include, but are not limited to, fully equipped theaters, dance studios, open galleries/artist spaces, and site specific areas (indoors/outdoors). If you would like to use a non-traditional performance space please inquire before applying.

13. The Grantee must attend a minimum of 3 check-in meetings with the Founder between January-June 2027.
    a. Coaching will be offered throughout the creative process, as well as a minimum of 3 meetings over the course of the production period to discuss goals, challenges and accomplishments.

14. The Grantee must submit a final report and budget by July 31, 2027.
    a. The final report will be a short summary of the production process. The report should include the following topics:
        i. Brief description of the production
        ii. Setbacks and successes
        iii. Most exciting part of the process
        iv. Most challenging part about the process
        v. Feedback about the coaching sessions received throughout the process
        vi. What you learned about yourself through this process
    b. By submitting a final budget, the applicant will show how all funds received were spent. ALL production related receipts must be included.



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c. This requirement allows the Grantee to become familiar with keeping track of production progress and funding. This is a skill required for all grant opportunities.