



TANZPAKT STADT LAND BUND

Eine gemeinsame Initiative von Kommunen,
Bundesländern und des Beauftragten der Bundesregierung
für Kultur und Medien zur Exzellenzförderung im Tanz

PRESS RELEASE

Berlin, 17 November 2025

TANZPAKT Stadt-Land-Bund is funding 10 projects with 1.9 million euros

TANZPAKT Stadt-Land-Bund is a joint initiative of local authorities, federal states and the Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media. The aim is to strengthen the art form of dance in its artistic and structural excellence in the long term. Since 2017, TANZPAKT Stadt-Land-Bund has supported 28 artists, ensembles, production houses and networks in establishing long-term collaborations and implementing innovative development strategies. Since the launch of TANZPAKT Stadt-Land-Bund, well over 100 projects have been designed and submitted nationwide, which structurally develop dance in cities, states, regions and, in some cases, across federal states.

In the jury meeting for the fourth round of applications, ten projects were selected for funding. The multi-year projects will receive around €1.9 million in funding from TANZPAKT Stadt-Land-Bund.

The nine municipalities, nine federal states and other sponsors involved are providing up to €2.6 million in funding.

The total volume of applications in the fourth round of funding amounted to just under €11 million, with total project costs exceeding €26.8 million.

Statements

The Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media, Minister of State Wolfram Weimer, welcomes the continuation of the funding programme:

'TANZPAKT Stadt-Land-Bund stands for excellence and diversity in contemporary dance – nationwide and outside the major cities. The programme is a prime example of how the federal government, the states and local authorities can work together to promote cultural excellence. I am delighted that we are continuing this success story with the fourth round of funding, thereby strengthening an art form that moves and connects people across all boundaries.'

Barbara Klepsch, President of The Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs (KMK) and Saxon State Minister for Culture and Tourism, emphasises the relevance of TANZPAKT Stadt-Land-Bund:

'The TANZPAKT Stadt-Land-Bund funding programme is an important building block for further developing and preserving the country's dance scene. I am delighted that this trusting cooperation between the federal government, the federal states and local authorities is continuing and that artists and collectives can be supported. I congratulate all the initiatives that have received funding and wish them every success in implementing

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and carrying out their projects. The Kultur-KMK considers TANZPAKT Stadt-Land-Bund to be a valuable asset for culture and society.'

Dr Skadi Jennicke, Mayor for Culture of the City of Leipzig and Chair of the Culture Committee of the German Association of Cities, highlights the role of cities and the importance of dance in local communities:

'The TANZPAKT provides a strong cultural policy impetus: it gives ensembles and projects planning security over several years, thus creating space for artistic development. The programme is a real success story, particularly in the areas of innovation, participation and networking. At the same time, the high level of commitment shown by local authorities deserves great recognition – despite financial cuts, they are enabling co-financing and thus strengthening dance as an important form of expression in our society.'

Jury

The jury consists of Angela Alves, Carmen Kovacs, Sebastian Matthias and Katharina von Wilcke. They decided on 41 projects submitted from 12 federal states and 22 municipalities, including 17 applications for the further development of projects already receiving funding and 24 applications for new projects.

The total volume of applications in the fourth funding round amounted to just under €11 million, with total project costs of more than €26.9 million.

The diversity of the applicants' profiles demonstrates the flexibility of the programme, which allows for the development of sustainable measures and structures for the German dance landscape.

The jury members stated:

'The broad spectrum of the 41 applications submitted from 12 federal states reflects the extremely diverse and growing dance landscape in Germany. The relevance of continuous structural funding is particularly evident in the projects already financed by TANZPAKT Stadt-Land-Bund: in just a few years, not only have new spaces, fields of work, productions, exchange and mediation formats, etc. been created, but barriers have also been broken down and supra-regional networking and visibility for dance has been achieved. Similarly, the projects submitted for the first time testify to the high artistic quality and great commitment of those involved in this art form, which has an impact on all areas of society.'

Due to the funding budget being limited to €1.9 million, we as the jury were faced with the difficult task of considering the necessary further development and stabilisation of existing structures, new model projects and the distribution of funds among different federal states when making our selection. From the large number of very high-quality and innovative applications, ten projects ultimately stood out, which we hope will have a particularly lasting and broad impact on the current politically tense situation. We see the selected projects as a strong signal for social cohesion, artistic responsibility and a structural strengthening of dance beyond urban areas and conurbations.'

Funded projects:

Project: **'Offensive Tanz für junges Publikum'**

Applicant: **OfTa Offensive Tanz Berlin gUG**

Co-financed by: **State of Berlin**

In its third funding phase, Offensive Tanz will consolidate what it has achieved so far and prepare to continue its work as 'Fachstelle Junger Tanz Berlin' (Young Dance Berlin Centre). Existing areas of activity will be further developed and expanded in terms of content: In the area of artistic research, discourse and further training, a pilot residency with an intergenerational approach is planned in cooperation with the FELD Theater, among others, which is aimed at both very young and very old people. In the area of training and further education, new workshop modules will be implemented for dance professionals, multipliers,

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mediators and young dance scholars. A newly created management position for participation and outreach will enable the challenges in this area to be addressed even more specifically in the future.

In addition, three new productions will be created during the funding period, reaching around 2,500 audience members with a total of 24 performances, thus further anchoring contemporary dance for young audiences in Berlin's cultural landscape.

Project: **'MAKING A DIFFERENCE – Visibility and Sustainability for the Crip Dance Scene'**

Applicant: **Uferstudios GmbH, Berlin**

Co-financed by: **State of Berlin, Kampnagel Hamburg, Theater Rampe, Tanzhaus nrw, Theaterformen/Real Dance, HAU Hebbel am Ufer/Tanz im August, Radialsystem, Tanzfabrik Berlin, among others**

Since 2018, the Berlin-based network Making a Difference has been working to close gaps in training, funding and artistic development for disabled, deaf and chronically ill artists. In the new project phase, HAU Hebbel am Ufer/ Tanz im August and Radialsystem are expanding the network as new partners. In addition, a collaboration with five other federal states is being established with the aim of making the approaches developed in Berlin accessible nationwide. Together with cooperation partners whose programmes already include inclusive dance practices, common standards for the removal of barriers in production and presentation processes as well as sustainable and diverse perspectives for artistic work are being established. Residencies, co-productions, guest performances and knowledge transfer go hand in hand with awareness-raising and mediation formats as well as peer-to-peer empowerment. Making a Difference is thus dedicated to the need for lasting structural change and strengthens the visibility of a growing community.

Project: **'tanz.nord'**

Applicant: **Theaterwerkstatt Pilkentafel gGmbH, Flensburg**

Co-financed by: **State of Hamburg, State of Schleswig-Holstein, City of Bad Oldesloe, City of Neumünster, City of Flensburg, District of Stormarn, Brunswiker Foundation**

From 2021 to 2025, tanz.nord has established initial structures for dance in Schleswig-Holstein. In the coming funding period, the focus will now be on stabilising and further developing these foundations. The focus will be on regional touring of guest performances from Schleswig-Holstein and Hamburg, as well as on strengthening the venues acquired for dance to further expand visibility, audience loyalty and audience development. The central anchor points of the touring programme are the three cities of Bad Oldesloe, Flensburg and Neumünster, which are also participating financially in the project at the municipal level for the first time. Existing collaborations in rural regions and smaller towns in Schleswig-Holstein will be continued. A new format aimed at attracting a young audience combines guest performances for schoolchildren with dance education directly in schools. In addition, a new coaching format in the form of three-day short residencies will be implemented. Here, a young artist from Schleswig-Holstein or Hamburg will work in tandem with an experienced dance professional.

Project: **'MV TANZT AN' (MV DANCES ON)**

Applicant: **Tanzregion Mecklenburg-Vorpommern e. V., Stralsund**

Co-financed by: **State of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, City of Greifswald, Ostdeutsche Sparkassenstiftung**

As one of the first projects funded under TANZPAKT Stadt-Land-Bund, 'MV TANZT AN' has been providing impetus for a lively, inclusive and innovative dance scene in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania since 2018. In future, the 'Tanz von Anfang an!' (Dance from the very beginning!) format will inspire even nursery-age children to enjoy movement and creativity. Each year, a production will be created for nurseries, which will also be adapted for

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playgrounds, among other things. Rehearsals will take place in a participatory manner in the movement rooms of the cooperating institutions. Twenty-five performances are planned each year, accompanied by workshops and playful activities for families and nursery groups. In addition, groups of artists producing work during residencies at Schloss Bröllin will be given performance opportunities and visibility in the state through presentations, tours, collaborations with new partners and involvement in the Tanzfusionen festival. New collaborations with partners and venues in six districts are creating a network that strengthens 'MV TANZT AN' in rural areas and brings local dance professionals together.

Project: **'MAI:COMPANY – an artistic practice of expansion'**

Applicant: **Patricia Carolin Mai, Hamburg**

Co-financed by: **State of Hamburg, Claussen-Simon Foundation**

MAI:COMPANY, led by Hamburg-based choreographer Patricia Carolin Mai, is a model project at the intersection of artistic practice, education and safe space. As an intergenerational and diverse dance company, it brings together people without professional dance experience and uses choreographic processes as a tool for communication, knowledge exchange and collective experience. Situated between dance and cultural education, it creates stage plays and open labs that address social issues and forms of collective action. The aim is to establish an open, anchored company and to create a space for artistically and socially motivated interaction. MAI:COMPANY stands for an expanded concept of a company and sees itself as a place of mutual exchange, in which over 100 participants do not primarily form an ensemble, but are part of an ongoing laboratory for group processes and democratic practices. The TANZPAKT funding is intended to enable sustainable consolidation and new collaborations at the local and national level.

Project: **'Konzept: zusammen suchen'**

Applicant: **Billinger & Schulz GbR, Düsseldorf/ Frankfurt am Main**

Co-financed by: **State of North Rhine-Westphalia, City of Frankfurt am Main**

With 'Konzept: zusammen suchen' (*Concept: Searching Together*), the Billinger & Schulz collective is developing a model in which artistic research becomes an independent, collaborative practice. At the heart of the TANZPAKT-funded project is the Winter Academy, a two-week laboratory for 24 participants from dance and other arts, which explores questions of choreography, interdisciplinarity and body digitality. In addition, the Summer Academy offers one-week mentoring programmes with dramaturgical coaching, aesthetic experiments and advice on project development, visibility and institutions. The peer-oriented, low-threshold format supports young graduates in their transition to professional life. The academies are embedded in partner structures such as FFT Düsseldorf, Produktionshaus NAXOS, Kunsthalle Düsseldorf, Z – Zentrum für Proben und Forschung and Burg Hülshoff. The project responds to a real need and aims to establish a sustainable network that anchors research, exchange and the promotion of young talent in North Rhine-Westphalia and Hesse in the long term, thereby strengthening the local and regional scenes in a sustainable manner.

Project: **'Bewegungsraum.Erfurt – Centre for Contemporary Dance'**

Applicant: **Tanztheater Erfurt e. V.**

Co-financed by: **State of Thuringia, Theater Erfurt**

Supported by TANZPAKT, Tanztheater Erfurt has been making an important contribution to strengthening and establishing contemporary dance in Thuringia since 2018.

With 'Bewegungsraum.Erfurt', a new centre for dance is now being created in the KulturQuartier Schauspielhaus, building on the history of the location: from 1946 to 1949, the building housed the first German dance theatre. The renovated Schauspielhaus will become a multifunctional cultural venue where Tanztheater Erfurt will continuously produce, present and communicate dance theatre at a professional level. A residency programme will create the basis for artistic innovation, research and supra-regional networking. In cooperation with

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the University of Erfurt, an exchange format for young dance and performance students is being established, enabling practical work with experienced lecturers. In addition, the successful cooperation with the Theater Erfurt will be continued: the plan is to develop and realise one joint production per year, in which both institutions will contribute equally to interdisciplinary impulses and test new audience formats.

Project: **'Tanznetz Niedersachsen – Keeping independent dance visible and growing...'**

Applicant: **Tanznetz Niedersachsen e. V. (in formation), Braunschweig**

Co-funded by: **State of Lower Saxony, City of Braunschweig, City of Hanover, Lower Saxony Foundation**

The funded concept focuses on establishing and networking structures for the independent dance scene in Lower Saxony. To this end, LaFT – Landesverband Freie Darstellende Künste Niedersachsen (Lower Saxony State Association for Independent Performing Arts), Tanzpunkt Hannover and TANZKOOP are joining forces in Tanznetz Niedersachsen and founding an association that serves as a democratic platform inviting other actors to participate. The aim is to create a collegial interest group that strengthens the independent dance scene in the state and counteracts isolation. The project responds directly to the needs of dance professionals: regular professional training, workshops, residencies, mediation with venues, consulting, cultural policy representation, exchange and networking meetings, and (free) access to rehearsal rooms and production structures. Based in Braunschweig and Hanover, Tanznetz Niedersachsen pools resources through joint project management, finance and public relations, strengthens production structures in the long term and increases the visibility of dance and dance professionals in Lower Saxony.

Project: **'Strengthening the contemporary dance scene by promoting young journalists'**

Applicants: **Nina Hümpel-Borchert & Florian Borchert GbR tanznetz, Munich-Pullach**

Co-financed by: **State of Bavaria, City of Munich, Think Big Festival Munich, EveryBody Festival Nuremberg**

With their funded project, Nina Hümpel-Borchert and Florian Borchert aim to strengthen the contemporary dance scene by supporting young dance journalists and giving them the opportunity to gain practical experience and gain regional, national and international visibility. To this end, a comprehensive network is being created in collaboration with the digital media outlets tanznetz and Access to Dance, the cultural journalism programme at the HMT Munich, dance studies at the LMU Munich and numerous Bavarian dance festivals to strengthen and reinvent dance journalism. Over a period of three years, students will be able to try out various journalistic formats at nine festivals, supported by experienced journalists, editors and digital experts. The results will be published on the Bavarian dance portal Access to Dance and on tanznetz.de. Finally, an evaluation will be carried out in collaboration with initiatives from Berlin, North Rhine-Westphalia and Munich, bringing together findings on the training of young talent and formulating recommendations for increasing the visibility of regional journalistic projects.

Project: **'TANZ I MODERNE I TANZ Choreographic Centre Chemnitz'**

Applicant: **TANZ I MODERNE I TANZ e. V., Chemnitz**

Co-financed by: **State of Saxony, City of Chemnitz, Sparkasse Chemnitz, TANZ Foundation – Transition Centre Germany**

With the support of TANZPAKT, a centre for contemporary and urban dance will be established in Chemnitz's Europark Alt-Chemnitz from 2026 onwards – for both professional artists and the public. The T|J|M|T – Choreographic Centre will be a place of movement, encounter and regional and national appeal. It will bring together residencies, research and networking projects, collaborations with the Palucca University of Dance Dresden and Chemnitz University of Technology, and further training for educators. Within the funding period, seven residencies are planned for four dance professionals each, which will be

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advertised nationwide and presented at the T|M|T festival. At the same time, a wide range of activities will be developed for all age groups, from early childhood development and community dance courses to the SilberTANZbühne (silver dance stage) for seniors and dance therapy for people with dementia or Parkinson's disease. In addition, a breaking performance centre is being set up in cooperation with The Saxonz and other local partners in the field of urban dance to prepare young talents for national competitions and the Olympics and to build bridges to contemporary dance.

Sponsorship

TANZPAKT Stadt-Land-Bund is implemented jointly by the Dachverband Tanz Deutschland (cultural policy dialogue sponsor) and the non-profit cultural organisation Bureau Ritter (funding sponsor).

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