

Irina Lapteva

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Mission

I strongly believe in power of the arts to bring people together. In particular, the performing arts have always been at the core of my life and a key part of my identity. As an indigenous former ballerina with 2 Master Degrees and more than 15 years of work experience in nonprofit performing arts organizations, I am uniquely suited to innovate and enhance the arts and education landscape. Driven by a deep passion and a strong entrepreneurial spirit, I aim to create transformative experiences that resonate with diverse communities and contribute to the enduring success of the arts.

Experience

Managing Director, [CityDance Conservatory](#)

2018-2024

- Led and managed logistical and administrative work.
- Implemented and oversaw day-to-day programs, efficiently and effectively planned and organized education programs and performances and managed communications with the students and parents.
- Oversaw contract negotiations, created agreements, and managed finances including payroll and other payments.
- Collaborated and worked closely with the Artistic Director to design and improve programs, schedule and monitor class and rehearsal schedules, and cast and support performers.
- Hired and managed a team of around 30 teaching artists, 5 full-time staff members, several contractor workers, guest artists, partners, parent volunteers, interns, work-study teachers, and rehearsal assistants.
- Planned and managed summer intensives in multiple locations – around 9 different programs each summer with guest artists and partnering dance companies for different levels of dancers, ages 6 to 20.
- Successfully launched a few summer programs with the Artistic Director as well as optimized summer intensive auditions and streamlined the enrollment process.
- Managed the annual budget for year-round programs in coordination with the goals set by CEO with the Board, created the budget for summer intensives, developed and managed the production budget to ensure efficient use of resources, as well as the budget for all other artistic projects and events
- Oversaw all production aspects from pre-production planning to the final performances.
- Served as Production Head and Stage Manager for all CityDance performances at Strathmore, Kennedy Center, Atlas Performing Arts Center, and other venues.
- Successfully launched students support services, such as support for juniors and seniors to get into colleges and dance companies, supported auditions, dance competitions, and student choreography projects.
- Led the organization into a swift transition to online classes via MS Teams during the COVID-19 pandemic with livestreamed performances, that not only kept all the Conservatory students and teachers, but also increased enrollment and after the pandemic brought the Conservatory to top 5% of prestigious Ballet Academies in the US.

Director of Education Programs, [Brighton Ballet Theater \(BBT\)](#)

2010-2018

- Created, developed and managed outreach and education programs at public schools, senior centers, and community centers, working with up to 500 people who directly participated in the programs.
- Coordinated a team of teaching artists, engaged volunteers and parents on the daily basis, while collaborating closely with classroom teachers, school officials, principals, and directors.

- Wrote grant proposals and reports for more than \$200K, managed budgets for education programs, and processed payrolls.
- Taught dance classes, staged and choreographed dance shows, and acted as a host and stage manager during the performances.
- Organized the Nutcracker ballet, the Annual Children's Festival "The World of Dance", and other performances and lecture demonstrations at public schools and colleges for thousands of students.
- Assisted in opening two Staten Island branches at the Jewish Cultural Center and the Snug Harbor. Developed the dance programs there and managed the registration process, budget and marketing.
- Created an initiative that promoted dancing for social causes in collaboration with the dance magnet of Intermediate School 228 public school while performing in theaters, schools, and hospitals to raise awareness about cancer among children. Produced and edited a short documentary movie about this initiative, which received the Silver Level Honorable Mention in the 2014 [Speak Truth to Power National Film Competition](#) in partnership with the [American Federation of Teachers](#) and the [Tribeca Festival](#).
- Organized and taught dance and music education programs for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in partnership with [American Autism Association](#)

Board Member, Sakha American Diaspora

2022-present

- Organized Sakha Summer Festival in NYC park for 250 people with music and dance performances, exhibitions and sport competitions

Consultant, Academy of Dance and Creative Arts

2017

- Designed a new development strategy
- Created new outreach and education programs that resulted in new grants
- Assisted with the expansion of local community connections that brought new sponsors
- Organized the marketing campaign for the premiere of the ballet *Cinderella*

Studio Manager, Co-Owner, [Flash Dancing and Ballet School](#)

2007-2010

- Supported the opening of a new dance studio while designing and teaching dance programs for adults and children
- Administrated and coordinated dance classes, created budgets, and collected admission fees
- Increased the number of subscription clients from 10 to more than 200

Ballet Dancer, [Yakut State Theatre of Opera and Ballet](#)

2005-2006

- Performed in ballets and operas including leading roles in full-length operas and ballets: Mercedes in Don Quixote, Raymonda in Raymonda, the Lilac Fairy in The Sleeping Beauty, and Black Swans in Swan Lake.

Education

- MA, Arts and Entertainment Industries Leadership, [New York Institute of Technology](#) 2017
- MA, Project Management, [Synergy University](#) 2011
- BA, Operational Management, [Synergy University](#) 2011
- BA, Ballet and Performing Arts, [Poselskaya Yakut Choreographic College](#) 2006

Training

- **International Programs Internship, [Joffrey Ballet School](#)** 2016
- **Graduate Assistantship, [New York Institute of Technology](#)** 2016
- **Development Internship, [American Ballet Theater](#)** 2016