



Canadian Dance Assembly
L'Assemblée canadienne de la danse

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The Canadian Dance Assembly to Reiterate the Importance of the Arts in Canadian Living and Stands Behind its Members

Toronto, ON - Following the interview of Margie Gillis on SunNews, in which she so gracefully and eloquently talked about the importance of the arts in the lives of Canadians, the [Canadian Dance Assembly](#) would like to add support to her comments by reminding the Canadian media about the following statistics. The Canadian Dance Assembly will let the numbers speak for themselves and advocate on behalf of our dignity.

1 - The cultural sector has about 600,000 workers, which is about double the level of employment in the forestry sector in Canada (300,000) and more than double the level of employment in Canadian banks (257,000).
Source: [A Statistical Profile of Artists in Canada : Based on the 2006 Census](#), Hill Strategies Research, 2009

2 - In 2005, two thirds of Canadians read a book (66.6%), one in two attended a performance by professional artists or a cultural festival (48.8%), and one in four visited an art gallery (26.7%).
Source: [General Social Survey](#), Statistics Canada, 2005

3 - In 2008, Canadians spent more than twice as much on live performing arts (\$1.4 billion) than on sports events (\$0.65 billion).
Source: [Survey of Household Spending](#), Statistics Canada, 2008

4 - The arts are important for personal health and well-being, having an impact on personal confidence, sense of control, social connectedness, education, and ensuring supportive physical environments.
Source: [Arts and Culture in Medicine and Health: A Survey Research Paper](#), Cooley & Associates, 2003

5 - Critical Evidence: How the Arts Benefit Student Achievement (National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, 2006).
Impacts in 6 areas :

- Reading and language skills
- Mathematical skills
- Thinking skills
- Social skills
- Motivation to learn
- Positive school environment

Source : [Hill strategies research](#), March 2011

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The Canadian Dance Assembly (CDA) is the voice of the professional dance sector in Canada and advocates for a healthy, sustainable environment in which professional dance practice can grow and thrive. CDA is a reputable source of information on the current state of dance in Canada and provides representation to policy-makers and the public. CDA enables its national membership of dance professionals and organizations to connect with their peers through regular communication, forums, conferences and workshops, and facilitates opportunities for networking, dialogue and exchange on topics relevant to the Canadian dance sector.



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