

A D M I S S I O N GUIDE 2027

UNVEIL YOUR INNER ARTIST

DIPLOMA OF COLLEGIAL
STUDIES (DEC)

DANSE-INTERPRÉTATION
(CONTEMPORAIN) 561.BB

IN COLLABORATION WITH
CÉGEP DU VIEUX MONTRÉAL

ÉCOLE DE
DANSE
CONTEMPORAINE
DE MONTRÉAL

ENRICHED

PROGRAM

E D
C M



CONTEMPORARY DANCE LEADER IN TRAINING CANADA

A RECOGNIZED PUBLIC INSTITUTION

Since 1981, the École de danse contemporaine de Montréal has been training professional dancers who have gone on to earn national and international recognition.

Recognized for its leading-edge, rigorous training, the School offers a 3-year college level education based on the mastery of contemporary dance techniques, the development of artistic and intellectual knowledge and versatility of performance. It is affiliated with the Cégep du Vieux Montréal, accredited by the Québec Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur, and supported by Canadian Heritage.

The School is a centre of excellence in the performing arts and has trained more than 500 dancers who now perform with renowned dance companies in Québec, Canada and abroad.

HIGH-CALIBRE FACILITIES

The School is housed in the Wilder Building – Espace Danse, a venue dedicated to dance in Montréal, equipped with facilities that meet international standards for dance training and practice.

Following the sustainable transformation of a heritage building, the Wilder Building – Espace Danse has been awarded LEED-NC Silver certification by the Canada Green Building Council. Located in the heart of the Quartier des spectacles, this unique space will inspire the performers of tomorrow while further strengthening Montréal and Québec's position as global leaders in dance creation and innovation.

A REDESIGNED TRAINING PROGRAM

The contemporary dance field has evolved significantly, with increasingly diverse practices, creative processes and professional pathways. Today's performers must combine technical mastery with artistic intelligence, creativity, autonomy, curiosity and adaptability. To respond to the ever-changing realities of a career in dance, EDCM has redesigned its training program, which plays an essential role in preparing the next generation of artists.

Performers: Simon Armeni-Crowe, Agathe Bouydon



Photo: David Boyer



KEY DATES

JOURNÉE DE LA CULTURE

SEPTEMBER 25, 2026

OPEN HOUSE – EDCM

NOVEMBER 7, 2026

**AUDITION APPLICATION DEADLINE:
FIRST ROUND BY VIDEO**

JANUARY 31, 2027

FINAL AUDITION (BY INVITATION)*

MARSEILLE • FRANCE
MONTRÉAL (QUÉBEC) • CANADA

FEBRUARY 19-20, 2027
FEBRUARY 27-28, 2027

** Subject to change. Scan the QR code for the most up-to-date information.*



A DAY AT THE SCHOOL

IF YOU ARE CONSIDERING A CAREER AS A PROFESSIONAL CONTEMPORARY DANCER, DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO LIVE A DAY IN THE SHOES OF A STUDENT FROM THE ECOLE DE DANSE CONTEMPORAINE DE MONTRÉAL. WITNESS FIRSTHAND WHAT OUR DANCE STUDENTS EXPERIENCE!

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

- OCTOBER 23, 2026
- NOVEMBER 13, 2026
- FEBRUARY 5, 2027

SHOWS

AT THE END OF EACH TERM, IN DECEMBER AND MAY, IT IS POSSIBLE TO ATTEND THE SCHOOL'S SHOWS. SEVERAL PERFORMANCES ARE AVAILABLE ONLINE.

DANCE

A SCHOOL THAT IS IN TUNE WITH THE PROFESSIONAL COMMUNITY

Canadian employers who have hired dancers over the past five years rate the School as a leader in this discipline.

The program is designed to meet the demanding criteria of today's leading contemporary dance companies. Students will be given multiple opportunities to interact with potential employers and lay the groundwork for their professional careers. In this regard, the School has an exemplary job placement rate. In Québec, some 40 choreographers and dance companies regularly employ the School's graduates, who have performed on stages throughout the world.

NEW: THE PONT PROJECT

Through collaborations with established dance companies, EDCM facilitates access to paid apprenticeship contracts, enabling graduates to continue developing their skills and experience within professional artistic environments.



ARTISTIC AND PROGRAM DIRECTOR

TRAINING TOMORROW'S ARTISTS, TODAY.

Choosing the École de danse contemporaine de Montréal means choosing much more than a training program. It means choosing an environment where artistic rigour, curiosity, collaboration and a commitment to one another come together to support each dancer's development.

At EDCM, we believe that technique is a language, but artistry gives it its full expressive power. Our mission is to train artists who embody movement with intelligence, sensitivity and authenticity, while developing the tools they need to navigate an ever-changing profession with confidence.

Throughout the three years of training, you will be invited to explore a wide range of practices, repertoires, creative methods and artistic encounters. You will learn from accomplished educators, choreographers and artists who share a common commitment: to share their knowledge generously, guide you with rigour and prepare the next generation for the realities of the profession.

Our recently revised program reflects this vision. Alongside demanding technical and artistic training, it places particular emphasis on artists' health, creative research, professional development and the growth of each student's distinct artistic voice. A career in dance extends beyond performing on stage: it is built, nurtured and evolves over a lifetime.

EDCM is also a community. A place where differences enrich our shared experience, where human connections nourish creation, and where every student is encouraged to develop their individuality in an environment of openness, respect and a desire to push beyond their limits.

The next three years will challenge you. They will help you grow as a performer, an artist and a person. I hope they will allow you to discover the full extent of your potential and mark the beginning of a rich, bold and lasting creative journey.

I look forward to welcoming you to EDCM.

Lisa Davies

Photo : Sasha Onyshchenko



Lisa Davies has worked in dance for more than thirty years, in Québec and internationally. During her performing career, she spent ten years with Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, where she became a soloist and worked under the direction of Larry Rhodes. She was also a guest artist with La La La Human Steps for Édouard Lock's Exaucé/Salt, and performed works by internationally renowned choreographers including Crystal Pite, Ohad Naharin and William Forsythe.

She went on to work as a guest teacher and rehearsal director with more than fifteen companies and artists, including Emily Molnar/Ballet BC, Christian Spuck, RUBBERBANDance Group, BJM Danse, Akram Khan Company, The National Ballet of Canada, Ballet Zurich, Czech National Ballet, Stuttgart Ballet, Cas Public and Wayne McGregor Random Dance Company.

In parallel, she founded Danse à la Carte, where she served as Executive and Artistic Director for nearly ten years. The organization supported professional dancers and choreographers by offering daily training, opportunities for exchange and professional development, as well as the annual intensive TransFormation Danse. These initiatives welcomed artists from a wide range of backgrounds, including Édouard Lock, Hofesh Shechter, Margie Gillis, Louise Lecavalier, Virginie Brunelle, Catherine Gaudet, Victor Quijada, Frédéric Gravel, Alan Lake, Sylvain Émard, Mélanie Demers, Marcos Morau, Adi Salant, Alexandra "Spicey" Landé and Emmanuelle Le Phan.

Over the years, her commitment to dance and to artists has led her to support hundreds of performers and choreographers and to contribute to numerous creative projects in Québec and abroad. Recognized for her expertise, integrity and commitment to the development of the field, she became Artistic and Academic Director of the École de danse contemporaine de Montréal in 2023, where she continues to work closely with the next generation of artists and the professional dance community.

CONTEMPORARY TRAINING

The School offers a three-year Diploma of Collegial Studies (DEC 561.BB) approved by the Québec Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur.

Specific training is provided by the School while general education is offered by the Cégep du Vieux Montréal.*

The School also offers an AEC (NRC.05, Attestation d'études collégiales) program which is composed of only the specific dance courses (see p.15).

A REDESIGNED PROGRAM FOCUSED ON THE PROFESSIONAL DANCE WORLD

At EDCM, students develop far more than a strong technical foundation. They train as contemporary dance performers by cultivating their presence, sensitivity, creativity, artistic intelligence and independence.

At the heart of the program, performance and interpretation are enriched by a diversity of technical and aesthetic approaches, creative and performance experiences, and opportunities to connect with artists working in the field.

The training also fosters an understanding of the realities of professional dance, a rich artistic culture, a strong focus on artist health and well-being, and the adaptability essential to navigating a constantly evolving professional environment.

HIGH-LEVEL, INDIVIDUAL-CENTRED EDUCATION

The faculty includes performers, educators and renowned masters from the international dance scene. Requiring very high ratios of teachers per student, the school strives to vary its approaches and its faculty is actively involved in the field.

* Students who wish to take their academic courses in English may do so at Dawson College (conditions apply).

DANCE

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A DANCE STUDENT

Courses in anatomy, dance-related fitness training and technique classes are part of the students' schedules. These classes are generally followed by performance, improvisation and partnering classes.

The training also places a strong emphasis on creative research, interdisciplinary approaches and creative methodology. Interpretation classes are where students truly experience the work of a stage performer, from the choreographic creation process through to presenting a performance before a live audience.

Music, Dance History, Contemporary Art History and Career Management courses complete the day. There are 14 academic courses including English, Humanities, French, Complementary courses and Physical Education.



Performers: Agathe Bouydrion, Justine Heude



Performer: Jane Millette

SPECIALIZED TRAINING: ENRICHED PROGRAM*

1ST YEAR

Fundamental Techniques and New Practices 1 and 2
Complementary Techniques and Practices 1 and 2
Creative Research 1
Interpretation 1 and 2
Partner Work 1
Art History
History and Contemporary Practice of Dance
Career Introduction
Dance Health
Anatomy Applied to Dance 1

2ND YEAR

Fundamental Techniques 3 and 4
Interpretation 3 and 4
New Practices 3 and 4
Complementary Techniques and Practices 3 and 4
Partner Work 2
Creative Methodology
Interdisciplinary Approaches
Career Management 1
Anatomy Applied to Dance 2

3RD YEAR

Fundamental Techniques 5 and 6
New Practices 5 and 6
Complementary Techniques and Practices 5 and 6
Interpretation 5 and 6
Creative Research 2
Career Management 2

GENERAL EDUCATION

1ST YEAR

Physical Education and Health
Physical Education and Efficiency
Philosophy and Rationality
Writing and Literature
Human Beings
Literature and Imagination

2ND YEAR

Physical Education and Autonomy
Ethics and Politics
Québec Literature
Contemporary Literature and Culture
English 1

3RD YEAR

English 2
Complementary Courses 1 and 2

* Subject to change

SHOWS

Over the duration of the program, students will take part in the creation of six different shows and participate in a total of 30 performances. In addition, a highly qualified production team supports all student productions. Performances take place on prestigious Montréal stages that allow students to fully appreciate these first experiences with the profession.

SUMMER SCHOOL

Summer School lasts two or three weeks and is an opportunity for students to develop their technical and artistic skills with professional dancers and to become familiar with new dance approaches. It is also designed to make up for the absence of appropriate training during the summer. Summer School is compulsory for all students enrolled in the three-year DEC program. Please note that students are required to pay Summer School registration fees.

PROFESSIONAL INTEGRATION

To support recent graduates as they enter the workforce, EDCM offers a range of services and benefits:

- The Pont Project (**New!**): a paid professional experience that allows graduates to work alongside established artists, dance companies or organizations in a real-world professional environment.
- Free access to technique classes and the training facility
- Career counselling services during the first year following graduation
- Studio space for dance projects
- Annual Sofia-Borella and Lucie Boissinot Scholarships
- Boomerang Evenings – Shared Dances: opportunities to present the results of choreographic work in the studio
- Professional referrals and regular sharing of career opportunities



STUDENT

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Students registered for the professional program (DEC and ACE) are eligible for the loans and bursaries offered by the Ministère de l'Éducation et de l'enseignement supérieur.

afe.gouv.qc.ca/en

Financial assistance is also available at Cégep du Vieux Montréal. For information: cvm.qc.ca or local A3.32 or 514 982-3437 ext. 2047

HEALTH SERVICES

Students can consult a sports medicine doctor at the school. This weekly service is free of charge. Through a partnership with Kinatex Clinic, students receive professional osteopathy and physiotherapy services on site at an affordable price.

TRAINING ROOM

A training room is available to students Monday to Friday. Training equipment, exercise bikes and exercise balls are available for mobility and muscular strengthening exercises.

SERVICES

MEDIA CENTRE

The School's media centre houses a collection of more than 5,000 documents. Since 2006, the media centre has specialized in acquiring works from the Québec repertoire from the 1950s to present. The media centre's services include consultation, lending and reservation of documents and audiovisual equipment, student work stations, and onsite consultation of audiovisual documents and thematic expositions.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

Extracurricular activities enable students to become familiar with the dance community elsewhere in Québec and in North America through exchanges with other schools. Master classes with international artists are offered regularly at the School. Third year students participate in an annual event, danse TRANSIT, which facilitates the students' transition to a career as professional dance artists. The School also offers its students free tickets to contemporary dance shows.

STUDENT HOUSING

UQAM Residences (East and West Buildings)
services.uqam.ca/services-offerts/residences-universitaires

EVO Montréal Residences evomontreal.com

Campus1 MTL campus1mtl.ca

La Marq themarq.ca



Performers: Ludovic Germain - Thivierge, Hortense Sierka



Performers: Niko Alevizakis, Elisa Martin, Régine Sénotus-Lange

S T U D Y I N G IN MONTRÉAL



Performer: Xalbat Corret

MONTREAL, MÉTROPOLÉ CULTURELLE

Montréal has a renowned reputation for the quality and diversity of its contemporary dance scene. Home to several international dance companies, Montréal can take pride in being a dance Mecca, bringing together an impressive number of companies and groups within a tightly knit community. Its contemporary dance scene is flourishing thanks to public events such as the Festival TransAmériques (FTA) as well as many contemporary dance shows.

It's often said that Montréal is the most European city in North America and that it's creative, multicultural and has a good quality of life. Montréal ranks among the world's top student cities.

"You've got to be open-minded when changing your culture. It's true that contemporary dance in North America is very different, which can be quite unsettling, since you've got to deconstruct things in order to reconstruct them. I did a lot of technique in the past. At the School, we also did in-depth work on the dancer's creativity. I also enjoy all the guest choreographers from Québec, Canada and abroad. This allows us to experience various contemporary dance approaches."

– Zoé Uliana, France

« HI-BONJOUR »

Montréal is a bilingual multicultural city. The school is proud to welcome students from different cultures as part of its professional training.

Testimonials from students and graduates who have learned or improved their French and/or English at the School:

"I didn't speak French before, but when I got to the dance School, I began integrating French into my life. I'm so happy that the School is in French, because I feel it's been a springboard for culture, living and working in Montréal."

– Chéline Lacroix, British Columbia, Canada

"Speaking the language opens more doors and many more opportunities."

– Lorena Salinas, Colombia

"We use this space to learn."

– Abe Simon Mijneer, Netherlands

"This training teaches you a sensitivity that will help you your entire life. You come out of there profoundly changed. Some teachers are bilingual while certain choreographers only speak English. Now I'm practically bilingual."

– Charles Brecard, New Caledonia

To ensure their chances of success at the audition, applicants should have completed a minimum of five years of dance (contemporary, classical, jazz, urban dances, etc.). Good physical and artistic preparation is essential. Applicants are assessed based on a set of criteria.

Physical potential

- Posture
- Mobility of torso, limbs and pelvis
- Neuromuscular control and tone
- Coordination
- Efficiency of movement

Technical skills

- In-depth knowledge of the basic vocabulary common to modern, classical and jazz techniques (pliés, legwork, turns, jumps, adages and floor work)
- Ability to move different body segments in a harmonious way
- Ability to orient oneself in space
- Ability to dance to different tempos
- Dynamics
- Ability to dance while integrating a variety of physical qualities
- Memorization

Creativity and originality

- Ability to improvise through exploring individual movement
- Ability to interact with other dancers, space and music while still focusing on one's own movements

Personal expression

- Expressiveness
- Ability to express oneself through improvisation
- Ability to convey feelings, emotions and ideas through movement

Open-Mindedness

- Responsiveness
- Sensitivity to others
- Ability to listen actively and be open to others' ideas
- Experimentation
- Willingness to try new things

TREMLIN IMMERSIVE INTERNSHIP

A one-week summer intensive based on our professional training program. By application, open to participants aged 16 and over.

PARCOURS PRÉPARATOIRE

An intensive program designed to prepare students for professional training in contemporary dance. Offered during the fall and winter sessions.

Details at edcm.ca

AUDITION PREPARATION

FIRST ROUND VIDEO AUDITION

The first round of the audition process takes place entirely by video. After completing the application form, candidates will receive a link to a video, along with instructions regarding the content to include in their audition video.

SECOND ROUND IN-PERSON AUDITION

All candidates will be informed in writing of the results of the first-round video audition. Candidates who are selected will be invited to participate in the second-round in-person audition, which takes place over two days. The audition consists of six stages:

Contemporary Dance Technique Class

The technique class lasts one and a half hours. During this class, the jury assesses candidates' physical potential, level of technical proficiency in contemporary dance, and talent.

The level of difficulty of the combinations taught during the second-round technique class is higher than that of the first-round audition.

Repertoire Class

Candidates are taught an excerpt from EDCM's choreographic repertoire by a member of the teaching faculty.

Composition Class

The composition activity is a collaborative process in which candidates work in small groups and collectively to create a short choreographic study.

Solo

Each candidate invited to the second round must present a two-minute contemporary dance solo to the jury. The solo may be an original creation or a work by a choreographer. For the solo presentation, you must send an Mp3, AAC, or WAV file in advance and bring the soundtrack on a mobile phone or audio CD. Costumes and stage props are not permitted.

Individual Interview

The interview provides an opportunity to learn more about candidates' motivations and personal goals. It is also an opportunity for candidates to ask questions and to clarify certain aspects of the program.

Improvisation Class

The structured improvisation class is designed to assess candidates' artistic potential and qualities. The jury pays particular attention to:

- originality;
- personal expression;
- ability to interact with other members of the group;
- openness to the teacher's directions.

Candidates must attend the auditions in appropriate dance attire, such as a leotard, fitted dancewear, etc. Changing rooms are available for participants. Classes are conducted barefoot or in socks.

IMPORTANT DATES

MARSEILLE | February 19-20, 2027

MONTRÉAL | February 27-28, 2027

Audition Results

All candidates will be informed of their second round audition result in March.

No audition results or feedback concerning the auditions will be given over the phone.

Limited Enrolment

Admission to the college program is limited. Qualified applicants who are not offered a place may be added to a waiting list.

A U D I T I O N ADMISSION & PROCESS ADMISSION

To be eligible to audition, all applicants must have completed their high school diploma (DES) or an equivalent course of education by the end of the current academic year. Candidates must submit a complete online audition application before the deadline.

All official documents that are not available in French or English must be translated by a certified translator. The translator's seal is obligatory.

The online application must include:

- a completed audition registration form
- proof of birth date (copy of health insurance card, driver's license, passport or birth certificate);
- The documents required are the applicant's 2 most recent official report cards. In addition to these documents university level students must provide a copy of their Secondary School Diploma (SSD) as well as their secondary IV and V and their college transcripts. French national applicants who have completed their lycée education must include the grades from the French written examination (EUF, French Baccalaureate or other examination); A grade $\geq 10/20$ on the French Baccalaureate written examination is required by the cégep du Vieux-Montréal;
- any relevant medical information;
- Two recent photographs: a portrait and a full-length photograph in form-fitting dance attire;
- Payment covering the non-refundable \$50* audition fee must be paid by credit card on the online registration platform.

** Non-refundable*

Performers: Oly Dien, Clara Biernacki

REGISTRATION FOR THE DEC PROGRAM

Acceptance in the program is contingent on meeting college admission requirements and passing the second round audition. Candidates are informed in writing of the jury's final decision within two weeks of the second round audition.

Before you do anything

Applicants from Québec completing Secondary V should also register in another program through the Service régional d'admission of their choice before March 1st so that their academic progress is not delayed if they do not pass the second round audition. It is very important not to indicate "Contemporary Dance Performance 561.BB" as the first choice in the first round, since the second round audition results are sent after March 1st. That way, those who are not accepted will still be able to register in another DEC program of their choice.

CANADIAN APPLICANTS (OUTSIDE QUÉBEC)

Canadian applicants residing outside Québec will be informed of the administrative procedures to be carried out following the second audition. Please note that general academic courses in the Diploma of College Studies (DCS) are offered in French at the cégep du Vieux-Montréal and in English at Dawson College. All dance-specific courses given within the EDCM are taught in French, however assignments may, in most cases, be written in English. A mandatory French admission test is required by the cégep. At the end of the program, students must complete the French Exit Exam in order to obtain their college diploma.

Equivalence between the Québec and Canadian education systems:

A secondary school diploma is required for admission into the DCS program.

Pursuing studies after the DCS – Should you choose to pursue university studies in Québec, holders of a technical DCS diploma (such as the EDCM program) are eligible for undergraduate programs (3-year program) if specific entrance conditions for admission are met. Applicants are occasionally admitted without any special conditions, and possibly with a lighter course load. In other cases, the university will require applicants to take one or more remedial courses. It is the graduate's responsibility to request this information from the institution in question.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Every year, the School welcomes applicants from various countries. International candidates may choose between the following programs:

Registration for the DEC (561.BO) program

Following their acceptance into the program, the cégep du Vieux-Montréal accompanies the international student in the admission process at the cégep as well as the Certificat d'acceptation du Québec for education (CAQ) and the student visa applications. It is obligatory for all international students to acquire health and hospitalization insurance through the cégep du Vieux-Montréal (CVM). The admission letter issued by the cégep du Vieux-Montréal (CVM) informs students regarding the tuition fees.

Registration for the AEC (NRC.05) program

The AEC (Attestation des études collégiales) is composed exclusively of the specialized dance courses. Following their acceptance into the program the School assists students with admission, as well as the Certificat d'acceptation du Québec for education (CAQ) and the student visa applications. In addition, it is obligatory for all foreign students to provide proof of private health insurance coverage. Some students from certain countries may be eligible for a reciprocal health and income security insurance with the province of Québec. Please consult ramq.gouv.qc.ca/en.

International student must register in the program respecting all applicable policies and rules.

TUITION FEES*

If enrolled in four courses or 180 hours of classes per term Québec and French students receive free education (DCS program). For further details on tuition and other academic fees, visit the cégep du Vieux-Montréal's website.

STUDENTS RESIDENCY	TUITION FEE	RELATED FEES
Québec OR France DEC	\$0	\$247.54 / term
Other provinces of Canada DEC	\$1926 / term or \$247.54 / session according to eligibility criteria	–
International student AEC	\$4200 / term	\$200 / year

* Subject to change

Photographers: Photos in studio: Sasha Onyshchenko
Photos of productions: Maxime Côté
Performers: Front cover: Cloe Comstock
Back cover: Regine Sénatus-Lange

UNVEIL YOUR INNER ARTIST

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM IN CONTEMPORARY DANCE

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ÉCOLE DE
DANSE
CONTEMPORAINE
DE MONTRÉAL



E D
C M

Culture
et Communications
Québec

Canada
Patrimoine
canadien Canadian
Heritage

CÉGEP DU
VIEUX MONTRÉAL

adésaQ

Réseau
d'enseignement
de la danse

Ce document est aussi disponible en français