

2003



MOSAIC
Dance Theater Company

2024

2024 Annual Report



Photo by Gary Heller

As Time Goes By

Summing up a year in a single paragraph is a daunting task. Sure, you can comb through the day-to-day operations to look for those “aha” moments. But then, you think, “Wow! Shouldn’t there be more to show for all the work that was done?” Yes, we want to highlight those special events and accomplishments — and well we should. However, it’s in the repetition that we move forward. Each iteration brings growth and understanding, making the next time just a bit easier to do, easier to comprehend. You will read about Mosaic Dance Theater Company’s “highlights” in the next few pages, but realize that those highlights sit upon a foundation of dedication and hard work. And with that in mind, now we can look back and say, “Wow! Look at what we’ve done.”

Best regards,

Morgiana Celeste Varricchio
Producing Artistic Director

Mosaic Dance Theater Company is dedicated to developing and presenting original dance, theater and educational programs celebrating the rich diversity of cultures and folkloric traditions of the Mediterranean region of North Africa, the Middle East, and Southern Europe.

Board of Trustees

Morgiana Celeste Varricchio,
President & Founder
Robert Greenwald,
Secretary/Treasurer
Dr. Andrea Varricchio

Staff

Morgiana Celeste Varricchio, Producing Artistic Director
Samara Adell, Artistic Director for Dance
Robert Greenwald, Technical Director & Operations Manager
Adriana Rosa, Education & Outreach Coordinator

Fantastic Voyages



How often do we wish we could travel back in time and be a witness to history? MDTC did just that with our world premiere production of *Impressions of The Alhambra*. The great American writer Washington Irving, provided the time machine through his best-selling *Tales of the Alhambra*, which recounted his travels in Spain from Seville to Granada in 1829. Given the singular privilege of living in the Alhambra during his stay, Irving shares his own impressions of the country, the history, the architecture, and the Moors who built the fortress. In addition, he retells many of the legends and lore passed down through the generations of the Moorish castle's inhabitants.

Adapted and directed by Morgiana Celeste Varricchio, MDTC's Producing Artistic Director, *Impressions of The Alhambra* combines the exquisite language of Irving's work with dance and MDTC's signature style of dance/story-theater. With Middle Eastern, Spanish *escuela bolera*, and Baroque styles of dance created by Samara Adell, MDTC's Artistic Director for Dance, and Guest Choreographer Carlos Fittante, the production featured a cast of ten. MDTC received funding from the Essex County Local Arts Program to create this project, and it was presented in September 2024 in New Jersey and in November in New York City.

Audiences on both sides of the Hudson River raved. [Click here](#) to hear their reactions. [Click here](#) for a short video of memorable excerpts. (Photos by Gary Heller.)

Caravan to Cairo, MDTC's evergreen school assembly program continues to delight and enthrall students as they experience dance, music, costumes, and folktales from faraway lands. Always exciting is getting up close with the dancers, as shown in the photo at right. And, it's pretty exciting for the dancers as well! [Click here](#) to watch a short recap. (Photo by Bob Greenwald.)



Building Connections In the Community

It's all about who you know. Active involvement by enthusiastic local NJ audiences eager to "spread the word," led to the creation of *Costuming Mosaic*, a behind-the-scenes lecture/demo about some of MDTC's iconic costumes. Ideal for women's clubs, libraries, and senior organizations, this program brings new friends for the Company (and a sampling of tasty desserts at the coffee hour that follows the presentation!).



Ancient Egypt is the subject as Bob Greenwald (at left) and Morgiana Celeste Varricchio (at right) discuss masks and dresses worn in MDTC's works dealing with Pharaonic times.

In the Field

Since 2014, MDTC has had a presence in the Expo Hall at the annual APAP (Association of Performing Arts Professionals), held at the NYC Hilton. This year we tested the waters at the NJPTA (New Jersey Parent/Teachers Association) Convention in Atlantic City at the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino. Visibility, videos, QR codes, business cards, and brochures are invaluable tools.

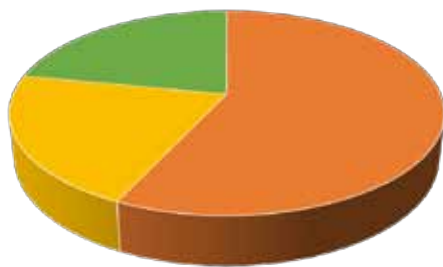


Bob (at left at APAP) and Morgiana Celeste (at right at NJPTA) are ready to network and make new contacts at these two conferences.

2024 Results

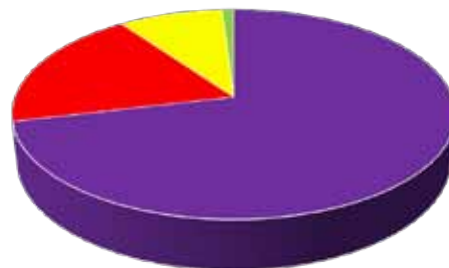
Income and Expense for YE 12-31-24

Income 2024 - \$32,106.01



- Individual Contributions - 57%
- Grants - 21%
- Earned Income - 22%

Expense 2024 - \$31,945.59



- Production - 72%
- G&A - 18%
- Marketing - 9%
- Fundraising - 1%

Once again, Individual Contributions make up the lion's share of MDTC's income pie chart. Earned Income (performance fees, ticket sales) showed a definite improvement, while Grant awards declined. Expenses remained more or less consistent with 2023's results, with Production expenses showing about 5% higher, resulting from a larger-than-normal cast size for our production of *Impressions of The Alhambra*. 2024 ended with a small net operating surplus — always good news!

Pie chart percentages, however, never show MDTC's complete picture. Income and Expense reports show only cash amounts. Many hours are generously given by dedicated artists, technicians, and administrators to make MDTC productions happen and power the engine that keeps the Company running. The value of their time can best be quantified by the US Department of Labor. It amounts to greater than \$100,000.

In 2024, MDTC served approximately 1200 individuals.

Those Who Give

Without the individuals shown below, Mosaic Dance Theater Company would cease to be. Their generosity is the reason we are. They know how important it is to keep the arts alive and thriving, no matter the size. They know that the arts are the soul of humanity. They know that ideas that take shape on stage inspire actions off stage. Because they know, because they care, because they give, we thank them — we thank *you!* You make it happen.

Diamond (\$1,000+)

Robert Greenwald

Andrea Varricchio

Morgiana Celeste Varricchio

Emerald (\$500 - \$999)

Jim & Michelle Duane

Ruby (\$250 - \$499)

Betsy Adams
Patricia McCarthy

Megan Furman
Marylou Romano

Carolyn Goldstein
Ruth Scriptunas

Judy & Wayne Kling
Roberta Trowbridge

Sapphire (\$100 - \$249)

Patricia Beadling
Trisha Cangiano
Carylmead Eggleston
Laura Greenwald
Lois Karlsberger
Dara Murray
Merrill Peress

Sandy Bigatel
Ruth Cantrell
Amy Furman
Monica Theis Huber
Neva Mikula
Jean Musacchio
Barbara Castellana Stasiak

Claudia Campbell
Elisa Dunn
Dianne Glennon
Naji & Amy Jabbour
Suzanne Moyer
Tina O'Neill
Domenico & Donna Tancredi

Amythyst (\$1 - \$99)

Bridget Abeniacar Bigatel
Pat Greenwald
Claudia Luongo
Cheryle Robinson
Betty Slevin

Veronica & Joe Elias
Gary Heller
Rita Mehes
Phyllis Saretta
Joe & Mary Katherine
Theis

Celia Esplugas
Geremia Helou
Dorothy Meissner
Jo Ann Sengle
David Varricchio

Michael Ficocelli
Alison Hudak
Marisa Pierson
Nancy Shaheen
Lou & Marilyn Varricchio

Grantors

New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Essex County Division of Cultural Affairs