

Quarterly Update

July - August 2022



Imperial Society of
Teachers of Dancing

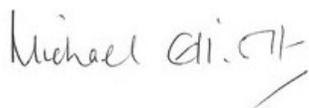
Welcome

Welcome to our second quarterly update on the Society's business and key decisions made at Council.

This is designed to keep those who work with the Society updated on our progress and plans. This report is therefore confidential and should not be shared.

We hope you find this helpful. If you have any feedback, questions or suggestions please feel free to send these to us via: amujtaba@istd.org.

Michael Elliott



Chair

Ginny Brown



Chief Executive



Financial performance

We are pleased to report that Nikki Stewart will start as our new permanent Director of Finance and Resources on 5 September. Lesley Baliga will stay on until the end of that month to ensure a smooth transition. We have also recruited a permanent Financial Controller, Michael Atiase, which means we now have a stable finance team.

The external audit of the 2021/22 financial accounts is nearing completion and the annual accounts will be presented to Council for approval in early September.

In June 2022, over £59,000 was awarded to 26 individuals undertaking ISTD teaching qualifications. The ISTD Challenge fund is being prepared for applications to open in Autumn 2022 to support learners on low income with the cost of their exam fee.

Dancesport bursaries have now been revised to align with the Theatre bursaries. We have retained the link to important industry figures, whilst increasing the fund reach. These will be awarded annually at Dancesport competitions.



Examinations



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We have had a busy summer exam period and sincere thanks go to all the Examiners and Exam staff for their hard work and tenacity in coping with last-minute changes.

Despite the busy period, the broad trend in the UK is that overall exam activity remains at around 70% - 75% of the pre-pandemic levels. And, with the global volatility and related cost of living challenges, we expect this is likely to affect exam numbers for the rest of this calendar year.

Internationally, we returned to examination tours in our key markets from Spring 2022 and have received wonderful feedback from members. We continue to adopt a hybrid model where 40% of international examinations were conducted remotely between May and July. Whilst the recent meetings with our International members have been positive, the feedback also suggests that the recovery this year is likely to be slow.

A revised Application for Reasonable Adjustment process was introduced to teachers at Members Day in July, and training for Examiners will take place during the Autumn.

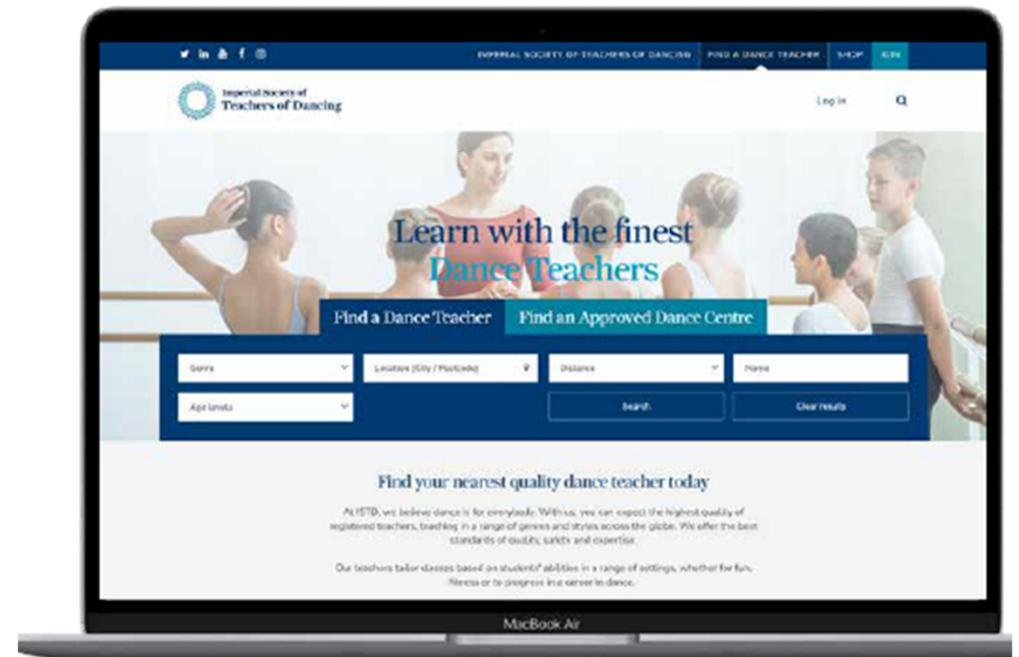
Membership and Communications

The rebrand of the *Find a Dance Teacher* website is now live: <https://dt.istd.org/home/>

Based on the findings of the recent member survey, a marketing tool kit and series of business guides (Building your brand, Grow your business, Low-cost marketing idea, Social media marketing, Strategic marketing tips) were launched during Summer School, supported by a series of webinars: www.istd.org/my-istd/promote-your-business/

The public advocacy campaign will be launched in September, and we are currently reaching out to ambassadors to be the face of the national campaign. Please add your voice and support by sharing our social media posts and encouraging others to get involved.

We are also delighted to announce that the Imperial Classical Ballet, Modern Theatre and Tap digital syllabus products are now available for purchase via the website: <https://istddance.sellfy.store/>



Education and Training

Summer Programme is taking place until 19 August with a hybrid offer of three weeks in studio and four weeks online. The programme included a **Members Day on Monday 25 July** (a free day focused on business support) and a **Talking Dance Science Symposium that was held on Sunday 31 July** in partnership with The International Association for Dance Medicine and Science and Safe in Dance International.

The Advocacy survey identified that 12% of all respondents felt they could not afford to pay for CPD. Therefore, we are maintaining a programme of free activities, including the morning of the *Talking Dance Science* symposium and Members Day. From April to September 2022 Members have been offered 16.5hrs of free CPD, plus further free support for teaching qualification Tutors.

We are also busy preparing for Graduation which will take place on **27 and 28 October** at the **Royal Geographical Society, South Kensington**.

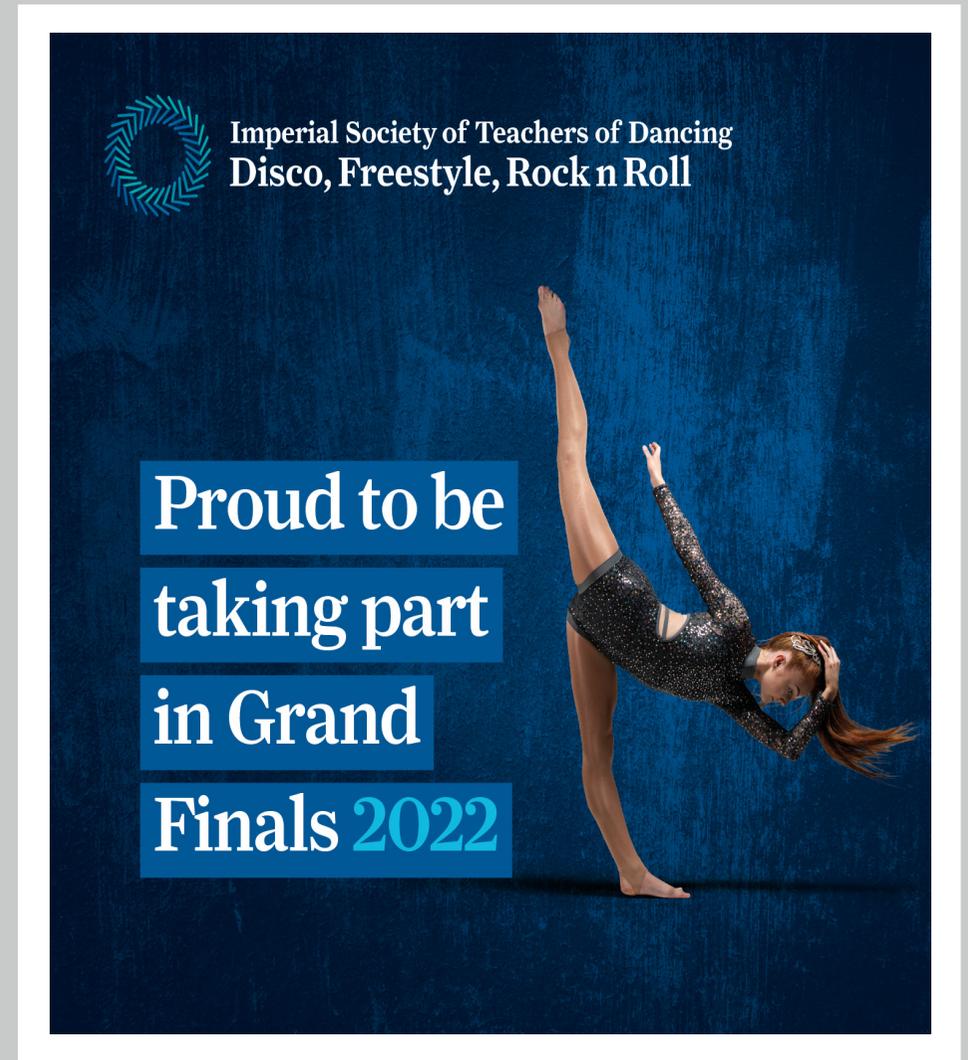


Dance

Bursaries: Applications are open for Sue Passmore and Broadening Access to Dance Awards and the Examinations Access Fund

Events and Activities

- 4 and 11 September – Tap Examiner Standardisation
- 18 September – DFR Dance Exchange: Chesham, Bucks
- 25 September – National Examiner Standardisation
- 1 and 2 October – Cecchetti Examiner Standardisation
- 9 October – DFR Grand Finals: Guildford, and ICB Examiner Standardisation
- 22 - 24 October – Contemporary Examiner Standardisation
- 30 October – ICB Day of Dance (a collaboration between National, Imperial Classical Ballet, Classical Greek, Cecchetti Classical Ballet Faculties)
- 6 November – Tap Fest: Preston, Lancs
- 27 November – Cecchetti Awards: London and Ballroom, Latin, Sequence Competition: Dorset



Council

Trustee Recruitment

We are currently looking for a Trustee to play a vital role in delivering real impact and shaping the ISTD for the future by providing high-quality governance.

Annual General Meeting

This year's Annual General Meeting is planned for **Wednesday 23 November** at **11 am**. Members will have the option to join us in person at Paul Street, or online.

Strategic developments

Council approved a new Teaching Qualification Consultancy Service by which our Level 4 Diploma in Dance Education can be partially, or fully, embedded within the current curriculum of vocational Approved Dance Centres.

Benefits of the ISTD Teaching Qualification Consultancy Service are that it:

- Acknowledges the financial barriers that currently exist for students wishing to train as dance teachers - enabling an inclusive integrated option for providers.
- Provides institutions with an employability route, via ISTD, to support the progress of their students.
- Offers students access to a Level 4 teaching qualification and a license to teach, increasing their opportunities for employment.
- Offers a collaborative partnership that ensures a bespoke, competitive offer for each organisation.

If you would like more details about this Consultancy Service, please contact JCampbell@istd.org.



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Staff

We are pleased to welcome the following staff who have recently joined the Society:

- Arooj Mujtaba – PA to Ginny Brown
- Renée Simpson – HR Administrator
- Charlotte Watkins – Teacher Training Officer (Emergency cover)
- We also said goodbye to Luna Cullis and Katy Andrews from the Marketing Department. We thank them both for their valuable contributions to the Society and wish them all the best for the future.