



Mentorship Program: Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the Second Stage Mentorship Program is to provide Dancers with the opportunity to enter into a life-planning dialogue with a selected mentor. The mentor could be a PNB Trustee or a member of the community at large recommended by a PNB Trustee. A participating mentor provides the Dancer with a meaningful connection to the local business, social, and arts communities.

The expectation is the mentor and the Dancer will meet at least three times, or once a calendar quarter, during the ballet season – fall, winter, and spring.

On a personal level, a Dancer and a mentor become collaborators. The Dancer brings their interests, dreams, and curiosity to the conversation. The mentor brings their life experiences and a willingness to answer questions, act as a sounding board, and suggest specific directions.

The Second Stage Mentorship Program follows three principles:

- Dancer-centered
- Simple Protocol
- Clear Accountability

Dancers

Dancers participating in a Second Stage mentorship program are expected to:

- Cultivate a new friendship
- Share their story with a receptive and experienced person
- Expand their perspectives on career opportunities after dance
- Develop personal goals
- Gain insights into particular businesses and industries
- Gain self-confidence
- Learn to develop and manage a professional relationship
- Practice professional etiquette

Mentors

Mentors participating in a Second Stage mentorship program are expected to:

- Meet with the Dancer at the mentor's place of work and at their convenience
- Observe Dancers as they take the initiative with meetings and projects
- Act as the Dancer's ally and sounding board
- Offer advice and counsel
- Provide relevant information about business, society, and the arts
- Enjoy reflecting on their own life
- Make referrals as appropriate
- Feel the pride of participating substantially in a young person's life