The Dance Complex’s Portal to Dance
Things learned along the way:

The Crunchy Granola Stuff:
• Metaphor and mission can lead you to a physical manifestation
• Physical manifestation as an outgrowth of mission/metaphor leads you to concrete, tactile presence that translates where mere words cannot
• Refreshed physical space allows dream in your community to reawaken; draws new interest from unknown places (individuals, other groups, business....)
• There will be bumps. Expensive bumps. Remember that, and be nimble, solve the problem as best you can

The Brass Tacks Stuff:
• Feasibility studies- with clear focus on what you want to know at the end- are worth the price
• You will need a dedicated project manager and best to have someone not involved with your day-to-day operations
• Budget wisely; big-ly...
• Avoid denial: safety, all ability usage, up to code will not go away nor should it
• Ask for help, no heroes here: communities can wrap around “building” more so than philosophy (sometimes)... ask for help even if you don’t think you need it

Celebrate Stuff: Let your light shine:
• Budget for celebration, for programming, for the after party: do not forget to celebrate with all those who helped
• Let everyone know what you did and are doing now
• Be authentic: most of us are hard workers and humble but don’t let humbleness impede your storytelling. Engagement with your story will help you and all of us
• Make art – or dance, or gatherings happen, or dynamic learning – even more than you did before. Even if over budget and spent beyond your means, you need evidence that the art doesn’t die.
• Making will bring you more of everything you need

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