

This independent, non-profit, non-political organisation began as the Asia Pacific Dance Alliance in Hong Kong in 1988. In 1990, the global body, World Dance Alliance (WDA), was

founded at the Hong Kong International Dance Conference, organised by the WDA's founder Carl Wolz. In 1993, the name of the Asia-Pacific Center was changed to WDA Asia-Pacific to reflect its relationship to the global body. WDA Asia-Pacific is one of the regional centers that make up WDA Global. The other region is WDA-Americas. WDA Europe is in the process of being re-formed.

The WDA Global Executive consists of representatives from all regions of the World Dance Alliance, led by Secretary-General Prof. Mohd Anis Md Nor. The World Dance Alliance holds Global Assemblies every 3 years.

WDA also has partnerships with other international organisations, including the World Alliance for Arts Education (WAAE), International Dance Committee of International Theater Institute ITI /UNESCO, Dance and the Child International (daCi), and the International Council for Traditional Music (ICTM).

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