The National Museum of Dance & Hall of Fame opened its doors on July 7, 1986 in Saratoga Springs, New York. It is the only museum in the country, and one of very few in the world dedicated entirely to the art of dance. There are three permanent exhibits in addition to the many other galleries that house regularly rotating exhibits on diverse dance topics.

Established in 1987, The C.V. Whitney Hall of Fame annually recognizes individuals who have made pioneering contributions to the art form. There are currently over forty inductees that represent all genres of dance, as well as its many affiliated professions.

The Washington Bathhouse Exhibit explains the unique history of the museum building, and The Children’s Wing offers a world of dance-oriented fun for young visitors. In 1992 the Swyer Studios were constructed adjacent to the museum, to house the School of the Arts, residencies, master classes and performances.

The museum’s archival collection is home to hundreds of dance artifacts including costumes, photographs, films, and personal effects. A recent addition to the museum, the Resource Room also contains hundreds of books, periodicals, posters and publications available for reference to dance scholars.

The Mission of the National Museum of Dance is to cultivate, promote, foster, and develop amongst its members and the community at large, the appreciation, understanding, taste, and love of dance and its history, and to provide the means for popular instruction and enjoyment thereof; to collect, classify, preserve, and protect records, articles, and subjects of historic interest; to select, annually, one or more individuals, corporations, dance companies, associations, or other institutions as honorees to be named in the National Museum of Dance Hall of Fame.

The Museum is an all-inclusive institution, related to a diversity of professional dance forms, and representing dance from a diversity of cultural, religious, gender, and class segments/backgrounds of society.