



# NEWSLETTER November 2017

*Please share with faculty, students and any interested party*

## Greetings from ACDA Presidents Incoming and Outgoing



Dear ACDA Members,

It is hard to believe that we have come to that time of the year when our fall terms are already heading toward the finish line. I am sure that many of you are knee-deep in preparing or presenting fall concerts and are starting to think about who will attend your spring 2018 ACDA conference. What is even harder to believe is that the first ACDA conference of 2018 is less than two months away, and some schools are already locking in those choices! I feel lucky that my first conference as ACDA President will be that first regional conference, and in my new position as President I look forward to meeting members I have not yet met, visiting regions I have not danced in before, and learning even more about how ACDA can support and promote dance in higher education.

Over 5000 dancers will attend ACDA conferences across 13 regions next year, plus hundreds more will present work at the June 2018 National College Dance Festival. Before you know it, you will be sharing your work, taking classes and workshops from phenomenal dance faculty, and making connections to artists both emerging and established, thanks to ACDA. Take advantage of all that you can during these experiences; push yourself to move, think, and experience dance in new and exciting ways!

Until then, I wish you the best of times in

Hello my ACDA friends and colleagues,

ACDA is an incredible Association, one that I have been honored to serve in a leadership role for many years. Our Association enriched my life as a student, dancer, teacher, and board member in too many ways to recount here. My first ACDA experience was as a student performer in an ACDFCA conference in the 80s. Since then, I hosted a conference in the Mid-Atlantic Region in the early 90s, joined the Executive Committee of the ACDA Board of Directors, hosted again in New England, and stayed connected with this Association for nearly two decades. How fortunate am I.

We are an organization where everyone wins: students, faculty, hosts, colleges and universities, and the art form itself – amazing. Moving into our 2017-18 season of conferences, in my last year on the Board of Directors, I am joyfully anticipating the connections we will make and the inspiration we will all find. I am richer because of every connection with ACDA and every opportunity to be in dance with our ACDA community. I know that you too will be enriched by the conference you attend and by each ACDA experience that follows. I wish everyone an amazing spring 2018 conference and abundant, rich moments of inspiration.



*William*

finishing up the artistic business of 2017, and hope to come in contact with you as we move into 2018.

*Andy*

Andrew Vaca  
President, ACDA

William Seigh  
Past President, ACDA



## 2018 Regional Conferences



### MEETING CONFERENCE DEADLINES

*so very, very important*

We cannot overstate the importance of meeting deadlines for conference planning. Please help your conference coordinator plan the best possible conference.

#### December 15, 2017:

- Payment in full to hold registration and adjudication spots
- Early Registration ends & Late Registration Fees apply

#### Please check your regional conference web site for these additional deadlines:

- Teacher/Research/Presentation Info
- Musician Info
- Adjudication Program Info
- Informal Concert Program Info
- Technical Info & Forms
- Arrival Info
- Updated Participants' Names and Info

### *Bring One, Bring All*

Several regions still have openings for both adjudication slots and participant registration.

Haven't registered yet? Don't miss out on the opportunity for the unique opportunity of attending an ACDA regional conference this spring.

Have more students and faculty who would like to attend? To see if your region is still accepting registrants, [click here](#).

Looking for more information on ACDA policies and guidelines? Click here to visit the ACDA website's ["For Conference Participants: Documents and Downloads"](#)



**UPDATING REGISTRATION ALERT:** If when trying to update your registration you get an error message saying the Faculty Rep is missing required information, go into DETAILS for the Faculty Rep and answer all required fields. You must do this to make *any changes* to your registration.

# Conference Happenings From Coast to Coast in 2018



*Relationships that last a lifetime*

Get registered for what many students (and faculty) have expressed as  
*"Life Changing!"*



*13 conferences getting ready for you*

The new year begins with the Baja conference in January, followed by the New England conference in February. March will be our busiest month with 10 conferences being hosted between March 2-27. Conferences end in April with the South conference, then it is off to the National College Dance Festival held at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. from June 6-9, 2018.

Around the country

**BAJA:** California State University, Dominguez Hills has planned an exciting conference that will feature three special events: Dance for Camera Showing, Dance Research Presentations and Site-specific Improv Jam. Baja will kick off the conference season with a January conference.

**CENTRAL:** The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's is embracing the theme of ***Embodied Entanglements: Porous Borders, Innovative Traditions, Knotted Choreographies***. The conference focuses on each unique body speaking multiple languages from varied historical, cultural, and aesthetic lineages. Teachers are encouraged to present material in classes and presentations that address the histories, choreographies, cultural phenomenon, and more that inform perspectives on dance.

**EAST-CENTRAL:** Ohio University in Athens is once again hosting for the region. In addition to classes and concerts, the conference will offer the special event of a site specific work with Jesse Baker

**MID-ATLANTIC NORTH:** West Chester University's theme of ***Moving Reflections*** encompasses the multiple formats of stage, film, site and written work that today's dance artists use to reflect upon and foster change within our current cultural climate. We encourage attendees to explore the roots of issues such as cultural appropriation, racism, immigration, identity and global exploitation through the history of dance and the current language being used to activate the next generation of dance artists. The conference will offer a guest workshop with Donald C. Shorter Jr, a former dancer with Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company; a film showing and talk back; and scholarly and choreography presentations.

**MID-ATLANTIC SOUTH:** Virginia Commonwealth University invites participants to consider the theme of ***Bridging Community*** when preparing for the conference. The conference will celebrate dance as a means of forging empathy and connection through inquiry and effort; and will make space for conversation, dialogue, and difficulty. In the studio, the theater, and the spaces between, we hope new voices will inspire you, and new perspectives open for you. Special events include presentation of Helen Simoneau Danse's Land Bridge and

**NEW ENGLAND:** Boston University conference will focus on ***Dance for Every Body: Inclusion in Education and Performance***. Our goal is to provide a safe and nurturing environment for participants to think and challenge the attitudes that restrict participation in our studios, classrooms, and on our stages. We welcome a healthy exchange of ideas and experiences that can lead everyone to re-imagine how dance can be more readily available, more broadly defined, and an affirmative presence in our institutions and communities.

**NORTH-CENTRAL:** This conference will take place at the University of Wisconsin at Madison—making it five times that Madison has welcomed those in-region and out to the capital city. The conference will focus on dialogue and exchange with informal and adjudication feedback sessions, faculty and student gatherings, discussion panels, and plenty of opportunities for students to experience the wide variety of dance forms from faculty within and outside of the North-Central region.

**NORTHEAST:** Montclair State University will celebrate the ***Past, Present and Future*** of the dance field—from studio training to stage performances, from the ground breaking journey of our dance pioneers, to the up and coming future often seen through the lens of dance in film and media and breathtaking concert dance. We anticipate a conference that represents our disparate cultures and inspires a greater sense of community and forward-thinking. The conference will be jammed packed full of diverse classes, workshops, seminars, film showings, and the simple opportunity to see committed bodies moving through a myriad of spaces.

**NORTHWEST:** University of Colorado-Boulder's conference theme of ***Fuse*** was inspired by the department's commitment to the interrogation of fusion on multiple levels. We want to share our curiosity about the body as it engages with technology, somatics, and the riches of diverse styles from across the globe. Through structured panel discussions and informally, within the halls sharing a meal, we look forward to conversations about the ethics of fusion and what fusion means within dance. Our guest artist, RUBBERBANDance, will open the conference with the company's unique interplay between contemporary dance, Hip-Hop and ballet.

**SOUTH:** Northwestern State University encourages participants to think about reaching past their potential artistically, creatively and technically and embrace our theme, ***Beyond Boundaries***. Dance has no boundaries and can transcend its audience into a world of ingenuity. In today's day and age, it is most important to push past boundaries of cultural and ethnic backgrounds, bringing us together to celebrate dance and the arts.

**SOUTH-CENTRAL: *Everybody Cut Loose!*** Lamar University's Department of Theatre & Dance welcomes you to come dance with us in Beaumont, TX. And yes, dancing is allowed in *this* Beaumont. We will provide a culture enriched conference that will promote multiple styles and genres of dance including teaching and performing guest artists from Taiwan.

**SOUTHEAST:** Coker College will focus on investigating movement from various viewpoints with their theme ***Moving Perspectives***. Classes in technique, styles of dance, modes of composition, and writing and talking about dance will encourage students to see dance in a new light. To highlight our beautiful campus and shift perspectives we will be hosting pop up Site Specific Performances. Our Informal Concerts will be held in a remodeled movie house. The conference will also feature a Faculty Concert to present the wide ranging works of our talented educators and artists.

**WEST:** Interested in shining a focus on the many styles and aspects of Dance, Arizona State University chose ***Spotlight on Dance*** as our theme. In addition to the diverse styles and aspects of dance to be experienced in classes and performances, conference activities will be enhanced by Dance for the Camera/Dance Film Showings and will carry on West's tradition of Dance Battles.

**Welcome New Members and New Staff**

**Meet**





**Christine  
Manor,  
Administrative  
Assistant in the  
ACDA National  
Office**



Every member enriches the ACDA family. We welcome the nine new institutional, three individual and two lifetime members that have joined us this year. We are happy to have you as part of our ACDA.

**BAJA Region:**

- Pacific Graduate Institute (institutional)
- Pierce College (institutional)

**East Central Region:**

- Madonna University (institutional)
- Allison McElfresh (individual)

**Mid-Atlantic North Region:**

- Peabody Conservatory (institutional)
- Wilson College (institutional)

**Mid-Atlantic South:**

- Gerri Houlihan (lifetime)

**Northwest Region:**

- College of Southern Idaho (institutional)

**South Region:**

- Belmont University (institutional)

**South-Central Region:**

- Eastfield College (institutional)
- Emily Davis (individual)

**West Region:**

- Napa Valley College (institutional)
- Lorelei Bayne Yacur (lifetime)
- Jeff Rebudal (individual)
- Sandra Scheuber (individual)

I come to ACDA through the back door of accounting. My professional expertise is as a CPA and I have worked with the current and former ACDA Executive Directors as an accounting consultant though many address changes. The current ACDA address brought the organization to my personal neighborhood, which is also Diane's personal neighborhood. We see each other most weekends at our local farmers market invariably resulting in long chats about ACDA specifically and dance and performance in general. Technical theatre was my first love in college and my husband and I have provided sound reinforcement for many folk music concerts and dances. My tap dancing daughter is a senior dance major and has attended three ACDA conferences. In 2016 I volunteered to work backstage for one day of the National College Dance Festival and thoroughly enjoyed it. In the role of administrative support in the ACDA national office, I am deepening my involvement with ACDA and with dance. It has been a pleasure working with such nice people around the country and I am looking forward to seeing some of you at the National Festival next summer.



ADCA fosters a community and culture of diverse and creative humans.

Diane DeFries, ACDA Executive Director  
Andy Vaca, ACDA President

For more information about ACDA  
[Visit our Web Page](#)



EMPATHY IS SIMPLY LISTENING, HOLDING SPACE, WITHHOLDING JUDGMENT, EMOTIONALLY CONNECTING, AND COMMUNICATING THAT INCREDIBLY HEALING MESSAGE OF "YOU'RE NOT ALONE."

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newsletter editor:  
Debra Wright Knapp  
ACDA VP for Membership

***PLEASE SHARE THIS  
NEWSLETTER  
WITH FACULTY AND STUDENTS***

**We just missed Giving Tuesday.  
ACDA is happy to receive your support  
any day of the week.**

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