

50TH ACDA

Two dancers in maroon tops and light-colored pants are captured in dynamic, mid-air poses against a black background. The dancer on the left has her arms raised and bent, while the dancer on the right has one arm extended forward and the other bent. The lighting highlights their forms against the dark background.

AMERICAN COLLEGE DANCE ASSOCIATION

National College Dance Festival
Meet the Participating Institutions and Artists

Carpenter Performing Arts Center, Long Beach, CA
Friday & Saturday, May 26-27, 2023 @7:30 PM PT
Sunday, May 28, 2023 @6:00 PM PT

Orange Coast College
Photo by Skye Schmidt

Meet the Participating Institutions and Artists

The **Alabama State University**, Department of Theatre Arts, Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance Program (BFA), was inspired by former Dean of the College of Visual and Performing Arts, Dr. Tommie Stewart who formally brought dance to the forefront in 2013. This program's instant success at the university immediately attracted many students from across nations and locally. The BFA Dance Program at ASU is one of only two institutions of higher learning in the entire state of Alabama, and it is the second HBCU in the nation to offer a degree specifically in dance. Since the conception, the BFA Program has created dance concerts for the Eclectic Dance Company, Alabama State University Dance Company and presently offers a Fall and Spring Dance Concert, and Senior Capstone Showcase. In addition students performed in opportunities, such as ASU Fall Convocation, Founders Day Convocation, Connection Day, The President's Gala, CVPA MLK Celebration, ASU Gospel Concert and much more. Learn more: alasubfadance.com

Jerome L. Stigler, currently an Assistant Professor of Dance at Alabama State University, began his training at the Katherine Dunham Children's Workshop and the Center of Contemporary Arts. He has a BFA in Dance from the University of Missouri-Kansas City and an MFA in Dance from the University of Iowa. Mr. Stigler has received scholarships to the Alvin Ailey American Dance Center, Milwaukee Ballet, and American Dance Festival. He has taught and choreographed for numerous schools throughout the United States. Mr. Stigler has performed with Dayton Contemporary Dance Company (DCDC), Albany Berkshire Ballet, Dallas Black Dance Theatre, Florida Dance Theatre, Dallas-Fort Worth Ballet, St. Louis Ballet, Walt Disney World, Deeply Rooted Dance Theater, Douglas Dunn & Dancers, VQ Productions, Mountjoy Productions, Jennifer Muller/The Works and others. Mr. Stigler has taught throughout NYC and danced with the companies of 360° Full Circle Dance Company and The Von Howard Project.

The Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts at **Arizona State University** is built on a dynamic combination of disciplines unlike any other design and arts school in the nation, the ASU Herberger Institute connects, fuses and merges fields. Choose from architecture, art, dance, design, digital culture, film, theatre, music and more, or create your own unique plan of study with our cross-institute degrees, minors and certificates. The School of Music, Dance and Theatre provides an inclusive, stimulating and dynamically diverse learning environment. Our dance degrees focus on contemporary dance forms, including hip hop, Afro-Latin movement practices, contemporary ballet, postmodern contemporary as well as theoretical studies that encourage individual artistic growth and prepare students to become artists and educators of dance. The ASU difference: We are measured not by whom we exclude, but by whom we include and how they succeed.

Tom Bullard is a freestyle dancer based on street styles. He is inspired by all forms of dance, including freestyle/improv. Tom is currently attending Arizona State University and is in his third year as a dance major. Tom Bullard is a North Carolina Native American in the Lumbee Nation Tribe.

California State University, Fullerton Dance Program Mission is to educate, inspire, empower, and motivate our developing artists to achieve excellence in performance, teaching, choreography, advocacy, research, and other dance-related fields; through mindful rigor, to provide students with opportunities to transform into holistic dance artists; to foster a community of artists with a focus on individual advocacy, cultural competence, and lifelong learning; to support and increase student engagement within their local, national, and international communities. The Bachelor of Arts in Dance is for developing artists seeking a broad and rich background in both theory and practice and is designed to foster the skills, understanding, and discipline of developing dance artists. Our faculty are united in their dedication to teaching each student as an individual. Our robust B.A. curriculum includes intensive training in ballet, modern/contemporary dance, and composition through a lens of Cultural Competency and

Advocacy; complemented by improvisation, dance history, kinesiology, pedagogy, Hip Hop styles, African American concert dance history, Jazz, conditioning for performing artists, and yoga. Based on Mindfulness practices, our nurturing, yet rigorous, environment offers dance majors many transformative experiences to develop their unique artistry. Graduating students leave prepared technically and creatively to pursue work in dance and related areas.
<https://www.fullerton.edu/arts/dance>

Sophia Bernardo and Leila Massoudi joined forces to create Lavanertia while at CSUF earning their BA's in Dance. They will graduate in May 2023 and after ACDA Nationals, will take Lavanertia to the DUMBO Dance Festival in New York City. Both Sophia and Leila are looking for jobs, so... @soph_bernardo @leila_massoudi_

California State University, Long Beach offers a holistic approach to the study of dance that integrates coursework in dance history and ethnography, dance science, design and production, and pedagogy with dance-making, physical training (core includes ballet, contemporary African, jazz, modern/contemporary, and street and club dances), and an array of immersive creative and research opportunities. Through these experiences, our faculty equips each of our graduates with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to engage in the dynamic field of dance and to contribute to its vitality as artists, scholars, educators, and advocates. Our faculty and staff are committed to creating an inclusive, student-centered community where students discover educational pathways that reflect and expand upon their creative potential, intellectual curiosity, and career aspirations. CSULB offers five degrees (BA; BS, Option in Dance Science; BFA; MA; MFA) and the new single-subject dance teaching credential, allowing students to define a path best suited to their professional and artistic goals. Within the 90,000 square-foot Dance Center, multiple performance and choreographic opportunities are offered each year including main stage concerts in the Martha B. Knoebel Dance Theater, studio performances, and guest artist classes and residencies that allow students to work closely with renowned

teachers and choreographers.

Tori Cone is a Hawaiian/Filipino dancer who enjoys sharing fluid and organic movement as a performer and choreographer. Tori grew up training with the San Diego Civic Dance Company under the direction of Andrea Feier. In her time at CSULB, Cone has been featured in works by faculty members Rebecca Lemme and Shyamala Moorty as well as guest choreographers Donna Uchizono and Sarah Swenson. With Vox Dance Company, Tori professionally performed with Partch Ensemble in their works “Castor and Pollux” and “Plectra and Percussion.” After graduation this spring with her BFA in Dance, Tori plans to perform in commercial and company work while continuing to submerge herself in her roles as a creator and educator. @_toricone_

The **Emory University** Dance Program creates vibrant explorations of movement for all skill levels, encouraging students to move freely, develop a mindful practice, create original work, and discover interdisciplinary connections. As one of the leading dance programs in the South, we are an incubator for innovative, transformative dance making—fostering each student's creative, intellectual, and communicative powers within the larger context of a liberal arts education. Our program emphasizes the development of artistry, body-mind connections, and expanding body intelligence. The Dance Program fosters an environment of mutual respect and collaboration with the rigor and creativity of studying dance. A diverse and inclusive learning environment reinforces community building. The opportunities to connect and collaborate on campus and in Atlanta help us understand each other and develop the empathy that is needed in today's world. Emory Dance presents a wide range of public programming each year, including performances, lectures, master classes, and workshops. The Emory Dance Company is a pre-professional opportunity for students to create and perform faculty and guest artist works and choreograph new group work. Our engagement with local, national, and international dance artists and scholars has a transformative impact on Emory students. Learn more at dance.emory.edu.

Julio Medina is a Chicano artist from LA. His work focuses on the metaphysics of dance, considering resilience, connection, and restoration. Medina is an Assistant Professor of Dance at Emory University in Atlanta. Medina's work has been presented at The New Dance Alliance Performance Mix Festival in Brooklyn (2017), the ConderDance Festival in Tempe, AZ (2018), and the American Dance Festival Alumni Concert (2018). Medina earned his MFA at UCLA's Department of World Arts & Cultures/Dance. Medina toured with David Rousséve/ REALITY, in the evening-length work Halfway to Dawn. When not teaching or performing, Medina practices yoga and boxing.

Located just outside of Washington, D.C., **George Mason University** School of Dance offers professional preparation for a career in dance. Multiple performance and choreographic opportunities are available each semester, supported by a challenging composition curriculum and intensive faculty mentorship. Our dancers have been privileged to perform the work of Camille A. Brown, Lar Lubovitch, Robert Battle, Rafael Bonachela, Mark Morris, Ulysses Dove, Alejandro Cerrudo, Yin Yue, Doug Varone, Ivan Perez, and many others. Our mission is to prepare our dancers for a life in the field—to be a participant, a leader, and to be of service to our art form. Learn more about us at www.dance.gmu.edu.

Shaun D'Arcy's performance career includes dancing with companies such as BalletMet and Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet. Her choreography has been presented nationally and internationally at venues such as the Joyce Soho Theater, Ailey Citigroup Theater, The Bonnie Bird Theatre (UK), The Robin Howard Theatre at The Place (UK), and the Kennedy Center, amongst others. Shaun holds a BFA in Dance with Honors from New York University Tisch School of the Arts, an MA In Choreography with Distinction from the Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance in London, and an MFA in Visual and Performing Arts with a concentration in Dance at George Mason University. Shaun currently serves as a full-time faculty member in the School of Dance at George Mason University and has held previous academic appointments at the University of California, Irvine and the University of Utah.

The Department of Theatre and Dance at **Gustavus Adolphus College** involves students in creative inquiry, inventive collaboration, and skillful expression of ideas in order to prepare them for lives of leadership, service, and excellence in the arts, culture, and business of the future. Majors are encouraged to immerse themselves in the history, theory, and literature of their art form in order to develop individual identities as artist-thinkers. We believe that dance is a vital component to a liberal arts education, as it has historical and cultural significance. Students learn to see dance contextualized by an expanded worldview, realizing that the medium of dance is a powerful vehicle for expression personally, socially, and politically. Highly trained and experienced faculty mentor students within the department. We currently have five active dance faculty members with expertise in modern dance, jazz, ballet, global dance forms, choreography, dance theory, dance composition, history, and somatics. Guest artists have included Stephan Koplowitz, Keith Johnson (Keith Johnson/Dancers), Karla Grotting, Stuart Pimsler, and Marciano Silva dos Santos. While a significant core of students pursue a dance major or minor, we also have a committed group of dancers who are not majors and study a variety of disciplines.

<https://gustavus.edu/theatre-dance/>

Jill Patterson received her MFA in Modern Dance from the University of Utah. She was honored as Dance Magazine/ACDA National Outstanding Student Performer for her performance in work by Natosha Washington at the Kennedy Center. Jill has been on faculty at Gustavus Adolphus College since 2012; she teaches all levels of Modern Dance, Scientific and Somatic Foundations of Movement, Composition, and choreographs on the student company. Her work has been selected on numerous occasions for the Gala Concert at the ACDA regional conference. Jill has danced with Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company, Nikolais Dance Theatre, Raw Moves Dance, and Christopher Watson Dance Company, and has performed throughout the US, France and Spain. Her choreography has been performed in Illinois, Minnesota, Missouri, Utah and Wisconsin. Jill has taught, among other places, at St. Olaf College, and the University of Utah. She is a certified Pilates instructor in Minneapolis.

The dance degrees at Jacksonville University provide excellent programs of study in dance with the infusion of a strong liberal arts education. The BA in Dance provides a broader liberal arts education while the BFA in Dance provides pre-professional training of intense dance study which prepares the student for a career in dance and dance-related fields. Dance training includes dance techniques, creative compositional courses, historical and theoretical thinking, multi-performance opportunities, and aesthetics, all taught by an outstanding faculty with both professional and academic credentials. Jacksonville University's Master of Fine Arts in Choreography is a two-year low-residency program that nurtures the development of rigorous and refined relationships between three aspects of creative production: stimulus, practice, and analysis. The MFA program is geared toward artists in transition and engages with the low residency portion during the summer term. Graduate students will work one-on-one with Jacksonville University faculty to expand their choreographic practice during the non-residency portion of the two-year program. Guest residencies are a strong part of all three dance degrees, allowing students to work with professional dance artists in the field. Jacksonville University Department of Dance is an accredited member of the National Association of Schools of Dance. <https://www.ju.edu/dance/undergraduate/index.php>

Currently a MFA Candidate at Jacksonville University, **April Henehan**'s first professional experience came at the age of 16 performing for "Jacksonville Symphony's: First Coast Nutcracker." Earning undergraduate degrees from Florida State University & Jacksonville University, her early professional experiences continued with companies: Ka'Mia Contemporary Dance Theatre & A Rhythm Nation, as a semi-finalist on Season 4 of "So You Think You Can Dance," and BRAVO TV's "Step It Up & Dance." Performance credits includes works by Demetrius Klein, Douglas Gawriljuk, Yanis Pikieris, Ronen Koresh, Michael Foley, Mia Michaels, Adele Myers, Eddy Toussaint, Kavin Grant, Cathy Young, Alyn Cassal, Bill Evans, and Amanda Coogan. Choreographic credits include Dance Teacher Magazine, Candice Glover, Jacksonville University, Lindenwood University, and Dance Ireland. April is a '2022 Ann & Weston Hicks

Choreography Fellow' with Jacob's Pillow, an Adjunct Professor at Jacksonville University as well as the director of the Creative Dance Ensemble at Douglas Anderson SOTA.

Modesto Junior College is a 2 year community college that offers an AA Degree in Dance that is located in the Central Valley of California. Kim T. Davis is the Director and only full time Professor of Dance at MJC. The dance program offers 2 performance pathways that align with the MJC Perceptions and Innovate Dance Companies for non-declared and declared dance majors. Dancers perform in 2 to 3 different productions as year. Course offerings at MJC include World Dance, Choreography, Movement for the Performing Arts, four technique levels in Ballet, Modern, Jazz and Hip Hop and Rehearsal and Performance. MJC has been an ACDA member since 2001. In 2017 MJC was invited by ACDA and Jacob's Pillow to perform Kim T. Davis' piece "Vanishing at the Waters Edge. MJC has hosted ACDA 3 times, once with San Jose State University. MJC is excited to host the ACDA West Region once again in 2025.

Kim T. Davis is the Director of Dance at Modesto Junior College, located in the Central Valley of Ca. Ms. Davis received her BA in Dance from UCSB and her MA in Dance from CSU Long Beach. As a former 2 term ACDA board member representing the West Region Ms. Davis is honored to participate and present her work at the 50th Anniversary of the ACDA 2023 National Conference. In 2017 Ms. Davis' work "Vanishing at the Water's Edge" was selected to represent the West Region at Jacob's Pillow and perform on the Inside/Out stage! ACDA continues to enrich the lives of MJC students year after year! Thank you, Diane for being a fierce and passionate leader for so many!

The Department of Theatre & Dance at **Montclair State University** has trained dancers and performing artists, educators, and arts managers for more than 50 years. Our location just 14 miles west of Manhattan puts students minutes away from Broadway productions, world-class dance performances, and internships. Our Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) and Bachelor of Arts (BA) programs prepare students for

careers as performers, teachers, director/choreographers, and backstage specialists.
(<https://www.montclair.edu/academics/dance/?>)

Miguel Miranda (Lima-Perú), was invited to work as an apprentice with the Ballet San Marcos Dance Company. He started his professional training as a scholarship student at the Ballet Hispánico School of Dance. He graduated from Montclair State University (May 2023) with a BFA in

Dance and his choreographic works have been performed at the Alexander Kasser Theater, Koresh Dance Company, Mark Morris Dance Center, The Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) Animation Festival 2021 and the American College Dance Association Northeast Conference 2023. Miguel has performed works by Ohad Naharin, Frederick Earl Mosley, Stefanie Batten Bland, Yusha-Marie Sorzano, Gregory Dolbashian, Joshua Manculich, Dolly Sfeir among others.

The **Ohio State University** Department of Dance's mission is to be an exciting and diversified dance program that is defined by a varied and dynamic blend of culturally pluralistic contemporary physical practice, creative practice, embodied theory, dance film and integrative technological approaches. As a community of diverse individuals trained on a common nexus of inquiry- the rich and complex phenomenon of dance- we strive to foster an intellectually broad and deep appreciation of the role that dance plays in human cultures around the world while ensuring our students are competitive in the current job market. The department recognizes a responsibility to build public understanding and appreciation of dance as a diverse creative, cultural, and educational expressive artform. A commitment to cultural, racial, and ethnic diversity is reflected throughout the curriculum and in recruitment of faculty, students, and staff. We are committed to academic and artistic excellence, inclusive diversity, freedom of expression, anti-racist activism, social transformation, and civic responsibility.

Bessie Award winning choreographer Abby Zbikowski (she/her) creates contemporary dance works that pay homage to the effort of living, tactics of survival, and the aesthetics produced as a result. She is the recipient of a “Choreographer of the Future” award from Dance Umbrella UK and is a 2020 a United States Artists Fellow. Abby is currently an Associate Professor of Dance at The Ohio State University and has taught at the Academy of Culture in Riga, Latvia and at Festival Un Pas Vers L’Avant in Abidjan, Ivory Coast. Her company, Abby Z and the New Utility, has been presented by Jacob’s Pillow, American Dance Festival, Wexner Center for the Arts, 92nd Street Y, Fisher Center for the Arts at Bard College, Dance Place, DC, among others. Her most recent work, “Radioactive Practice,” was named one of the Best Dance Performances of 2022 by The New York Times.

Since its origin in 1962, **Orange Coast College's** Dance Department has enjoyed a national reputation for quality, creativity and a comprehensive curriculum with courses in a variety of dance styles. Students seeking to be either professional or recreational dancers receive training from instructors who excel in their dance/ somatic disciplines– Ballet, Modern, Contemporary, Hip Hop, Jazz, Tap, Conditioning, Yoga, Pilates, Latin styles, Flamenco, Middle Eastern, African, and Polynesian. We promote high artistic and technical standards for both the beginner and advanced dancer, and offer a diverse array of career advancement and enrichment opportunities. Students may earn an Associate of Arts degree in Dance, or Certificates of Achievement as a Dance, World Dance, Pilates Mat or Comprehensive Pilates Instructor or in Commercial Dance. Others transfer to area BFA programs. OCC dance students have several opportunities to perform each semester in our 916–seat Robert B. Moore Theatre in works choreographed by faculty, students, and renowned guest artists. They also perform in festivals and invitationals throughout Southern California and participate in ACDA’s annual Baja conference. For more information

https:

//orangecoastcollege.edu/academics/vpa/dance/index.html

Born in the Philippines and raised in Southern California, **Mike Esperanza** has established himself as a sought after teacher and choreographer. With a BFA in graphic design from CSU Fullerton, his approach to visual construction influences a unique movement orchestration on stage. His works have been commissioned by Chapman University, Loyola Marymount University, UNLV, Cal State Long Beach, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, Orange Coast College, and Utah Valley University. In 2005, with the "Dance: Creation for Performance" grant presented by Dance/USA and the Irvine Foundation, BARE Dance Company began. Mike was a finalist at the Palm Desert Dance Under the Stars Choreography Festival in 2006, 2008, 2009, winning in 2010. Seven of his choreographic works have made ACDA regional gala appearances; 3 performing at the National Gala at the Kennedy Center in D.C. and now at in 2023 at the Carpenter Center.

Located in the heart of downtown Riverside, California, **Riverside City College** serves 30,000 students annually, offering more 100 programs of study, including career certificates, associate degrees, transfer programs for students planning to attend four-year colleges, and universities and continuing education for people in all stages of life. Minority enrollment is 79% of the student body at RCC. It strives to improve the social and economic mobility of its students and communities by being ready to meet students where they are, valuing and supporting each student in the successful attainment of their goals and promoting an inclusive, equity-focused environment. RCC has a strong reputation for career education. Many students, especially those who are already in the workforce, attend RCC to gain certification in a specialized skill. RCC is known as one of the top schools of Nursing in California, and is highly recognized for programs In A course in dance entrepreneurship offers an introduction to dance company and studio administration. Studies in dance history and theory examine the vast richness of dance from a historical perspective and provide a strong foundation in critical and creative thinking. A capstone seminar offers a culminating experience for students to further research an area of personal interest. Students have opportunities to

perform, choreograph, and to audition for choreographic residencies with renowned performing arts, culinary arts, automotive technology, cosmetology, and computer information systems. For more information on Riverside City College, please visit www.rcc.edu.

Rosa Rodríguez-Frazier is an educator, dance-maker, and performing artist based in Riverside, California. As a first-generation Mexican American woman artist, she values “movement” as a means to wrestle with and rejoice in her Mexicanidad. Her movement aesthetic and choreographic interests are rooted in a mix of soulful Contemporary and Latin social dance forms approached by “experimental” dance-making processes and Post-Modern frameworks. Frazier utilizes movement as a physical practice to create avenues for joy, well-being, community cultivation, and resistance, when needed. Co-director of Primera Generación Dance Collective, Frazier is an Assistant Professor of Dance at Riverside City College and co-director of the A.B. Miller Conservatory of Dance program in Southern California. She is a board member of Show Box L.A., a non-profit organization based in Los Angeles, CA; and board member of the Latina Dance Project, a cultural non-profit corporation- originators of the BlakTinx Dance Festival.

The music and dance department at **Salem State University (MA)** offers a bachelor of arts in dance that provides students with a comprehensive liberal arts education in the field of dance. Students study a range of dance techniques: modern, hip-hop, ballet, improvisation, as well as rotating topics in dance (tap, jazz, flamenco, tango, West African dance forms, anatomy and kinesiology for dancers, dance movement therapy, etc.). Dance composition and ensemble courses develop skills in choreography and performance. Courses in dance pedagogy provide a solid foundation for dance instruction. A course in dance entrepreneurship offers an introduction to dance company and studio administration. Studies in dance history and theory examine the vast richness of dance from a historical perspective and provide a strong foundation in critical and creative thinking. A capstone seminar offers a culminating experience for students to further research

an area of personal interest. Students have opportunities to perform, choreograph, and to audition for choreographic residencies with renowned guest artists throughout the year. In addition to classes that are open to all students, the dance program offers a BA in dance, a dance minor, and a certificate in dance education. www.salemstate.edu/academics/college-arts-and-sciences/music-and-dance

Sarah Soares (they/them) is a queer dance major, psychology minor, and is a 2023 Center for the Creative and Performing Arts Creativity Award recipient at Salem State University. "Petri Dish" is Sarah's second solo they have created, which stemmed from an idea that came to them in the shower at a very low point in time. Just as our showers can be comforting and cleansing, they are also a place of vulnerability. Sarah's first solo, titled "Retreat", was performed at the 2021 American College Dance Association New England conference at Middlebury College.

The Department of Dance at **Sam Houston State University** delivers a dynamic, challenging education that integrates creativity, performance, and scholarly pursuits designed to prepare each student for a 21st century career in dance. We have exceptional facilities, including a dance theater, four spacious studios, a costume shop, Pilates studio, and dance technology lab. Our robust performance calendar includes twelve fully produced concerts each academic year. The department's highly dedicated dance faculty bring the expertise of their professional performing careers and choreographic portfolios to the classroom. Exciting guest artists and choreographers enhance the students' education. The BFA in Dance provides intensive study in contemporary, partnering, ballet, and jazz techniques; abundant performance opportunities; innovative choreographic exploration, including the integration of media into the creative process; and a solid academic grounding in coursework. The MFA in Dance integrates creativity, performance, and scholarly pursuits. In addition to rigorous studio experience with substantive choreographic and performance opportunities, the program includes pedagogical, theoretical, and research orientations to

dance as an art form. Assistantships are available. A returning professional track is available for qualified candidates.

Andy Noble is Co-Artistic Director of NobleMotion Dance and a Professor at Sam Houston State University. He also serves as the Associate Artistic Director of the Dance Gallery Festival and is a faculty member at Dance Italia. Houston Press recognized Andy as Houston's 100 Most Creative and he has received numerous grants and commissions for his choreography. Most notably, he worked with Academy Award winner John Ridley to create original choreography featured on the Emmy Award Winning ABC TV show American Crime. He has choreographed for Dallas Black Dance Theatre, Repertory Dance Theatre, and Bruce Wood Dance to name a few. Andy's work with NobleMotion has also been critically recognized and presented at venues such as Boston's Institute of Contemporary Art, Wolf Trap, and The Kennedy Center. NobleMotion Dance has been awarded "Houston's Best Dance Company" three times and listed in Dance Magazine as one of Houston's "A-list" dance companies.

In the Dance Program at **San Diego State University**, our dances are inspired by explorations, experiences, and engagement with our ever-changing world. We honor our lineages as we embrace unfamiliar territories. Our program is a laboratory for embodiment, integration, and conscious action: an ecosystem where emerging artists PRACTICE, RELATE, MANIFEST, and ARTICULATE with depth and permeability. In our academic and practical approach, dance is personal, physical, social, and political. These elements combine to create an environment where dance education can be transformational. Our curriculum fosters collaboration and responsive leadership, preparing young artists to excel in dynamic, self-authored careers. At the heart of this radical and rigorous program is our shared love of dancing.

Jess Humphrey makes dances to leverage the profound healing potential of human beings moving together, attending to space, time, and bodies, and deepening their relationships with each other and the world through the tenderness and vulnerability elicited by the creative process. Her collaboration with Eric Geiger spans 13 years, multiple contexts, and

thousands of hours in the studio and she has co-created several evening-length dances with Deborah Hay, Gabor Tompa, Sara Shelton Mann, Guillermo Gomez-Pena's La Pocha Nostra, and LIVE over the past 20 years. A Registered Somatic Movement Therapist (RSME), she holds an MFA in dance from the University of Utah, is certified in Laban Movement Analysis (CLMA) and Integral Facilitation. She continues to learn through teaching at SDSU where she researches the roles of dancemaking and performance in healing and human development and works with the Prison Arts Collective to bring arts education to incarcerated participants. www.jesshumphrey.com

The St. Olaf College Dance Department, located in Northfield, MN, offers a nurturing environment in which to pursue a BA in Dance with training, performing, and choreography opportunities in Modern/Contemporary dance, West African dance, Hip Hop dance, Ballet, International dance, Ballroom, Jazz dance, and Tap. The Dance Department graduates an average of 8-10 dance majors a year and serves over 500 students yearly. At St. Olaf students study dance as a vital community and artistic practice. Partnering with the college's liberal arts curriculum and building interdisciplinary relationships, the dance program encourages exploration of complex ideas through investigation, knowledge, and expression of the body. Our program combines embodied practice with critical thinking to root dance forms from around the world in their culturally, socially, and politically informed values. This combination is a fundamental means of self-discovery, understanding other dancing bodies, and advancing an anti-racist, equitable, and just community. The Dance Department at St Olaf College is a charter and accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Dance. Dance scholarships are available through auditions. <https://wp.stolaf.edu/dance/>

A Creole Native of Guyana, South America, Tyreis Hunte is a movement/ multi-disciplinary artist majoring in Dance and Asian Studies at St. Olaf College on stolen Dakota land. They are grateful to have exchanged with an array of global communities and companies, having lived in East and

Southeast Asia, Europe as well as throughout the Caribbean and Americas. After moving to the United States, they have premiered and collaborated in spaces all across the country including The Cowles Center, Afoutayi Dmaco Dance Company, BRKFST Dance Company, Zenon Dance, Northfield Dance Academy, and St. Olaf's Companydance. They collaborated with other artists including Arneshia Williams, Donna Mejia, Melissa Teodoro, Cudjoe Emmanuel, Heather Klopchin, Anthony Roberts, Marciano Dos Santos, Djenane Saint Juste, and Mathew Janczewski. Under the direction of Rennie Harris, They are a member of the inaugural cohort of the Rennie Harris University Street Dance C1 Advanced Certification. Tyreis will also be continuing to do so post-graduation as they join the University of Colorado Boulder in their Masters in Fine Arts in Dance Program.

The graduate program at **SUNY Brockport** offers a 60 credit MFA in Choreography and Performance completed in 3 years of full-time study where you will deepen your studio practice, choreographic voice, and research perspective. The undergraduate program offers BFA, BA, and BS degrees. The modern-dance—centered program includes a variety of approaches to modern and contemporary dance, as well as studio courses in African dance and drumming, ballet, contact improvisation and partnering. Producing six student-dance concerts a year in two dedicated dance theater spaces, Brockport students have numerous choreography and performance opportunities. Sankofa, the African Dance and Drum Ensemble, offer opportunities for students to perform on- and off-campus in faculty and guest-artist works. Dancers are encouraged to participate for a semester in one of the department's international programs. SUNY Brockport offers renewable undergraduate and graduate scholarships, and dance awards granted to outstanding students. Competitive Graduate Assistantships are available for domestic and international candidates. The Department of Dance is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Dance. For more information please visit <https://brockport.edu/dance>.

Kaley Pruitt is an Assistant Professor at SUNY Brockport. She received her MFA from University of Wisconsin Milwaukee & her BFA from Florida State University. She founded her dance company Kaley Pruitt Dance in 2011 in NYC & has created over 25 works for the stage & screen. Pruitt's been commissioned by Repertory Dance Theatre, Wasatch Contemporary Dance Company, Fem Dance Company, Simantikos Dance Chicago, Illinois Shakespeare Festival, & Illinois State University. The company has been presented by: Austin Dance Festival, Simantikos Dance Chicago, Milwaukee Fringe Festival, WIM Dance Festival, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee, Dixon Place, Green Space, Triskelion Arts, Manhattan Movement & Arts Center, Chez Bushwick / CPR, Built on Stilts, Suite Summer Festival, Ketchum Arts Commission, & Movement Research. Kaley was formerly faculty at Illinois State University, Illinois Wesleyan University, & Steffi Nossen School of Dance. @kaleypruittdance, www.kaleypruittdance.com

The School of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies (TDPS) at the **University of Maryland (UMD)** offers undergraduate and graduate programs that rank among the top in the country. The school creates a rich and productive learning environment that is part of a larger, comprehensive liberal arts experience provided in part by the College of Arts & Humanities and with the resources of a public research university. TDPS encourages the development of inclusive and diverse cultural perspectives. Students develop fundamental life skills, intellectual curiosity, creative thinking, problem solving, embodied learning and emotional intelligence—creatively applied to advance human welfare in all its dimensions. Alumni transition to a rich variety of career pathways within and outside of theatre and dance professions, working as arts managers, choreographers, directors, performers, designers, lawyers, business entrepreneurs, professors, published authors, teachers and consultants. The school serves locally and nationally as a model for collaboration, innovation and entrepreneurship. (<https://tdps.umd.edu/>)

Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico, **Javier “Javi” Padilla** is a movement based artist. Padilla's vocabulary stems from deep improvisational research involving writing, movement, sound creation and more. His choreographic work has been shown at Judson Memorial Church, The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the Inside/Out Stage at Jacob's Pillow among others. His choreographic project, The Movement Playground, has been awarded multiple residencies and commissions through New Dance Alliance, Gibney Dance, Mana Contemporary in collaboration with Gibney, and a two-time CUNY Dance Initiative Awardee with Hostos Performing Arts Center. Padilla has danced professionally with Falcon Dance and Summation Dance based in NYC.

The **University of Michigan** is a public research university in Ann Arbor, Michigan and resides on the traditional Territories of the Council of Three Fires -- the Mississippi Ojibwe, Odawa (Ottawa), and Potawatomi (nłshnabek). Founded in 1817, the university is the oldest in Michigan, consisting of nineteen colleges, and offering degree programs at the undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral levels in over 250 disciplines with nine professional schools and affiliates with two regional universities located in Flint and Dearborn. The Department of Dance is housed within The School of Music, Theatre & Dance, the university's undergraduate and graduate college for the performing arts. With over ninety dance majors, dance minors and graduate students, the Department of Dance celebrates risk taking, practical and theoretical research, scholarship, wellness, and entrepreneurship. It offers a combination of world-class dance training within a leading research university while providing diverse perspectives that integrate practice and theory to prepare dance artists to become performers, choreographers, scholars, and professors in higher education. For more info:

<https://smtd.umich.edu/departments/departments-of-dance/>

Jack Randel is a recent graduate of the University of Michigan with a BFA in Dance. He's from Farmington Hills, MI and has been training in competition dance styles since the age of eight. In his four years at Michigan he's performed works by Shannon

Gillen, Jessica Fogel, Jillian Hopper, Nicole Reehorst, Leah O'Donnell, and J'Sun Howard. He's also performed and choreographed with local dance groups RhythM and Dance 2XS Michigan, tap and hip hop teams respectively. Last summer, he made his professional theatre debut in Mamma Mia at the Encore Theatre in Dexter, MI and this past spring he played the role of Larry in MUSKET's production of A Chorus Line. His passion in dance encompasses theatrical and experimental dance (ex. Martha Clarke's Garden of Earthly Delights) and he loves playing the marimba.

Situated in the extraordinary arts environment of the Twin Cities, **University of Minnesota Dance** offers B.F.A. and B.A. degrees and a Dance Minor focused on contemporary dance in global contexts. The curriculum integrates rigorous liberal arts academics with Dance coursework that fosters an intensive creative process, offers extensive technical training and performing experience, and promotes rigorous intellectual practices. Contemporary dance training is explored through wide array of aesthetics, drawing from the facultys range of professional experience and creative and scholarly research. The program is strengthened by visiting artists and scholars of national and international stature through the Sage Cowles Land Grant Chair.Dance Program faculty and staff, along with several invited guest artists, mentor students toward their professional goals. Several faculty actively create and produce dance for their professional companies based in the Twin Cities. The metropolitan campus facilitates collaboration with local arts organizations and professional bridging experiences for students. The University of Minnesota Dance Program is committed to turning out versatile, thinking dancers, and visionaries who are ready to take on several different types of challenges, prepared to do so with refined creativity and critical abilities, and a curiosity to engage in dance beyond its physical characteristics. dance.umn.edu

Elayna Waxse (she/they) is a Minneapolis-based choreographer who prioritizes storytelling, emotional attunement, identity and risk taking in their work. They facilitate an environment of empathy, compassion and witnessing in 20

which artists feel empowered to bring their full social and cultural identity to the work. Elayna has been commissioned by Minnesota Dance Theatre, University of Minnesota, Threads Dance Project, and St. Paul Conservatory for Performing Artists among others. As a performer, Elayna has worked with TU Dance, Minnesota Dance Theatre, Black Label Movement and Cie. Ismael Ivoat ImpulsTanz Vienna International Dance Festival. They were part of the original creation team of Come Through, a collaboration between TU Dance and Grammy-award winning musical group Bon Iver, which was performed at the Hollywood Bowl and the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Elayna is a 2019 recipient of a McKnight Fellowship in Dance.

University of New Mexico, Department of Theatre and Dance, Flamenco Concentration within the Dance ProgramThe University of New Mexico is the only institution of higher education to offer both undergraduate degrees and graduate degrees with concentrations in flamenco in the United States. The UNM Dance Program houses a Visiting Guest Professor Line in Flamenco, offering its students and Ensemble dancers unmatched access to the world's most foremost artists in flamenco and Spanish Dance.

<https://finearts.unm.edu/academics/departments/theatre-dance/dance/>

The National Dance Award Winner (Spain) **Marco Flores** (Arcos de Frontera, Cadíz, Spain) is one of flamenco's truly unique choreographers. Flores has created numerous original shows for his own company and choreographed for and collaborated with artists such as Olga Pericet, Daniel Doña, and Manuel Liñán, and the National Ballet of Spain. Flores is a renown performer being showcased in top international dance festival and theaters around the world. Marco Flores was in residence at UNM in the Spring of 2022.

In the School of Dance at the **University of North Carolina at Greensboro**, we believe that the field of dance needs many different kinds of professionals with diverse strengths and points of view. Within the UNC System, the UNCG School of Dance Is

positioned as the training ground for the thinking dancer, who values the rigors of both praxis and scholarship in dance studies and celebrates a variety of approaches to dancing, dance making, and dance as a way of knowing within cultural and social contexts. Through our comprehensive curricula of Dance undergraduate and graduate degrees and teaching licensure preparation programs, we foster inclusive learning and intellectual curiosity that is informed by our engagement with cultural diversity, community outreach, and global issues related to dance. <https://vpa.uncg.edu/dance/>

Aria's Narrative was created by six University of North Carolina (UNCG) BFA Dance Choreography and Performance majors in professor B.J. Sullivan's Choreography III: Group Forms dance composition class in Fall 2022. These students, **Dasia Amos, Emily Dumoneaux, Grayson Kelsh, Clara Kennedy, Laniya Smith, and Shannon Soles** exemplify the collaborative spirit and creative curiosity fostered in the UNCG School of Dance.

At the **University of Oklahoma**, classes include beginning to advanced levels in ballet and modern dance technique, pointe, men's class, composition, Pilates body conditioning, pantomime, ballet and modern dance repertoire, pas de deux, teaching methods, improvisation, choreography and a complete series of courses in dance history. We provide live accompaniment for all technique classes. Our students come from across the United States and around the world. They enjoy a wide spectrum of performance experiences, including fall and spring productions in our home theatres. Additional performance opportunities come from regional and international tours, operas, musicals and interdisciplinary collaborations. visit dance.ou.edu

Maggie Schoenfeld is a modern dance performance major from Van Buren, AR. Credits: OU University Theatre; FACET; MoMA Dolly; Near Light; Bothy Breed; F MMXX; Ashes, Ashes, Am I there Yet?; Cloven Kingdom; ACDA Screendance '21:Choreographer/Dancer, Falling.

Randi Tucker is a modern dance performance and management major from Welch, OK. Credits: OU University Theatre: Mariposa Nocturna; Falling Angels; Near Light; Bothy Breed; Dance No. 5; Choices; Twin Flames; Joke no More; ACDA Screendance '21: Choreographer/Dancer, Falling.

The University of South Florida's Dance Program focuses exclusively on undergraduate dancers. The B.F.A. in Dance Performance focuses on the professional development of dancers and choreographers. The B.A. in Dance Studies enables students to explore the relationship between dance and another academic area in addition to completing a rigorous dance core. Additionally, there is the Certificate Program in Dance Medicine and Science and the open-access Dance Minor. The USF Dance in Paris Summer and Semester programs are one-of-a-kind opportunities to interact with a world-class faculty of working creative artists and experience the City of Lights from the point of view of a dancer. USF's nationally and internationally recognized dance faculty are artists with extensive professional experience as performers, choreographers, researchers, and teachers. Guest Artists include Jennifer Archibald, Stephanie Martinez, Joshua Peugh, Marc Brew, Wanjiru Kamuyu, Robert Moses (Robert Moses' Kin), Alonzo King (LINES Ballet), Bill T. Jones, Batsheva Dance Company, Maurice Causey, Doug Varone, and Trisha Brown, among others. Learn more about USF Dance here:<https://linktr.ee/usftheatreanddance>

Shelby Russ is originally from Tampa, FL, and has been dancing for over 18 years. She attended Howard W. Blake High school, a performing arts school in Tampa, FL, where she first began her choreographic training. While at Blake, she choreographed her first group piece entitled Flutter, while also working with guest artists including Jon Ole Olstad, Duncan Cooper, and Layla Amis. Shelby will be receiving her BFA in Dance Performance from the University of South Florida (USF) in Spring 2023. While at USF, Shelby has worked with faculty and guest artist choreographers, including Jennifer Archibald, Joshua Peugh, Michael Foley, Paula Nunez, Bliss Kohlmyer, and Andee Scott. Her choreography has been selected for the USF Student Dance Concerts in 2022 and 2023. Her BFA senior solo was selected to represent USF at the 2023 ACDA conference. Upon graduating, Shelby plans to continue her journey in choreography.

The priority of the **University of Texas at Austin Dance Area** is to cultivate artist-citizens committed to leadership, community, equity and social justice. To that end, we are committed to cultivating a rigorous curriculum that draws upon multiple disciplinary and artistic approaches while encouraging students to position their own work and development within broad social contexts. UT Austin offers a BFA in Dance, a BA in Theatre and Dance, a BFA in Dance Education and an MFA in Dance and Social Justice. Our curriculum is designed to develop concrete skills in performance, choreography, and pedagogy and to instill an intellectually broad and deep appreciation of the role that dance plays in human culture around the world while ensuring our students are competitive in the 21st century field. All dance faculty have active creative research profiles and the student company, Dance Repertory Theatre, regularly hosts national and international guest artists. We are committed to building community, academic excellence, diversity, freedom of expression, activism, social transformation and civic responsibility. <https://theatredance.utexas.edu/>

Ryan Johnson (@rkj.dance) is an award-winning artist, scholar and living archive who translates and synthesizes global rhythms to the human body creating sonic and kinetic immersive performance experiences. In 2015, he created SOLE Defined Percussive Dance company in service to BIPOC artists, technicians, and communities across the mid-Atlantic region. Johnson's credits include Gregory Hines, Marvin Hamlisch, Ayodele Casel's *Diary of a Tap Dancer*, BB&T Zelle Commercial as composer, choreographer, and on screen talent, *Step Afrika!*, STOMP, Cirque Du Soleil, Broadway's *After Midnight* Tour, *Rose Rabbit Lie*, and *The Washington Ballet*. Internationally he has premiered works at Tap in Rio Festival, The International Festival de Cajon, The International Body Music Festival and others. He curated a series of live conversations discussing the climate of our nation and dance community featuring panelists covering topics including nonprofit operating procedures, business practices, philanthropy, touring expectations, presenting limitations, and pedagogy. For more information: www.soledefined.com

The School of Dance at the **University of the Arts** encourages undergraduate and graduate students to boldly take risks in the process of transforming ourselves, each other, and by extension, the world. A large school situated within a small university for the visual and performing arts in Philadelphia, the School of Dance reimagines the depth and rigor of a discipline-based dance conservatory by pursuing a pedagogy that interweaves practice, theory and the development of critical thinking to actively motivate students and the development of their research. The School of Dance relies heavily on collaborative, interdisciplinary networks of artists, mentors and scholars to foster critical conversations situated around the meanings, purposes, and potentialities of dance and performance in contemporary society. This program mobilizes curricular structures and strategies to deepen collaboration and exchange across a range of dancing practices and modalities. The School of Dance seeks to open up student-driven pathways to expand the ways students access and think about the practices and techniques of making and performing dance - valuing their skills and committing to the urgency of their ambitions as capable of experimenting with and showing us ways of being of the world yet to be imagined.

Zoe Miller is a performer, collaborator, and choreographer who began her training at Charlotte Performing Arts Academy, in North Carolina. She has served as an assistant for DanceMakers Inc., a dance convention that tours nationally providing classes from acclaimed choreographers such as Josh Smith, Kathryn McCormick, and Robert Roldan. Miller has choreographed works paying homage to ancestral lineage and highlighting the black body for many black studios in the Southeast, including Charlotte Performing Arts Academy. Currently, Miller is pursuing her BFA in Dance at University of the Arts, under the leadership of Donna Faye Burchfield, where she studies modern, jazz, contemporary, hip hop, and ballet techniques as well as choreography. At University of the Arts, she performed in works by noted choreographers Sidra Bell, Juel Lane and Mark Caserta along with numerous student works. Outside of college, she has worked with artists such as Tommie- Waheed Evans in the Philadelphia-based company WaheedWorks.

Dance at the **University of Utah** has a rich history and ongoing legacy. One of the first US universities to offer degrees in dance, the U has one of the largest and longest-standing dance programs in the country, celebrating nine decades of successful alumni. Accredited by the National Association of Schools of Dance, the U is an incubator for dance education and artistic exploration. Students in the School of Dance enjoy renowned faculty, world-class facilities, unique and plentiful performance opportunities, and a range of scholarly and creative curriculum. The rigorous coursework includes various dance techniques, choreography, Screendance, music, anatomy, pedagogy, history, and dance studies. The student body is comprised of approximately 200 undergraduate majors and 15 graduate students seeking professional quality dance training and meaningful educational experiences in the following degree programs: MFA in Ballet, MFA in Modern Dance, BFA in Ballet (optional teaching emphasis), BFA in Modern Dance, BFA in Modern Dance Teaching, Certificate in Ballet Studio Teaching, and a Minor in Modern Dance. Admission is competitive.

Kellie St. Pierre is an educator, creative and performing artist based in Salt Lake City, UT. Originally from CA, Kellie received her B.F.A. from the University of California. Some of her professional work includes Donald McKayle's Étude Ensemble, additionally, five seasons of choreographing and performing nationally and internationally with DIAVOLO | Architecture in Motion. She also performed with DIAVOLO among the top 10 contestants of America's Got Talent Season 12. Since, she has been invested in education, several choreographic and creative projects, and screendance creations. Receiving her Master of Fine Arts from the University of Utah, with a certification in Screendance, her research has been in sustainable creative work environments, risk, and dancer mental/spiritual wellness. Kellie is an advocate for wellness in the community through the teaching of yoga, meditation, and Sugarfoot injury prevention—attending to dancers in Los Angeles, Salt Lake City, and the wider international dance scene.

The **University of Vermont (UVM)** is located in Burlington, Vermont, a New England university city situated on the shores of

beautiful Lake Champlain. Small, yet vibrant, the Dance Program is housed alongside Art, Music, and Theatre in UVM's School of the Arts, part of the larger College of Arts & Sciences. Dance officially began as the newest academic arts program in 2006 and has steadily built a comprehensive and diverse curriculum with the fastest growing arts major (BA) and minor at UVM; both are open to all UVM students. Focusing on dance's potential as a radical and inclusive art form, the program grounds itself in contemporary practices that engage in the celebration of movement, rigor of choreographic inquiry, and transformation of perspective. Students are offered a variety of styles and approaches, including contemporary dance, improvisation, composition, site performance, ballet, hip hop, African, Brazilian, interdisciplinary offerings, and much more. Studios and classrooms emphasize collaboration and community; students engage with faculty, guest artists, and each other in dynamic exploration and experimentation of ideas and movement, resulting in a wide variety of performance events and research projects. Since its inception, UVM Dance has been a proud institutional member of ACDA. <https://www.uvm.edu/cas/theatreanddance/uvm-dance-program>

Paul Besaw is Professor of Theatre & Dance at The University of Vermont (UVM), starting in 2006 as the founding faculty member of UVM's Dance Program. He teaches courses in choreography, performance, dance history, among others, and has received UVM's Kroepsch-Maurice Award for Excellence in Teaching. He has also served as Visiting Professor in the School of Drama at Korea National University of Arts in Seoul. Paul is a choreographer and theatre-maker focused on the development of original performance that integrates collaboration across art forms; his work has been presented throughout the US and abroad, at a wide variety of venues and sites. He has served on ACDA's Board of Directors since 2007, currently on the Executive Committee as Vice President for Nominations & Elections. Paul received his BA in Theatre from Keene State College and his MFA in Dance from The University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

The **University of Wyoming** Department of Theatre and Dance is dedicated to preparing students for meaningful lives as artists, scholars, and educators by providing a rigorous, vibrant, creative, and academic environment in which we mentor them for an artistic life in a diverse world. We promote artistic curiosity, exploration, innovation, experimentation, risk-taking, and cross discipline collaboration as we inspire our students, and the people of Wyoming to reflect, think, and engage in the issues of our life and times. We stage a wide range of high-quality performances, workshops, conferences, and events that showcase our students, faculty, and guest artists' talents and creative work. We bring the world of theatre and dance to Wyoming, and Wyoming to the world.

Aaron M. Wood (he/him) is a choreographer, educator, dancer, and mixed-media designer. He danced with Utah's Repertory Dance Theatre for seven seasons where he performed an array of works by modern dance legends including Cunningham, Gotheiner, Ito, Limón, Sokolow, and others. As a freelance dancer, he's performed the works of Alwin Nikolais with Ririe Woodbury Dance Company. Aaron's choreography is wide-ranging, and his works, including over 30 original pieces and 5 evening length concerts, have been performed nationally and internationally, from Salt Lake City to Beijing, China. Recently recognized by the Wyoming Arts Council, Aaron received a 2022 Wyoming Arts Council Performing Arts Fellowship award. Aaron's research interests include the intersectionality of gender with social and political landscapes, as explored through the integration of multi-media elements and diverse movement modalities. Aaron is an Assistant Professor of Dance at the University of Wyoming. www.aaronmwood.com

The mission of **Utah Valley University** Department of Dance is to foster academic and artistic excellence through an intensive technical and reflective study of dance. Anchored in a common core curriculum with several areas of emphasis, our program provides a rich and stimulating environment where students cultivate their technical, aesthetic, creative, and scholarly potential. We value superior teaching, which promotes dance as

an artistic and cultural expression that has the power to enrich and transform the individual, community, and society.

Holly Perkins grew up in Lehi, Utah and began her training at In Motion Dance Studio at the age of seven. Her passion for dance was sparked and she began teaching Modern and Jazz at In Motion Dance Studio when she was 15, teaching there for many years after. She has been recognized for her work in many choreography festivals including the Utah Shakespeare Festival, where she received the 1st Place Award for her work for 5 consecutive years. She was also featured as a guest artist with Repertory Dance Theater at the Regalia 2021, and is currently teaching Modern/Contemporary Fusion and Adult Combination at Nate Anderson Productions and the Provo School of the Arts. Holly graduated in May 2022 from Utah Valley University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Modern Dance, along with an Associates in Science in University Studies.

The Dance Program at **Washington University in St. Louis** offers B.A. Major in Dance, Dance Minor, and two-year, fully funded Master of Fine Arts degrees. In both studio and classroom work, the dance curriculum approaches dance as a global phenomenon with culturally specific and individual differences in expressive form. Dance courses at all levels and annual performance opportunities are open to all WU students. Dance technique and composition classes encourage students to develop their capacity to move and think creatively and to recognize movement as an essential element of one's identity. Dance majors, minors and graduates take a curriculum of technique, composition, improvisation and history/theory. Other studio courses include contact improvisation, jazz, hip hop, musical theater, Dunham technique, and West African dance, as well as courses emphasizing somatic training, such as Alexander Technique. Seminars in dance history, theory, and cultural perspectives complement studio practice. For more information visit our website at <https://pad.wustl.edu/>

Amarnath Ghosh is an accomplished performing artist (Bharatnatyam and Kuchipudi) choreographer and Art Educator from Chennai, Tamil Nadu. He is an alumnus of the Kalakshetra College of Fine Arts and Kuchipudi Art Academy

Chennai. Currently, he is pursuing his MFA in Dance at Washington University in Saint Louis. He is an exponent of four dance styles of dance- Bharatnatyam, Kuchipudi, Manipuri, and Kathak. He is a recipient of the National Scholarship for Kuchipudi, from the International Cultural Ministry, New Delhi, Nadana Sigamani Award- Cambodian Government Ministry of Culture, Nritya Kala Acharya from Lasya Priya Fine Arts (Karlsruhe, Germany), and A recipient of awards such as Nritya Kanak Mani Saman from the International Dance and Music Festival, New Delhi. Most recently he performed for National Dance Week in Saint Louis.

At Webster University's Department of Dance, our esteemed faculty are student-focused to ensure high-quality learning experiences that transform students for individual excellence. The Webster Dance curriculum combines rigorous and versatile technical training with extensive opportunities for creative exploration to prepare students for 21st-century careers in dance as performers, choreographers, educators and scholars. In addition to our BFA and BA programs, our students have many on-campus performance opportunities throughout the academic year. Specially designed dance-focused study abroad programs allow students to deepen their understanding of dance as a global art form. Recent Webster Dance guest choreographers include Abby Z and the New Utility, Ballet Hispánico, Cleo Parker Robinson, Gregory Dawson, and the José Limón Dance Company. Webster Dance alumni have performed with Nederlands Dans Theatre, Ballet Rambert II, Visceral Dance Chicago, Diavolo, Eisenhower Dance Detroit, RAWDance, The Big Muddy Dance Company, among others.

www.webster.edu/dance

Haley Rhiney, a native of St. Louis, Missouri, began her dance training with the traditional West African dance company, Afriky Lolo. While dancing with Afriky Lolo, she had the opportunity to train at the respected Ecole de Danse et d'Echange Culture (EDEC) in Ivory Coast and perform for the founder Rose Marie Guiraud. Haley received a BFA in Dance with an emphasis in modern from Webster University. While attending Webster, she worked with artists including Maggi Dueker, Beckah Reed, Betsy

Brandt, Michael Uthoff, and Xi Zhao in both classes and performances with the Webster University Dance Ensemble. Additionally, Haley participated in residencies with The Limón Dance Company, Ballet Hispánico, Abbi Z and the New Utility, and Prince Lyons. This past summer she was privileged to study abroad in Ghana and learn traditional Ghanaian dance at the University of Ghana. Haley is thrilled to be joining Resilience Dance Company next season.

The Department of Dance at Western Michigan University is dedicated to preparing students for active, vibrant careers in dance and related fields. Offering both BA and BFA degrees, students tailor their studies to their career goals. Students can easily combine the flexible BA with a second major or minor to explore multiple interests. The pre-professional BFA degree prepares students for active careers as dance artists. At WMU, students study ballet, jazz, and modern technique to advanced levels; because of this tri-focus emphasis, WMU dancers are known for their strong technique, versatility, and ability to adapt quickly to today's contemporary styles. At WMU, students learn from faculty with professional backgrounds who care passionately about teaching and receive personalized feedback on their artistic development and career goals. Students also learn from today's leading dance professionals through master classes, residencies, and opportunities to perform professional choreography. The Great Works Dance Project is a hallmark of the department in which students rehearse and perform works by world-renowned choreographers – such as this work “Family of Jazz” by Kimberly Cooper, which was staged in residency at WMU with Decidedly Jazz Danceworks in October 2022. www.wmich.edu/dance

Kimberley Cooper is the Artistic Director of Decidedly Jazz Danceworks (DJD) in Calgary, Canada. She has been a part of DJD for over three decades, as a dancer (1989–2013), Resident Choreographer/Artistic Associate (2002–13), as Artistic Director (2013–). In 2002, Cooper was named Emerging Artist of the Year by Alberta Dance Alliance and has since created over 20 full-length works on DJD as well as numerous shorter pieces. She has created and performed in 20 countless Independent 30

projects locally and internationally. She has served as an Artist in Residence during Calgary as Cultural Capital of Canada in 2012 and was awarded Dance Victoria's Crystal Dance Prize in 2014. Cooper has contributed chapters to the books; *City of Animals*, (University of Calgary Humanities Dept. 2017); and *Rooted Jazz Dance: Africanist Aesthetics and Equity in the Twenty First Century* (University Press of Florida 2022). She was Artist in Residence with Fall for Dance North (Toronto 2020-2022).

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