# **ACDA East-Central Conference Teachers' Bios & Class Descriptions**

(Alphabetical by Instructor)

#### Josh Anderson

Josh began dance studying ballroom dance. He received his BFA in Dance from University of Utah in 2008 and is currently working towards his MFA at Ohio State University. He has performed in Florida with Surfscape Contemporary Dance, Utah with Stephen Koester and Eric Handman, New York with Gogo Vertigoat, California with Number9, and Chicago with The Seldoms, The Inconvenience, Jessie Youngblood, Khecari, and Kate Corby and Dancers. Mr. Anderson has been presented through Dances for \$9.99 (Chicago), The Fly Honey Show (Chicago), Links Hall (Chicago), and The Philadelphia Fringe Festival (Philadelphia). His recent work has been in Screendance creating Bedrooms with Alex Thompson and My "Best" Friend, According to Him with Logan Hall. Both shown at film and comedy festivals throughout the US and Europe.

Class: Contact Improvisation (All) this class students will learn to roll, fly, fall (safely), sustain, and surrender to another person's weight - as well as their own - an open jam will be included.

#### **Adrienne Ansel**

Adrienne Ansel is a first-year Graduate Student at Bowling Green State University working toward a Master's degree in Kinesiology. Adrienne was an involved dancer as a BGSU undergrad as an active member, performer, and choreographer for University Dance Alliance, and was an active performer for the BGSU Dance Repertory Ensemble. Adrienne's choreography has been featured across the BGSU campus in more than fourteen productions. Adrienne is currently developing a dance work for the Dance Repertory Ensemble Winter Dance Concert. Adrienne's interests in dance revolve around emotive performance, dynamic group work, and artistic exploration within contemporary dance

Class: Artistic Exploration in Contemporary Dance (All) This class is designed to encourage self-expression and self-reflection through contemporary dance. Dancers will explore new movement patterns through improvisation techniques and progressions prior to learning a combination. The combination will explore various movement textures through dynamic changes of fluidity, expression, and speed of movement. Come ready to explore, create, and grow as an artist!

## **Corrinne Bailey**

Corrinne Bailey graduated Summa Cum Laude with a BFA in Dance from Ohio University in 2017. Originally from Columbus, Bailey now resides in Cincinnati and is a second- year company member with MamLuft&Co. Dance. She is passionate about teaching dance as well as Pilates. Bailey teaches dance in a studio setting and for public school programs, teaching a variety of genres, including Modern, Ballet,

Creative Movement, and Hip Hop. Bailey is also a certified Pilates instructor--she has completed the Pilates Comprehensive Certification and is now teaching all over Cincinnati. Bailey has had many opportunities to perform with MamLuft&Co. Dance. She also continues to make her own work through Fellow Collective, a project-based dance group. Bailey was recently accepted into the 2019 Ohio Dance Festival, held in Columbus, OH, and the Area Choreographer Festival, held in Cincinnati, OH, where she will be performing her own works.

Class: Improvisation (All) A class of extemporaneous movement, Corrinne will guide you through an exploration of art created by the present moment. The journey will begin with a personal exploration, isolating every part of the body. We will then explore further and deeper to test our limits. We'll let gravity take over and learn how to fall. You will find a deeper connection between your mind and body, allowing yourself to release control and respond to the activity around you. By the end of class, you will have a heightened sense of awareness and freedom of movement.

### Melinda Blomquist

Melinda Blomquist is an Associate Professor at the Community College of Baltimore County. Melinda teaches Modern Technique, Improvisation, Choreography and other courses; she also serves as the Artistic Director of the CCBC Dance Company. Melinda is on the Board of Directors for Deep Vision Dance Company. Prior to coming to CCBC Melinda was a dancer and choreographer for several companies in Alaska, Arizona, and Texas; and on the Dance faculty of the University of Texas Pan American. Melinda has received a Master of Arts in Dance Pedagogy from Brigham Young University and Master of Fine Arts in Dance Choreography and Performance from the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee.

Class: Modern Dance (Intermediate/Advanced) A Modern Dance class focused on exploring opposition that will allow you to discover possibilities in your range of movement choices. The class will be focused on helping the dancer to find expression in a phrase of movement through their physical potential, encouraging exploration and freedom within the form and structure of the phrase. Phrase and warm-up material will cover many different dynamics, energies, and rhythms. We will fly into the space as we become grounded in the earth.

Class: Change/Transform (All) Exploring movement that changes and transforms as we play with elements of movement and play. Come for a fun class exploring how to change and transform and you might even walk away with the next "great" idea for a new piece of choreography.

## **Charli Brissey**

Charli Brissey is an interdisciplinary artist, scholar, and teacher whose research integrates studies in choreography, feminist theory, technology, and science. Brissey has been creating performances, installations, experimental videos, and written scholarship for over fifteen years, and has been presented in various galleries, conferences, film festivals, and performance venues nationally and internationally. Brissey is currently an Assistant Professor in Dance at the University of Michigan. They received an MFA in Dance from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, as well as an MFA in Kinetic Imaging from Virginia Commonwealth University.

Class: Int/Adv Modern Technique (Intermediate/Advanced) Through improvisational scores, set sequences, and partnering, this class will investigate the relationships between weight, momentum, speed, control, listening, risk, presence, touch, and musicality. Class warm-up is rigorous and ongoing, building endurance, upper-body strength, and stamina as we develop strategies to use our breath and energy efficiently. We will work with partners to address specific sensations and/or alignment principles through touch.

Class: Improvisation for Precarious Times This class utilizes improvisational movement practices to unearth strategies for how to negotiate uncertainty, contradiction, and unpredictable moments in time. How can we use dance as a platform to learn how to be responsible and engaged citizens in an ever-changing and precarious social, political, and ecological climate? Through individual and collective movement scores we will use the brilliant intelligences of our bodies to research the ways in which we navigate power structures, confusion, anxiety, prescribed systems and patterns, desire, nervousness, and excitement all at the same time. We will examine how to sustain our practice when a system fails or breaks down. What do we do when we aren't quite sure what to do next? We will move and be moved and dance hard and think critically.

#### Julie Brodie

Julie Brodie, Professor of Dance at Kenyon College, earned her M.F.A. at the University of Illinois, completed Labanotation studies at Ohio State University, and is a Certified Movement Analyst. Brodie co-authored the book Dance Science and Somatics and was a Fulbright Scholar in Latvia (2016) and in Egypt (2010).

**Class: Pool Ballet (All)** Pool ballet modifies traditional ballet exercises for practice in the shallow end of a swimming pool. Pool ballet is valuable in terms of conditioning and injury rehabilitation, as well as being a fun way to find release and muscular balance within dance technique!

**Class: Workshop on "The Charleston Ballet" (All)** Jerome Robbins choreographed "The Charleston Ballet" in 1945 for The Broadway show "Billion Dollar Baby." A brief introduction to the dance and its history will be provided, and participants will learn an excerpt from this theatrical, energetic piece.

### Shih-Ming Li Chang

Shih-Ming Li Chang, Chair and Associate Professor of Theatre and Dance at Wittenberg University, earned her BA in Dance at the University of Chinese Culture, Taiwan, and an MFA in Dance at Smith College. She teaches dance history, theory, ethnology, and technique classes, and recently co-authored a multimedia educational resource, Chinese Dance: In the Vast Land and Beyond (Wesleyan University Press). Chang's latest project with co-author Lynn E. Frederiksen is a college-level World Dance textbook, commissioned by Human Kinetics Publishing. Chang has given lectures and demonstrations on Chinese dance and culture at numerous events abroad and in the U.S.A. She has served on the National Board of Directors of ACDFA and is currently serving on the Ohio Alliance for Arts Education board.

### **Rosely Conz**

Rosely Conz is a Brazilian dancer, choreographer and educator. She has an MFA from the University of Colorado at Boulder, an MA in Performing Arts and BFA in Dance by the University of Campinas-Brazil. Since 2005, Rosely has been performing and choreographing professionally for dance companies both in Brazil and in the USA. Her works combine live performance and dance for the camera, as well as pedagogical research. Presently, Rosely is on a tenure-track position at Alma College in Michigan where she continues her research on how to use dance to get involved on issues of foreignness, belongingness, and immigration.

**Class: Afro-Brazilian Dance (All)** This class will introduce the movement vocabulary, traditions, and practice of two Afro-Brazilian Dances: Samba and Capoeira.

## Balinda Craig-Quijada

Balinda Craig-Quijada, Regional Director/ACDA East-Central Region. Craig-Quijada is Professor of Dance at Kenyon College and chair of the Department of Dance, Drama, Film. She teaches contemporary modern dance, history, composition and ballet. She received a B.A. in Religious Studies from the University of Iowa and an MFA in Choreography from The Ohio State University, where she was on the faculty from 1998-2000. She is the author of the book Dance for Fun!, a children's introduction to dance. Craig-Quijada is currently East-Central Regional Director for the American College Dance Festival where she has been on the Board for thirteen years.

### **Alexandria Davis**

Alexandria Davis is a dancer, choreographer and dance teacher from Gainesville, Florida. Alexandria received her Associate of Arts degree in dance from Santa Fe College in 2011, where she was a member of the Dance Theater of Santa Fe (DTSF). Alexandria received her BFA in Dance Performance at University of Florida in April of 2017 along with a certificate in Dance in Medicine. She has taught and choreographed for companies and organizations across North Central Florida. A dance activist and social justice advocate dedicated to community engagement and performing arts enrichment, Alexandria is currently pursuing her MFA in dance choreography at the University of Michigan.

Class: Introduction to Dance Line Technique This class features a fusion of Jazz funk and Marching Band Auxiliary movement techniques derived from Historical Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU). This class features a rigorous warm-up focused on skeletal alignment, flexibility and core conditioning. Following the warm-up participants will be led through several across the floor combinations that focus on performance, artistry and ensemble syncopation. The class concludes with center floor practice where participants will have the opportunity to learn and perform several dance sequences in a call and response fashion. Participants are encouraged to wear Jazz shoes or Character shoes.

**Class: Southern Hip-Hop** Traditional Hip-Hop class structured with rigorous warm up, across the floor exercises and center floor choreography. The class features a mix of old and new school street styles commonly found in the "Dirty South" or southern states of Florida, Georgia and Louisiana.

Participants are encouraged to wear sneakers and comfortable clothing that allows freedom of mobility.

#### **Emma Davis**

Emma Davis is a lecturer at University of Michigan-Flint where she teaches a variety of courses in technique, performance, and dance culture. She is certified to teach Giordano jazz based in Chicago. Davis also performs as a company member with Detroit modern dance company, DDCdances, and is a back-up dancer for singer Tunde Olaniran.

Class: Giordano Jazz (Intermediate) Tap into the energy, the excitement, and a sense of discovery that is inherent in American Jazz Dance. Giordano Technique initiates from the core and results in movement that is grounded, athletic, and powerful. Giordano Technique lives through a constant flow of energy outward, always emanating from within.

### **Diane DeFries**

Diane DeFries is Executive Director of the ACDA where she oversees the presentation of regional conferences throughout the country and produces the National College Dance Festival. Prior to her position with ACDA, Diane served as chair of the Department of Dance and Drama at SUNY-Potsdam. She has also been on the dance faculties of George Washington University, University of Maryland-Baltimore County and the University of Maryland-College Park and has served on the Professional Advisory Committee of the Dance Notation Bureau. Diane holds her graduate degree from Ohio State University and teacher certification in Labanotation from the Dance Notation Bureau.

**Class: Introduction to Labanotation (All)** In this movement workshop, participants will quickly learn the basics of Labanotation, the system developed by Rudolph von Laban for precisely recording movement. Participants will translate symbols into movement, culminating in reading and dancing a short, fun dance. The class requires active participation. Open to all who are interested.

#### **Lenard J Foust**

Lenard J Foust is a Masters of Fine Arts candidate (University Graduate Student Instructor) at The University of Michigan located in Ann Arbor, Michigan. He holds a BSED in Dance Education from Central Connecticut State University. Lenard has recently toured as a dancer with the Ultimate Michael Jackson Experience performing since June 1st, 2016. Throughout the time of his undergraduate college career, he has worked with Elisa Monte Dance Company, Jennifer Muller/ The works and the Albano Ballet Dance Company. Lenard is currently studying popular commercial dance styles, street jazz and jazz funk in LA and China. Lenard teaches commercial dance styles currently at the University of Michigan. Lenard would like to continue pursuing training and teaching to solidify his artistry.

Class: JAZZ FUNK Intermediate level course that builds on the skills in urban/commercial-style Hip Hop moves and rapid level changes for floor work. Choreography is provided and students will be able to develop according to individual style, ability, and personal interpretation. The history of this genre is examined through a commercial dance lens and elements of Hip Hop dance, as well as the role of dance in Hip Hop culture. Focusing on popular commercial dance styles such as Street

Jazz and Jazz Funk. Students attending class should have taken some form of prior Hip Hop/Jazz training/classes.

### **Amy Gammon**

Amy Gammon was raised and trained in St. Louis, Missouri, where she holds a strong passion for dance, teaching, and choreography. She has been on faculty with Performing Arts Centre for eight years teaching tap, lyrical, jazz and hip hop. she holds a BA in Dance and a Master of Arts in Teaching with an emphasis in Dance from Lindenwood University. Amy has taught for Tap The Map, Greater St. Louis Cecchetti Committee, has set choreography for several area dance teams and is also an adjunct professor at Lindenwood University. In addition to her position as a director with Beyond the Stars, she is also on faculty teaching tap and hiphop. Amy is a member of Dance Masters, a graduate at DMA's Teachers Training School earning the Bachna Scholarship, and serves on the board of directors for The DANCE CO of St. Charles.

Class: Lyrical/Contemporary (Intermediate/Advanced) This class will consist of improvisation exercises and a dynamic combination with emotion. Come have some fun!

## **Stephen Hadala**

Stephen participated in summer ballet intensives, on full scholarship with, The Chicago National Ballet Forum, Dance Theatre of Harlem, and the School of American Ballet. In the winter of 1997, he was accepted as a full-time student with the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre School. In the spring of 1998, he was offered a corps de ballet contract with Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre (PBT). Stephen had a fulfilling sixteen season career with PBT. He performed numerous solo and principal roles in the company's eclectic repertoire. Some of his favorites include, "Elegy Boy" in Balanchine's Serenade, "Dracula" in Ben Stevenson's Dracula, "Stomper" in Twyla Tharp's In The Upper Room, "Dr. Coppelius in Terrence S. Orr's Coppelia, "Johnny O" in Paul Taylor's Company B, and "Mitch" in John Neumeirer's A Street Car Named Desire. Stephen has performed throughout the United States, Germany, Austria, Israel, and Japan. In addition to his role as a dancer for PBT, Stephen also served as the union delegate for the American Guild of Musical Artists (AGMA) for ten years. Upon retiring from the stage in 2014, he was invited to join the Marygrove College Dance Department as an adjunct instructor, and was promoted to full time faculty in January of 2017. Stephen is currently an Assistant Professor of Dance at Madonna University.

Class: Pirouettes & Allegro (All) Pirouettes & Allegro is the ballet version of a traditional "leaps and turns" class. Session will include a short but thorough barre, pirouettes en dehors/en dedans, traveling pirouettes, grande pirouettes, petite and grand allegro.

# **Monique Haley**

Monique Haley is an accomplished dancer, choreographer, and dance educator. After enduring nine memorable performance years with River North Chicago Dance Company, she performed regional musical theater houses, in shows such as. On the Town, The King and I, and Aida, at the Marriott Theater in Lincolnshire, IL and Drury Lane Theater in Oakbrook, IL. Monique was also a featured dancer in The Jungle Book, under the direction of Mary Zimmerman at the esteemed Chicago Goodman Theater. Ms. Haley was the recipient of the 3Arts award in 2012, for her choreography and dedication to the art of dance in the Chicago-land area. Her choreography for dance companies such as River North Chicago, Ballet Nebraska, Chicago Rep. Ballet, Dance Works Chicago, Muntu African Dance and collegiate commissions with Western Michigan University, Marygrove College, and the Univ. of the Arts has gotten rave reviews. Currently, she is on the dance faculty at Western Michigan University, teaching jazz dance curriculum and working with the musical theater performance students. In May of 2018, Monique officially earned the rank of Assistant Professor after receiving a Masters of Fine Arts in Dance degree at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Class: Contemporary Jazz (Advanced) African Cultural Values and principals are the frameworks inside of a contemporary jazz dance space, creating a unique ethos within a dancing community. This Contemporary Jazz class consists of grounded and athletic movement that inspires the dancer physically and taps naturally into the emotional nature of the artist. Expect syncopated rhythms, undulation, isolations, and active use of plié; weight shifting, and stylized/technical movement. The dancer will be encouraged to achieve not only a strong focus on style and technique but also, to investigate and celebrate the freedom of expression through the body.

## **Tracy Halloran**

Detroit native Tracy Halloran is a Kresge Artist Fellow in dance and music. She received her B.F.A. in Dance Performance from Marygrove College and her M.F.A. in Choreography from the University of Michigan. A performer, professor, choreographer and rehearsal director, her work has been performed in the DUMBO Dance Festival, Art X Detroit Festival, Detroit Dance City Festival, and American College Dance Association East-Central regional conference. Founder and Artistic Director of ConteXture Dance Detroit, Tracy has also choreographed for the Marygrove College Dance Company, Academy Dance Alliance, Noretta Dunworth School of Dance, Dance Masters of Michigan and more. She is currently an Assistant Professor at Madonna University, on the faculty at Company C Dance Club, and choreographs and teaches master classes all over the country.

Class: Contemporary Jazz (Intermediate/Advanced) A class that combines contemporary modern, lyrical and jazz idioms to create a fun and exciting technique class.

#### **Gina Hoch-Stall**

Gina Hoch-Stall is a Dean's Distinguished Fellow earning her MFA at The Ohio State University and also the Artistic Director of RealLivePeople, a Philadelphia-based dance theater company. Her choreography has been performed across the U.S. and Europe with support from multiple organizations including the Philadelphia Cultural Fund, Fels Foundation, and Puffin Foundation.

Class: Contact Improvisation (All) Co-taught with Josh Anderson, in this class, students will learn to roll, fly, fall (safely), sustain, and surrender to another person's weight - as well as their own - an open jam will be included.

#### **Sean Hoskins**

Sean Hoskins investigates intersections of dance and technology as a choreographer, performer, teacher, and screen dance creator. He studied dance at Middlebury College and has an MFA from the University of Michigan. Sean has presented work in NYC, Detroit, Boston, San Francisco, and the National College Dance Festival in Washington, D.C. He danced with Leslie Seiters and ChavasseDance&Performance, as well as in works by numerous collaborators. Sean has taught workshops and courses at Wayne State University, Oakland University, and the University of Michigan, where he is currently the Dance Technology Coordinator.

Class: Contact Improvisation (All) Melting, supporting, receiving, flying... This class centers around the fundamentals of contact, giving and sharing weight, and making choices within your dances. Exercises will introduce specific contact tools, build toward duets, and more. This class offers a very accessible and unique approach to contact. All levels.

**Class: Compositional Partnering** Using a variety of approaches to working "in relation", participants will explore connection and weight to investigate and create. We will play with structures and learn new tools to call upon as dancers and dance makers.

## **Hung-Sheng Hsu**

Hung-Sheng Hsu is the Assistant Professor and the Director of the Exercise Science Program in the Health, Fitness, and Sport Department at Wittenberg University. Dr. Hsu earned his PhD in exercise physiology from the University of New Mexico. He is a Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist (CSCS) and Certified Athlete/Sports Performance Coach (WSAW-1). His teaching philosophy is to motivate students to understand and apply the scientific theory to real-life scenarios in both athletic performance and health promotion. Before his career at Wittenberg, he was a social worker in Taiwan, a personal trainer in Albuquerque, and a volunteer in Division I strength conditioning program.

Class: Bodyweight Exercises for Muscular Fitness This session is to introduce bodyweight exercises to develop the muscular fitness in upper-, lower-extremities, and core stability. The target population is those with limited resistance training experience. The primary focus are the correct exercise technique and the progression of the bodyweight exercise and intensity for muscular strength, power, and endurance.

# Julius Jenkins "Eclypse"

Julius Jenkins aka, Eclypse is a street dancer professional who resides in Cincinnati, OH. Eclypse has been a street style dancer for almost 2 decades. He has spent these years learning the 6 major street styles from the pioneers and the their students. These styles include, popping, locking, house, krump, breaking and hip-hop. Eclypse has taken street dance to the stage and performed with many national and international

act ie. KRS-ONE, Lupe fiasco, Flux Pavilion, Troy boi and others. He's also creates to performance groups, The Millennium Robots and Heroes Rise Street Dance Experience. His goal is to bring awareness to street dance culture and provide better opportunities to street dance artist.

**Class: Street Dance** This workshop will address the use of the term street dance, break down the difference between the 6 major street styles. Then focus on the street style of hip-hop, its fundamental movement, terminology and cultural history.

## **Sherry Jerome Wilkinson**

Sherry Jerome Wilkinson is a Full Professor of Dance at Eastern Michigan University specializing in ballet technique, choreography, and pedagogy. She has a BFA in Ballet from Texas Christian University and a MFA in Dance from New York University, Tisch School of the Arts. She danced with several professional ballet companies including five seasons with the Saint Louis Ballet. She is certified teacher in the American Ballet Theater National Training Technique up to Level 5. In the past several years, she has intensely pursued Franklin Method Training. She currently is a Franklin Method Level II Instructor and regularly teaches Franklin Method workshops.

Class: Franklin Method Pelvic Power - Faculty Only (All) This workshop focuses on the biomechanical function of the pelvis. Learn about how embodying pelvic function enhances flexibility, jump height, balance, and turn-out in dance students. There will be discussion, ideas for implementation, and exchange in the workshop. Come see how the world renowned Franklin Method might intersect with your teaching. Simple pedestrian movement will be required.

Class: Franklin Method Pelvic Power (All) This workshop focuses on the bio-mechanical function of the pelvis. Learn how to embody correct pelvic function in order to enhance flexibility, jump height, balance, and turn-out. Dancers will also gain greater efficiency, ease, and prevent injuries by this focused exploration of the pelvis. Pedestrian movement will be required.

Class: Intermediate Ballet (Intermediate) Intermediate ballet class focusing on placement, technique, and artistry. Franklin method principles as well as anatomy and imagery are presented in the class.

## **Thayer Jonutz**

Thayer Jonutz, Associate Professor of Dance at Oakland University, is Co-Director of the professional modern dance company, Take Root (www.takerootdance.com). Take Root performed for New Dance for Asia International Festival/Seoul, South Korea, Incheon Yeonsu International Dance Festival/Incheon, Korea, National Theater of Costa Rica, Uferstudios/ Berlin, DSO/The Cube, The Red Bull House of Art/Detroit, RADFest, Harvest Chicago Contemporary Dance Festival, The Music Hall Center for Performing Arts/Detroit, Hamlin Field House Theater/Chicago, Detroit Institute of Arts/Detroit, lectured by invitation for the National Dance Education Organization and The University of Costa Rica. Jonutz is the director and founder of Take Root's Arts Education outreach program, in residence at Oakland Family Services/Pontiac for 2019.

Class: Connect (Advanced) Co-taught by Oakland University Professors, Ali Woerner and Thayer Jonutz, this class (Connect) continues to find a fusion of contemporary modern movements, fueled by partnering and guided improvisation. This class is experimental based with encouraged open dialogue regarding applications of principles, methodologies and "games" as ways to discover effective creative environments. Faculty do not need a partner to attend, but will be paired up throughout the class.

## **Gregory King**

Gregory King received his MFA in Choreographic Practice and Theory from Southern Methodist University and has performed with The Washington Ballet, Erick Hawkins Dance Company, The Metropolitan Opera Ballet, and Disney's The Lion King on Broadway. He has taught master classes and workshops in the U.S. and the Caribbean.Mr. King is also a dance writer whose recent response to the Dancing for Justice Philadelphia event, was selected to be included in the U.S. Department of Arts and Culture's new resource guide, "Art Became the Oxygen."Mr. King is an assistant professor of dance at Kent State University.

Class: Contemporary Horton (Intermediate/Advanced) This high - energy class fuses some of the main principles of Horton, ballet, and other contemporary forms. Dancers will be introduced to phrase works that challenges them, asking them to investigate their sense of physicality, specificity, and complexity through constant movement manipulation. The class requires a high degree of physicality and input from the dancers, encouraging them to execute movement with intention and clarity.

## Kelly Klein

Kelly Klein, PhD, is an activist, performance artist, yoga instructor, and currently a member of the dance faculty at Grand Valley State University. As a movement instructor, she draws from expertise in contemporary dance, Vinyasa yoga, and various improvisational practices to create dynamic, comfortable, and invigorating containers for students to experience enhanced body- and self-awareness and explore their expressive capabilities. Her work has been published in Choreographic Practices and her international ethnographic research has been supported by the Mershon Center for International Security Studies and the International Award for Visual/Performing Arts at The Ohio State University.

Class: Dancing the Elemental Body (All) In this improvisation-based class, we will first warm up with a dynamic yoga-inspired flow in preparation for a long-form improvisation class exploring the movement qualities of water, fire, air, and earth. Coming to a greater embodied awareness of the elements of which we are composed, we will enhance our sense of connection to the planet and one another while training our physical endurance and honing our expressive capabilities.

#### Jeanne Mam-Luft

Jeanne Sopanha Mam-Luft is an inter-disciplinarian-a choreographer, designer, and photographer. She founded MamLuft&Co. Dance in 2007 to help facilitate consistent creation and development of professional Modern Dance in Cincinnati. Over eleven years of directing the

Company, Jeanne has created 30+ works, produced countless events, worked with over a hundred performers, and collaborated with many outside organizations and artists. In 2014, Jeanne was the first and only dance artist to be awarded an Arts Ambassador Fellowship from the City of Cincinnati. Jeanne served on the Ohio Dance Board of Trustees from 2009-2015, is a founding member of the Greater Cincinnati Dance Alliance, was the Assistant Director of Contemporary Dance Theater from 2010-2014, and serves as a grant review panelist for the Ohio Arts Council. In 2017, she secured the only National Endowment for the Arts funding to create new Modern Dance work in Cincinnati since at least 1998. Jeanne holds a Master of Fine Arts in Dance from Texas Woman's University and a Bachelor of Architecture from Carnegie Mellon University. Mam-Luft studied photography and video at Pittsburgh Filmmakers. As a student, she received full scholarships to both American Dance Festival and Bates Dance Festival. Jeanne's work is often inspired by her experiences as an immigrant and a refugee of the Khmer Rouge genocide. CityBeat's Kathy Valin has said, "Jeanne Mam-Luft is a brainy director and accomplished choreographer (and filmmaker), and it shows...Fans will no doubt appreciate the work for the virtuosity and variety."

Class: Modern Dance Technique (All) This class is of a pluralistic style that references traditional and release technique. Warm-up utilizes a long, progressive floor exercise designed to provide a thorough warm-up for the whole body, radiating from the pelvic region. Center and across-the-floor movement focuses on awareness and intention of muscle tone and the consistent use of momentum to drive physicality. Dancers will be challenged with movement that asks for range and full-body connectivity, seeking seamless transitions between contraction, stretch, and release. To find connected movement, Mam-Luft will stress Bartenieff body connectivity patterns (particularly, head-tail, sequential, and cross-lateral patterns), the use of dynamic alignment, and a heightened awareness of weight shifts.

#### Ben Munisteri

Ben Munisteri is a choreographer formerly based in New York City and currently working as Associate professor and director of dance at Alma College, in central Michigan. He has won grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Dance Project, the Jerome Foundation, the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, the New York Foundation for the Arts, and many other funders. His choreography has been presented at the main stages of Central Park SummerStage, Lincoln Center Out of Doors, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, and other venues.

Class: Intermediate Modern (Intermediate) This class focuses on classical American Modern concepts like connectedness, flow, weight transfer, shape, rhythm, and groundedness.

## **Colleen Murphy**

Colleen Murphy currently serves as a fulltime faculty member in the Dance Program at Bowling Green State University. She is also the owner/director of The Beat Dance Company, a private dance studio for children in Bowling Green. Colleen holds an M.A. in Dance Education from the University of Hawaii at Manoa where she studied on a full

tuition scholarship. While living in Honolulu, she performed with the UH Dance Ensemble, Convergence Dance Theatre, and the Hawaii Opera Theatre. Colleen has over 10 years teaching and choreography experience, having instructed young children through adults. She has taught at various private studios in the area, as well as Owens Community College, Toledo School for the Arts, and the University of Hawaii Outreach College.

Class: Rhythm Tap (Intermediate/Advanced) Explore intermediate/advanced level tap steps, tricks, and phrasing based primarily in the rhythm tap/street style. The class will culminate in an upbeat, high energy combination.

## **Tommy Parlon**

Tommy Parlon, a native of Washington D.C., received his M.F.A. in Dance from Arizona State University and his BFA in Dance and Choreography from Virginia Commonwealth University. While in New York City he danced with J. Fregalette Janson Dance, Centaur Dance Theatre, Beyondance Inc! and the Paris based multi-media performance art company FIASCO. Tommy has danced in pieces by Doug Varone, Stephen Petronio, Alvin Mayes, Laura Dean and Elizabeth Streb. His choreography has been commissioned by Incidents Physical Theater NYC, NEW ARTiculations AZ and numerous colleges throughout the United States. He currently serves as The Chair for the Commission on the Arts and Humanities for the City of Takoma Park and as a Board Member representing higher education for the Maryland Dance Educators Association.

Class: Jazz Class (All) The class is based on the tradition of American Jazz and Musical Theatre and my influences are Cole, Mattox, Bennett and Fosse.

Class: Ballet (All) The class is based on applying sound anatomical and kinesiology principals to ballet. My influences are RAD, Vaganova and the teaching of Christine Wright. Musicality and performance qualities are stressed.

**CLASS:** Modern/Contemporary Dance (All) The class utilizes Bartenieff fundamentals, Laban effort and release technique. The class stresses that as dancers we don't have two arms and two legs but four limbs that are all equally expressive and weight bearing. Gymnasts never die-we just become modern dancers.

## **Everett Perry-Johnson**

Everett Perry-Johnson is the Assistant Teaching Professor in Dance and Director of the Ivyside Dance Ensemble at Penn State Altoona. He holds a BA in Dance Performance from Winthrop University and an MFA in Dance Performance and Choreography from New York University. His choreography has been set at Winthrop University, New York University, Manhattan Movement Arts Center, the York County Ballet, Charlotte Dance Festival, the Fieldston School and the Ailey School. Most recently, Everett served as Adjunct Professor for Winthrop University and Professional Hire for Bryn Mawr College in their dance departments.

**Class: Contemporary Fusion (Intermediate/Advanced)** Contemporary Fusion is a lyrical hip hop technique that combines Ballet, Contemporary Modern dance, Hip Hop and Jazz elements.

### Jeffrey Rockland

Kent State Associate Professor, Rockland enjoys helping students excel. A former Soloist with Atlanta Ballet, Universal Ballet, and Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, his approach is shaped by extensive experience in both classical and contemporary ballet. Using connections established while Ballet Master for Les Ballets Jazz de Montreal, Rockland has developed the East Meets West Program at Kent.

Class: Advanced Intermediate Ballet (Intermediate/Advanced) Rockland brings new clarity to petite allegro fluidity and ease by clarifying technique and an exact approach to musicality. This class is for the serious dancer, open to exploring the relationship between technique and artistry.

#### Suwatana Rockland

Suwatana Rockland began her professional career with the renown Patravadi Dance Theatre. This led to her opening a dance studio and production company and extensive contracts for television and stage work including choreographing shows and music videos for some of Thailands top pop stars. Suwatana is completing an MFA in Costume design at Kent State and is Co-Director of the East Meets West Program.

Class: Introduction to Thai Dance (All) Influenced by nature and religion, Thai classical dance gives dancers a grounded yet delicate understanding of their own artistic expression. Come experience a unique class centered around this Southeast Asian classical dance form.

#### Kristi Schaffner

Ms. Schaffner attended the University of Oklahoma as a teaching fellow to receive her MFA in Modern Dance and has a BFA in Dance Education from Kent State University. Kristi has danced professionally in companies based out of Akron, Pittsburgh, Washington DC, among others, and appears and works with Opera and Musical Theater Productions. Outside of CCBC, she directs a children's theater production company, produces choreography for local events, and an educator, she has worked with all ages including specialized programing for young children, professional performers, seniors and a variety of outreach programs.

Class: Modern Dance (Intermediate/Advanced) Dancers will explore the ideas abandon and control as they challenge their technique and performance dynamics.

#### Hannah Seidel

Assistant Professor, Grand Valley State University. New York City performance credits include Tiffany Mills, Mariah Maloney, Erica Essner, David Appel, and Gibney Dance - also offering workshops to domestic violence survivors. Hannah served as Lecturer at Purchase College, Education Programs Coordinator for Dance New Amsterdam, and summer intensive teacher at NYU's Tisch School for the Arts and

Interlochen Center for the Arts. Recent choreography focuses on water awareness in collaboration with musicians from GVSU and the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, new music composers, and the Annis Water Resources Institute. BA Pomona College; MFA College at Brockport; certifications: Pilates, Autism Movement Therapy.

Class: Pilates in Motion (All) OK, so you can do Pilates on the floor. What happens when you stand up? Move around? We will begin with a Pilates mat workout, followed by a lab integrating Pilates techniques into contemporary dance movement.

## **Christeen Stridsberg**

Christeen Stridsberg is an alum of Otterbein where she served as the rehearsal assistant/dance captain to Randy Skinner (42nd St.), was the recipient of the Joanne Van Sant Dance Award, and graduated with Distinction. She has an MFA from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts (Dance Performance and Choreography), where she performed for Second Avenue Dance Company. Chrissy has performed globally, in Japan, Russia, South Korea, and on the high-seas. Her choreography was most recently seen at Weathervane Playhouse. She is a professor at Wittenberg, Otterbein, and The Ohio State University, where she teaches Gender & Performance Studies, Kinesiology, and Dance History and technique; and previously was a Visiting Professor at Kenyon College. This past Spring, she taught for the American College Dance Association/ACDA (formerly American College Dance Festival Association/ACDFA) Central Conference at the University of Illinois. She is the recipient of the Columbus Dance Theatre Fellowship and Greater Columbus Arts Council Professional Development Grant. She is a member of Columbus Moving Company, a Dance and Performance Art troupe in residency at Short North Stage.

Class: Theatrical Jazz (Intermediate/Advanced) Learn fun Broadway style choreography to show tunes with focus on technique and performance. Musical Theatre experience not required. Intermediate to Advanced skill in Jazz & Ballet recommended.

**Class: Improvisation (All)** Modern style guided improvisation class concentrating on use of space and time. Students will create movement scores. All levels welcome. Open jam circle in final 15mins of class followed by a quick question/answer session with the instructor.

#### Janet Strzelec

Janet Strzelec is the Dance Program Chair for Lindenwood University. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Dance with a minor in music, and a Master of Fine Arts in Theatre with an emphasis in Directing with a Musical Theatre emphasis. Professor Strzelec has an extensive history of teaching, directing and choreographing in the greater St. Louis area including work with dance studios, high schools, and professional dance and musical theatre companies.

Class: Acting the Dance (All) This class will be a brief "how to" use subtext in developing the quality of a musical theatre combination.

Class: Contemporary Ballet (Intermediate/Advanced) Ballet class with a mix of classical, contemporary, and improvisational elements and movements.

### Mario Vircha

Mario Vircha is pursuing his MFA in Dance (University Graduate Student Instructor) at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor. He also has an MA in Dance from the National University of Costa Rica and was a formal member of the National Dance Company of Costa Rica from 2010 - 2018 where, he also served as assistant director, choreographer and professor of Contemporary Technique. He has been a guest artist at University of Utah, University of Georgia & University of Michigan, dance festivals throughout the Caribbean, South and Central America and has directed his own choreographic project Mario Vircha Danza since 2011.

Class: Contemporary Floor Technique Floorwork changes the body's relationship with gravity, and requires dancers to navigate between higher and lower levels ("going in and out of the floor") as well as certain more athletic power moves. It allows dancers to increase their versatility and movement efficiency. Relating floorwork to more technical movement may help students understand how to transition to the ground. The class utilizes simple movement patterns that involve breathing, speed and the release of energy throughout the body in order to activate the relationship between the center and the joints, moving in and out of the ground more efficiently by maintaining a centered state.

#### **Brad Willcuts**

Brad Willcuts is a professional director, choreographer, and fight and movement director, as well as Assistant Professor of Musical Theatre and Choreography at Michigan State University. His work as a choreographer, movement director, associate and stage director and fight director has been seen on Broadway, Broadway in Chicago, internationally in Prague at the prestigious Karlin Music Theatre and in numerous regional theaters, including the Tony Award winning Arena Stage in Washington D.C., The Tony Award winning Shakespeare Theatre Company and the Virginia Repertory Theatre.

Class: Hamilton Original Choregraphy - Musical Theatre Dance (Intermediate) Come and learn a segment of Andy Blankenbuehler's original choreography from the song "Yorktown."

**Class: Jazzapalooza! (Advanced)** Get ready to sweat with a strong warmup, a complicated across the floor series and finished with a challenging jazz combination.

Class: Gaga and Improvisational Dance (All) Open up your improvisational skills using some of Ohad Naharin's Gaga movement technique. Class will finish with the creation of a short personal solo combination from each dancer.

### **Robin Wilson**

Robin Wilson has been performing, choreographing and teaching nationally and internationally since the 1980s. She performed in NY for over a decade with several dance companies and was a founding member of Urban Bush Women. She has presented her work/taught workshops at UCLA, Brown University, Northern Colorado State

University, Duke University, New Orleans Dance Festival, BAADASS! Women's Dance Festival, among others. An Associate Professor at the University of Michigan, Wilson holds an MFA in Choreography from Temple University, a BA in Dance from Washington University in St. Louis, and continues to perform as part of Ann Arbor Dance Works and as an independent artist.

Class: Afro-Caribbean Dance (All) Afro-Caribbean dance represents a blending of African and European dance characteristics as they evolved throughout the different islands in the Caribbean. In this dynamic and energetic class, we will focus folkloric and social dances from Cuba and Haiti, as well as elements from the Katherine Dunham technique. All levels welcome.

### Ali Woerner

Ali Woerner, Associate Professor of Dance at Oakland University, is Co-Director of the professional modern dance company, Take Root (www.takerootdance.com). Take Root performed for New Dance for Asia International Festival/Seoul, South Korea, Incheon Yeonsu International Dance Festival/Incheon, Korea, National Theater of Costa Rica, Uferstudios/ Berlin, DSO/The Cube, The Red Bull House of Art/Detroit, RADFest, Harvest Chicago Contemporary Dance Festival, The Music Hall Center for Performing Arts/Detroit, Hamlin Field House Theater/Chicago, Detroit Institute of Arts/Detroit, lectured by invitation for the National Dance Education Organization and The University of Costa Rica. Woerner is the director and founder of Take Root's Dance for Parkinson's Disease program, offering 4 weekly classes throughout Metro Detroit.

**Class: Connect (Advanced)** Co-taught by Oakland University Professors, Ali Woerner and Thayer Jonutz, this class (Connect) continues to find a fusion of contemporary modern movements, fueled by partnering and guided improvisation. This class is experimental based with encouraged open dialogue regarding applications of principles, methodologies and "games" as ways to discover effective creative environments. Faculty do not need a partner to attend, but will be paired up throughout the class.

#### Tricia Zweier

Tricia Zweier is an Associate Professor of Dance at Lindenwood University. She earned an MFA in Dance and an MS in Kinesiology from UNC/Greensboro. At LU, she teaches mostly contemporary and jazz techniques, dance history, dance & technology, and dance science courses. Her choreography has been showcased in national festivals including The Boston Contemporary Dance Festival and The Detroit Dance City Festival. She was a lead dancer and dance captain with Carnival Cruise Lines, and has performed with Atlantic City Ballet and Leverage Dance Theater. Tricia is a member of the National Dance Education Organization, The International Association of Dance Medicine and Science, and is the Operations Coordinator for The Dance Science and Somatics Educators.

Class: Jazz in Heels! (Intermediate/Advanced) Class will begin with a warm-up that develops strength, flexibility, and proper alignment. The rhythmic across the floor sequences and culminating gender-inclusive dance combination, although not required, are designed for character heels. If you didn't bring them, we can just pretend.

Class: Stealth (Intermediate/Advanced) Stealth combines elements of both traditional modern techniques and athletic contemporary phrases, which encourage dancers to travel with stealthy, fluid control as they move quietly above, along, and into the floor. (long sleeves, leggings, and socks will be ideal for friction reduction).

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### Funding Conference Attendance - Yes We Can

Join us for conversation and idea-sharing about how we navigate the financial hurdles that we encounter in our quest to fund conference attendance for our students (and for ourselves). We will share results from the survey sent by our National Office and discuss the challenges, and successes, that we have experienced in our own institutions. Ideas and suggestions that emerge from our conversation will be gathered for the Board, as the first steps in developing a strategies resource that can be made available to the membership at large. (Bring your lunch!)

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