Press for Dance

Doctoral Students:

Tamara Ashley (2006 dance doctoral cohort) is the artistic director of Dance Digital in London, UK. She is also a faculty member at the University of Bedfordshire where she has inaugurated a graduate degree in Dance and Community Action.

Candace Bordelon (2006 dance doctoral cohort) has been invited to submit a chapter, entitled Improvisation in Theatrical Oriental Dance, in the forthcoming Cambridge Press anthology concerning improvisation in cultural dance forms edited by Dr. Anthony Shay.

Adrienne Clancy (2006 dance doctoral cohort) was honored with the National Dance Education Organization Outstanding Dance Educator Award. This award acknowledges a stellar dance educator from the membership of NDEO, the primary national organization in dance education.

Joan Frosch (2006 dance doctoral cohort) received the inaugural EMPAC (RPI) film commission for her latest production "NORA" (2008) which premiered on PBS on January 17, 2011. Dr. Frosch is also the director and producer of the feature documentary on African experimental choreographers entitled "Movement (R)Evolution Africa: a story of an art form in four acts" (2009) currently broadcast by ZDF in Germany, Austria, and Italy.

Valarie Williams (2006 dance doctoral cohort) is the associate curricular dean and director of the Urban Arts Space in the Ohio State University (OSU) College of Arts and Sciences and was recently named the director of the Arts Initiative at OSU.

Lela Aisha Jones (2008 dance doctoral cohort) is the founder and director of FlyGround, a performance company and presenting organization that supports women choreographers of African descent. Her work with this company was honored with a 2013 “Rocky Award,” celebrating outstanding achievement in a production, a performance, a set design, or other accomplishment in the greater Philadelphia dance community.

Hari Krishnan (2008 dance doctoral cohort) was a nominee as Outstanding Performer for the 2012-2013 New York Bessie Awards. He was also awarded the Bessie Schoenberg choreographic residency by The Yard (Martha’s Vineyard) where he will create new work on his Toronto dance company, inDANCE. His choreographic work has been shown throughout the U.S. and internationally.

Tara Munjee (2008 dance doctoral cohort) was invited to include her article, Embodied Place: Variations of Spatial Engagement in Site-Specific Contemporary Dance Choreography in the international 2012 Spaces and Flows Journal of Urban and ExtraUrban Studies.

Christine O’Neal Knoblauch (2008 dance doctoral cohort) was a member of American Ballet Theatre and soloist with famed twentieth-century ballet choreographer, Antony Tudor. Her research into the reconstruction of Tudor’s work gained her appointment to the Antony Tudor
Beatrice Ayi (2010 dance doctoral cohort) was invited to speak about dance education in her homeland of Ghana at the joint World Arts Educators Alliance and UNESCO Germany conference in summer 2013. Her work has been selected for inclusion in the upcoming World Dance Alliance Routledge Press publication highlighting dance education across the globe.

Darrah Carr (2010 dance doctoral cohort) was nominated for a 2012 New York Bessie Award in the category of Best Production highlighting Carr’s collaborative work with internationally known choreographer Sean Curran. Their collaboration produced a work that stretches the boundaries of a traditional or culturally specific form.

Loretta Livingston (2010 dance doctoral cohort) is an Associate Professor at the University of California, Irvine where she directs international exchanges for her students in numerous sites in the Asia-Pacific. In 2013, she was invited by the Dance Choreography Department at Korea National University and Kang Won National University to choreograph and perform for and with their faculty and students.

Merry Lynn Morris (2012 dance doctoral cohort) received a national patent for her Rolling Dance Chair after receiving a $150,000 grant. In October, Morris will present her invention at the Smithsonian Institution during a conference for innovators, speaking alongside the press secretary from NASA and the deputy director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Emily Wright (2012 dance doctoral cohort) was invited to publish her article, “A Space for Worship: History and Practice in Christian Sacred Dance” in the 2013 Journal of Emerging Dance Scholarship. In 2011, she also published a chapter in the dance ethnography text, Fields in Motion: Ethnography in the Worlds of Dance (2011).

Master of Arts Student:

Katherine Bell (2010 graduate in Department of Dance with an M.L.S. degree in the School of Library and Information Studies) received an internship through the Washington, D.C. Dance Heritage Coalition to archive the dance materials in New York’s Dance Theatre of Harlem. She is now employed by the Dance Heritage Coalition and works closely with the director on developing programs and grant writing.

Faculty:

Linda Caldwell, Ph.D. and Professor within the Department of Dance, inaugurated the first edition of the Journal of Emerging Dance Scholarship (www.jedsonline.net) with Dr. Urmimala Sarkar, School of Arts and Aesthetics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India. The journal is published through the auspices of the World Dance Alliance and highlights the work of dance scholars currently in graduate programs or within 5 years of graduation.