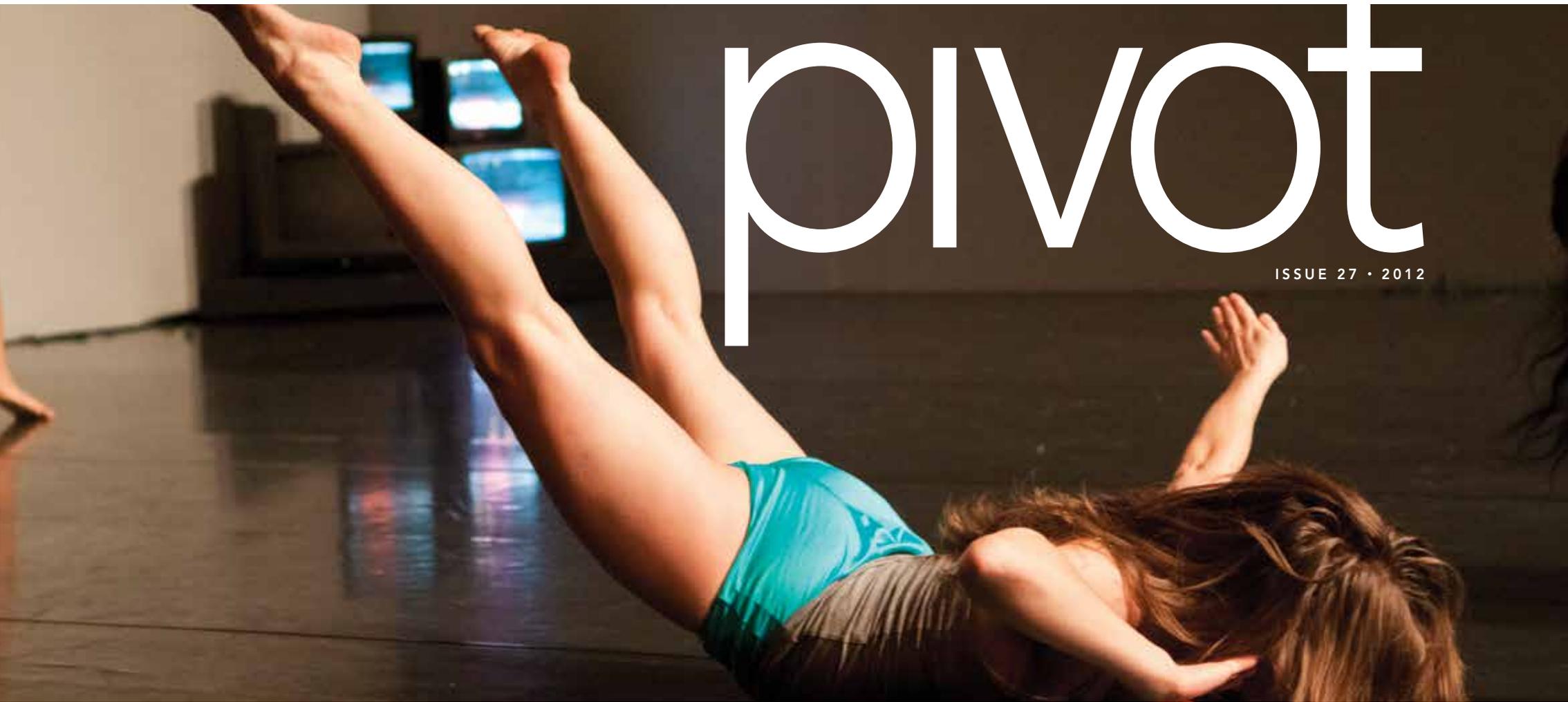




# dance at illinois

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
College of Fine & Applied Arts

LOCATE CENTER.  AND GO FROM THERE.

A photograph of a dancer in a teal leotard performing a backbend in a dance studio. The dancer's legs are raised high and bent at the knees, with her feet pointing towards the ceiling. Her arms are extended outwards. The background shows a dark studio floor and some blurred lights.

# pivot

ISSUE 27 • 2012

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# locate you

BY JAN ERKERT

One of the highlights of the year was watching two of our alumni, Krista Nelson and John Hinrichs, dancing on the magnificent Krannert Center for the Performing Arts stage in one of the last performances of the Merce Cunningham Dance Company. Krista and John had the unique opportunity to work directly with Merce in his last years and travel the world as part of the Cunningham *Legacy Tour*. As I watched them dance, I was aware of their ability to link their personal vibrancy to the extraordinary technical skills and the aesthetic demands of the work.

How does one cultivate this type of artistry? All five domains of knowing come into play—**context, inquiry, agency, synthesis, and reflection**—but perhaps reflection is at the core. Deep reflection helps one find a path that resonates from within. Alumna Whitney Hubbard (BFA '07) says that through reflection she “grew to understand what becomes possible out of vulnerability, both as a physical artist and as a human being learning how to navigate this planet.” It all supports our mission to help students... **Locate center. And go from there.**

This year in *Pivot* we are featuring the impressive work of our students, alumni, and faculty artists. Whether they are captivating performers in professional companies, touring with musical theater shows, creating new work as artistic directors and independent choreographers, chairing dance departments, touring internationally, or dreaming up new models for dance never before imagined, our dance artist/leaders are inspiring the field of dance through their deep sense of knowing who they are and what they want to do. We also give homage in this issue to the high school and studio teachers and guests artists who have provided our students a space to negotiate the distance between self and the world.

Enjoy!



Racy Brand (BFA '12) in Sara Hook's *Yegg*.

# looking back/looking forward

## LOOKING BACK 2011–12

Guest Artists intrinsically link us to the professional field inspiring our entire community with the here and now of the dancing world.

Chicago multimedia artist **Ni'ja Whitson** created a big, bold dance rooted in *capoeira* and hip-hop for the Freshmen Lecture Demonstration Class, a touring company performing works in the public schools. Beverly Blossom and Carrie Erickson Alumni Awardee **T.Lang** (BFA '00), from Spelman College, inspired our dancers with her unique fusion of urban funk and high-level, technical dancing. Politically charged **Miguel Gutierrez** wowed our community in his *Ineffable, Intangible Sensational* workshops. Partnering with the Wellness Center, students from all over campus showed up in costumes for his late night DEEP Aerobics bacchanal. Israeli artist and former Batsheva dancer **Sahar Azimi** was a guest artist for the entire semester thanks to the Schusterman Foundation and partners including The Program for Jewish Culture and Society, the Illini Hillel Center, and the Champaign-Urbana Jewish Federation. Champion ballroom dancers **Alex Tecza, Katja Lindholm** and alumna **Laura Chiamonte** lit up the Krannert stages in a piece by Rebecca Nettel-Fiol. Mini residencies by Australian choreographer **Lucy Guerin**, **Thomas McManus** from the Forsythe Ballet,

and **Keisha Turner** with Urban Bush Women and master classes by dancers from **The Spirit of Uganda, Azure Barton, Compañía Flamenca José Porcel, Mark Morris Dance Group** and **Merce Cunningham Dance Company** provided many jolts of excitement.

## LOOKING FORWARD 2012–13

**Darrell Jones** has been an impressive, daring dancer with artists such as Bebe Miller, Urban Bush Women, Ronald K. Brown, Min Tanaka, and Ralph Lemon. Now developing his own work as faculty member of Columbia College Chicago, Mr. Jones will be our fall guest artist, creating a new work for students. This year we have adopted a Student Choice Guest Artist and the students chose **Janet Panetta**, one of New York City's most treasured ballet teachers. Her studio has seen just about every major artist including Merce Cunningham, Paul Taylor, and Fred Astaire. She is also a major teacher in Europe training dancers at P.A.R.T.S., ROSAS, Tanztheater Wuppertal, Ballet Preljocaj, and Impulstanz. Our Beverly Blossom and Carey Erickson Alumni Awardee will be Bay Area choreographer **Sheldon Smith** (MFA '91), co-artistic director of *Smith/Wymore Disappearing Acts*. Mr. Smith's witty sense of humor and intelligence will be ever present as he creates a dance/music/video for February Dance.



Above: Darrell Jones, photo by Dan Merlo.

Top right: Katja Lindholm and Alex Tecza in Rebecca Nettel-Fiol's *Heart at Low Tide II*.

Bottom right: Sahar Azimi, photo by Benjamin Lapid.



We have started a new partnership with Links Hall, Chicago's intimate home for independent dance and performance, **Link Up with Dance at Illinois**. Each year Links Hall selects four Link Up artists to support the development of new work. Dance at Illinois will now provide a one-week summer retreat (rehearsal space, an apartment, and mentorship) to one Link Up artist each year. This year's artist, **Ni'ja Whitson**, will also be able to attend rehearsals of David Roussève/REALITY during his Krannert Center for the Performing Arts Intensive Development Lab residency, supported by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation in recognition of Krannert Center's sustained commitment toward the creation of new work in dance. Ni'ja will return in the fall to present her new solo and conduct a guest artist residency.



# faculty news

This year Dance Faculty received three major University awards.

**Dr. Cynthia Oliver**, recently promoted to Professor, was one out of only six faculty members chosen from all three campuses to receive the *University Scholar Award*. Dr. Oliver was the first scholar from Dance to ever receive this prestigious award.

"Viewing through a multifaceted lens, Oliver excavates the infinite ways bodies maneuver across vast trajectories of space and time while acknowledging and questioning the cultural, political, societal imprints on the body and the manifestation of these transmitted through performance." *Sarah Haas (MFA'11), touring the U.S. in her mobile performance dwelling*

**Linda Lehovec** received the *Campus Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Advising*.

"She can pinpoint the smallest details in alignment and in the same breath will coach, encourage, and provide holistic support for the big picture. I developed the capacity to be flexible and an ability to be present and resilient in uncomfortable places of growth, change, and transformation." *Whitney Hubbard (BFA '07), dancer with the Von Howard Project and manager of a Lululemon Athletica in NYC*

**Rebecca Nettl-Fiol** received the *Campus Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching*.

"Becky is the reason I now understand that I have dimension, that I am not just meant to do one thing, or have just one thought at a time or be obsessed with end gaining ...what a relief." *Elizabeth Johnson (MFA '03), visiting Assistant Professor at UNC - Greensboro and artistic director of Your Mother Dances in Milwaukee, WI*

Other faculty highlights:

- **Tere O'Connor** premiered his new work *Cover Boy* at Dancespace Project in NYC. Wendy Perron of *DANCE Magazine* considered this new work one of the best new pieces of choreography in 2011.
- **Jennifer Monson** was awarded a National Dance Project Creative Development Award for *Live Dancing Archive*.
- **Kirstie Simson** was the feature artist of the documentary film, *Force of Nature*, by director Katrina McPherson, which had its world premiere in Scotland in spring 2012.
- **Renée Wadleigh** attended the 50th anniversary of Paul Taylor's *Aureole*, of which she was an original cast member, at the Lincoln Center Gala in NYC.



1

# doing now

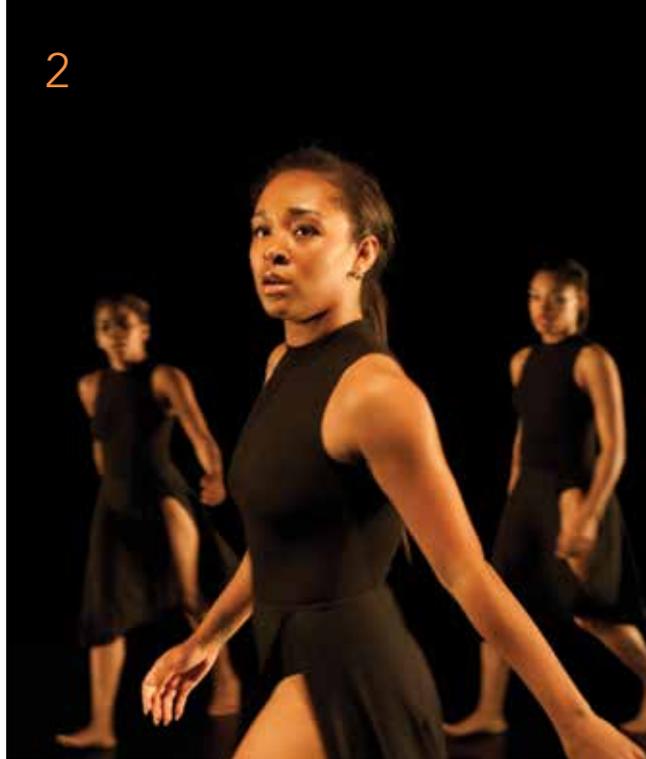
1 **Kamilla Kinard** (BFA '14), from Columbus Dance Theater, in her piece *Rind Pericarp Pith* for StudioDance II.

2 L to R: **Mya King** (BFA '14), **Laina Carney** (BFA '15), and **Lindsay Cunningham** (BFA '15) in *Marie Lee* choreographed by **Jasmine Wilson** (BFA '13) and **Jade Peeples** (BFA '13). **Jasmine**, from Chicago's Whitney M. Young Magnet High School and Gallery 37's Dance Program, and **Jade** formed Wrapsody Dance Company and have performed in Chicago and Naperville, Illinois, and in Kenosha, Wisconsin.

3 L to R: **Monica Remes** (BFA '12), from Carey Grove Performing Arts Centre (Cary, IL), and **Laura Moschel** (BFA '13), from Adlai E. Stevenson High School (Lincolnshire, IL), in Linda Lehovec's *Full Throttle*. Currently, **Monica** is getting yoga certification and **Laura** is studying abroad in Taipei, Taiwan.

4 L to R: **Jade Peeples** (BFA '13), from Rhythm Academy of Dance (Waukegan, IL), and **Tiffany Norris** (BFA '13), from MBS Training Center for the Performing Arts (Oak Park, MI), in alumna T.Lang's *Mutha/Mother – an excerpt*.

2



3



4





BY REBECCA NETTL-FIOL

# featured alumna • sarah young

“I learned that hard work, self-discipline, and forming meaningful relationships matter.”

SARAH YOUNG (BFA '03)

Sarah Young (BFA '03) says she appreciated the “opportunity to follow my own path within the rigorous curriculum offered by the Dance Department.” During her four years, she was able to investigate diverse interests by participating in a Ford Foundation program that sponsored a trip to Zimbabwe, taking advantage of a wide variety of classes, performances, and “absorbing whatever information I could.”

After graduation, Sarah moved to New York and worked with choreographers **Stephan Koplowitz** and **David Dorfman** before deciding to join the Peace Corps in 2008, where she served in Morocco.

All the while, Sarah was working toward the creation of a dream. She is the founder of *Flying Art: An International Exchange of Art Among Youth*. The program involves schools or youth groups from around the world, creating artwork to share and discuss with their peers in different locations, generating opportunities for young people to compare their lifestyles and form positive relationships. This idea was born during Sarah’s senior year as a final project for

her International Arts minor, which she pursued while a dance major at Illinois. The first “flight” involved second grade students from Leal Elementary in Urbana, Illinois. Students at Leal sent drawings of the birds of Illinois to Kpessi, Togo, where Sarah’s friend was serving in the Peace Corps, and to France, where another friend was teaching English. Since then, children’s artwork has traveled to over 15 countries around the globe.

In addition to directing Flying Art, Sarah is currently studying in the Feldenkrais Method Training Program. She is also dancing with **Treehouse Shakers**, a company that performs for young audiences, and **Hilary Easton + Company**. Her new dream is to return to Morocco to develop a retreat, where “artists can come from Morocco and abroad to build their work and engage with the local community. It will be a home for Flying Art as well, so the kids can keep sharing their culture with the kids in the U.S.”

Alumna Sarah Young (BFA '03) in Morocco, photo by alumnus Paul Singh (BFA '05).



Alumna T. Lang (BFA '00) teaching advanced modern.



Alumna Stephanie Azzaretto (BFA '10), photo by Cheryl Mann.

## Alumni, your relationship with us matters!

BY MALLORY RUBIN (BFA '12)

I began working with alumni this past year for my honors project, and secretly, I was excited to engage with alumni because I wanted to see the various paths Dance at Illinois students have taken after graduation. As an upperclassman thinking about life after college, I had been considering how I could take my interests and turn them into a fulfilling career. I felt overwhelmed by the choices. To be honest, I still feel unsure, but connecting with alumni has made me realize that regardless of the course taken, Dance at Illinois graduates are successful and leaders in their field. When I send out requests to hear about what you are up to, I genuinely want to know what you are doing. **Your updates are the narratives current students want to read about.**

My goal is to reconnect with you and share all the ways Dance at Illinois can continue along the journey with you. Join our Facebook group to post your upcoming events, keep in touch with classmates, and network with fellow alumni in your area. Visit our website to view alumni updates, the job and training board, and information about the two alumni awards. We are planning an alumni event during Homecoming weekend this fall. Be on the lookout for more information.

We are proud of whatever journey you are taking and we hope to hear from you soon!

[www.dance.illinois.edu/community/alumni](http://www.dance.illinois.edu/community/alumni)



## dance at illinois and THEN what???

BY SARA HOOK

Dance, dance, dance—for Mark Morris (Nicholas Wagner, BFA '09), Tere O'Connor (Tess Dworman, BFA '07), Susan Marshall (Darrin Wright, BFA '02), or David Parker and the Bang Group (Amber Sloan, BFA '01). Join a national tour of the Broadway show *West Side Story* (Mark Deler, BFA '12), or dance on a cruise ship (Caitlin Miles, BFA '12).

Create your own dance company *Acorn Dance* in Seattle (Aiko Kinoshita, BFA '95 & MFA '98) or *Contemporary Dance/Ft. Worth* (Kerry Kreiman, MFA '87), curate a concert of your alumni peers in Chicago (Kate Corby, MFA '07) or receive a New York Dance and Performance (Bessie) Award (Michelle Boulé, BFA '99).

Get a LUCE fellowship to study interactive art in Asia (Renata Sheppard, MFA '07), or like Jenny Gaither (BFA '09), get interviewed on FOX News because you created the S.E.A.K. Foundation, an organization empowering people through educational programs and events focused on physical and emotional health.

Write a book on dance and somatics (Julie Brodie, BFA '87 & MFA '95) or write a children's book (Patricia Hruby Powell, BFA '79). Tour with a theater company (Elisabeth Conner, BFA '07). Create your own dance videography business (Nicholas Petry, MFA '05) or...become the head of the Dance Division at Boston Conservatory

(Cathy Young, MFA '03) or start your own dance studio (Josh Ford, BFA '07 and Lauren Vandivier Ford, BFA '08).

You could build your own eco-friendly, mobile performance dwellings (Hallie Aldrich, MFA '11 and Sarah Haas, MFA '11) and tour, perform, and live on your own terms.

Or you could always be a stand up comic... (Dot Kane, BFA '83).

Dance at Illinois trains you to become YOU, to make a contribution, to seek and model excellence all over the world.

“The dance program at the University of Illinois has prepared me in so many ways for life after college. First and foremost, I gained technique as well as performative qualities that allowed a smooth transition into a professional atmosphere.”

STEPHANIE AZZARETTO (BFA '10)

“the department trained me as a performer and choreographer, but most importantly...how to be an artist filled with integrity.”

T. LANG (BFA '00)

# dance at illinois

LOCATE CENTER. ● AND GO FROM THERE.



**Left:** Chad Miller (BFA '13) in Philip Johnston's *Undertow*.

**Middle:** Jessica Cornish (BFA '12) in her StudioDance II piece.

**Right:** Members of the BFA Senior class in Sahar Azimi's *Excerpts from UTF8*. L to R: Nora Tonge, Elyssa McNeil, Elby Brosch, Kelsey Middleton, Anna Clarke, Zak Jacobs, Sanda Saveanu.





“ presence is about generating something of myself and outside myself at the same time. ” JOHANNA S. MEYER (MFA '14)



## graduate pod experience

BY BETSY BRANDT (MFA '12)

After three years as an MFA candidate here at Illinois, I would say the program is largely characterized by its commitment to a synthesized academic and artistic practice—an expectation that students will actively look to our scholarly research to inform our choreographic practice, our physical research to inform our teaching, our writing skills to shape the way we talk about and construct our work. This past spring, this philosophical commitment was put into curricular practice with the introduction of the graduate “pod,” a class co-taught by professors Tere O’Connor and Cynthia Oliver.

The class, which met daily in the intimate studio/work spaces of the Graduate Dance Center, combined the development of solo choreography projects with group improvisations, readings, discussions, writing projects, and installations. The fluid atmosphere offered challenges unique from the usual composition class. What will we be doing today? Discussing contemporary curatorial practices or spending an hour in silent contemplative choreographic research? Though sometimes disorienting, the structure pushed each of us to constantly re-examine our particular

interests from new angles. We talked about what we read, created about what we discussed, wrote about what we made. The focus was on process rather than product, which opened up endless possibilities for experimentation and exploration. Within my own work, I was interested in examining the concept of *absence* as a choreographic and theoretical concept. A written paper, a series of discussions both inside and outside of class, a series of video projects—all surfaced as eventual iterations of my explorations. This plurality, the construction of a practice where my work existed

on several platforms simultaneously, mirrored what I believe was a fundamental goal of the graduate pod course: to locate choreography within academia as a critical method of research which organizes information according to its own unique systems of logic and poetics.

# future plans

## MFA FUTURE PLANS

Betsy Brandt will be moving back to St. Louis to continue her work with *The aTrek Dance Collective*. Nibia Pastrana Santiago plans to move to Europe to continue studying and presenting her work. And Rebecca Walter plans to join the vibrant dance arts scene in Philadelphia.



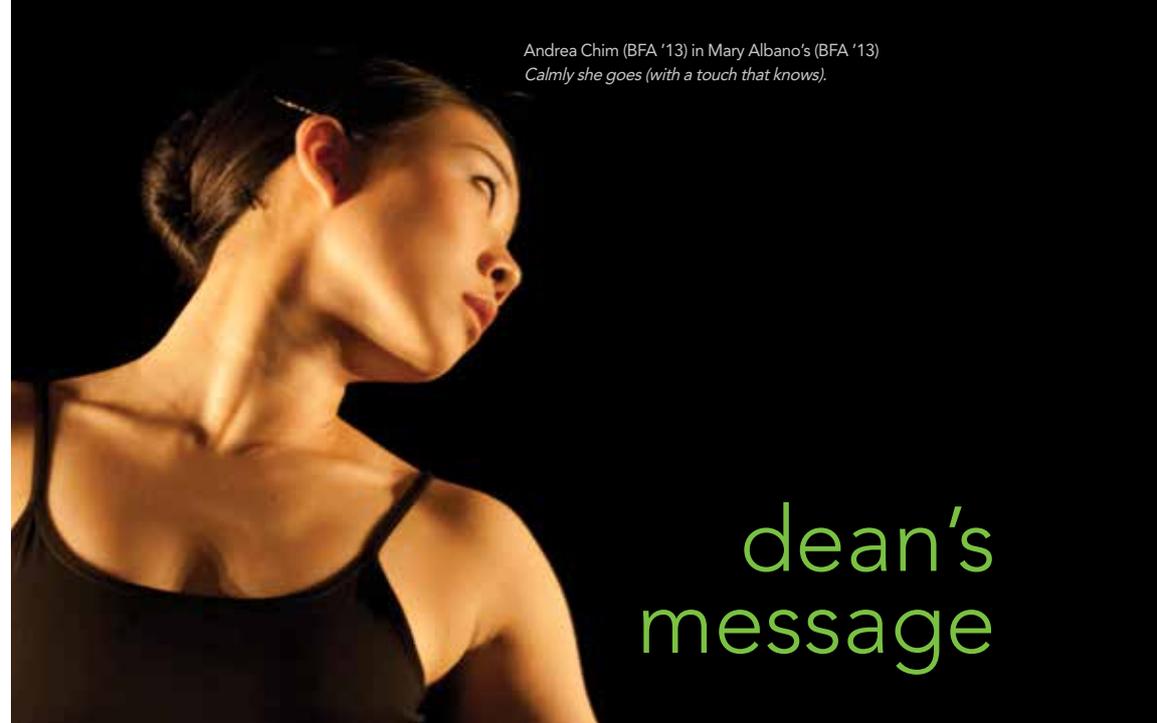
From left: Betsy Brandt, Nibia Pastrana Santiago, Rebecca Walter, photo by Philip Johnston.

Front row from left: Caitlin Miles, Elby Brosch, Racy Brand, Allyson Lai, Alana Parekh, Zak Jacobs. Back row from left: Anna Clarke, Jessica Cornish, Alexandra Saveanu, Katy Kantner, Mark Deler, Lindsey Lykowski, Elyssa McNeil, Kelsey Middleton, Nora Tonge.



## BFA FUTURE PLANS

The BFA Class of 2012 came from around the world, including Illinois, Missouri, Florida, Wisconsin, Indiana, Ohio, New Jersey, and as far as Pakistan and Taiwan! With such diverse backgrounds, it was only natural there would be a broad range of interests: performance, choreography, teaching, musical theatre, yoga, fitness, and more. We look forward to seeing how these students will succeed in their future plans with internships, auditions, choreography festivals, yoga teacher trainings, cruise lines, national touring companies, and master's degrees in NYC, Seattle, Massachusetts, Chicago, Europe, and the Caribbean.



Andrea Chim (BFA '13) in Mary Albano's (BFA '13) *Calmly she goes (with a touch that knows)*.

## dean's message

In these pages, I have often emphasized the excellent training and professional success of the undergraduate and graduate majors of the Department of Dance. Dance alumni are some of the best-prepared and most accomplished dancers in the country. As I prepare to retire, I also want to emphasize the broad outreach of the Department of Dance and its commitment to fostering training in the arts to a wide and growing community.

For example, the Department of Dance supports the land-grant mission of the University of Illinois through its course offerings to non-majors and through Creative Dance for Children classes. Non-majors take nearly half of the semester-hours taught in all Dance classes, and this large percentage of non-majors is the highest in the entire College of Fine and Applied Arts. Non-majors are especially eager to take DANCE 100—Intro to Contemporary Dance, and courses in

Ballet, Jazz, and Modern. In addition, the Dance Department touches the lives of approximately 150 children (ages 4–10) each year in Creative Dance for Children classes taught by Kate Kuper. All these classes fill very quickly, and there is often a long wait list.

Ed Feser has been announced as the new dean for the college and will take over in Fall 2012. By then, I will have completed thirty-five years at the university and seven years as dean. I have greatly enjoyed working with the faculty, staff, students, and donors of the Department of Dance, and it has been an honor to represent the arts on campus and across the country as dean of an outstanding college.

**Robert Graves**  
Dean, College of Fine and Applied Arts

# be a pivotal force—donate now!

Dance at Illinois is an epicenter for the development of the dance artist/leader. Join the excitement and play a pivotal role. Please consider giving a gift, big or small, to support and elevate our programming.

We take this opportunity to recognize and thank all dance contributors. We are profoundly grateful—we couldn't do it without you! Listed to the right are donors to the Department of Dance from January 1, 2010, through June 1, 2012. We realize there may be mistakes or omissions from this list. We apologize and invite you to contact us regarding corrections at (217) 333-1010.

To make a gift, please designate the desired fund on your check, made payable to the University of Illinois Foundation/Department of Dance, and mail to UIF, P.O. Box 3429, Champaign, IL 61826-3429.

Thank you for supporting  
the Department of Dance!



Guest Artist Ni'Ja Whitson teaching beginning modern.

For information about how to donate online, please visit us at  
[www.dance.illinois.edu/support-dance-at-illinois/how-to-donate](http://www.dance.illinois.edu/support-dance-at-illinois/how-to-donate)

## contributors

Abbott Fund  
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BFA Senior Class of 2010  
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Kevin Weldon  
Noreen Wessendorf  
Lynn Wilson  
Basia Podbielski Yakaitis  
Jin-Wen Yu

# 11–12 scholarship recipients

**Vannie L. Sheiry Memorial Scholarship (Est. 1994)**  
**Renée Archibald (MFA '13)**

Awarded in recognition of outstanding performance in Renée Wadleigh's *Like This* and Nibia Pastrana Santiago's *sweat*.

**Moe Family Dance Award (Est. 1996)**  
**Betsy Brandt (MFA '12)**

Awarded in recognition of potential for unique contributions to the profession in interdisciplinary work in visual arts and dance.

**Wanda M. Netti Prize for Student Choreography (Est. 2002)**  
**Nibia Pastrana Santiago (MFA '12)**

Awarded in recognition of outstanding choreography.

**Patricia Knowles Graduate Travel Award (Est. 2006)**  
**Tamin Totzke (MFA '13)**

Awarded to be used for travel and study in Taiwan and Cambodia.

**Beverly Blossom and Carey Erickson Alumni Award (Est. 2007)**  
**T.Lang (MFA '07)**

Enables an alumnus to return to campus to teach, perform, choreograph and otherwise enhance Dance at Illinois.

**Lisa Carducci Memorial Scholarship**  
**Jessica Cornish (BFA '12)**

Awarded for out of town summer study in China and India.

**Mary Elizabeth Hamstrom Award**

**Renée Archibald (MFA '13)**

Awarded for summer study in Body Mind Centering in North Carolina.

**Senior Magnolia Award**

**Katy Kantner (BFA '12)**

This award goes to the senior who has shown the most growth and development throughout his/her four years.

**Top row:** Mary Albano (BFA '13); Ashley Cizmar (BFA '13).

**Middle row:** Kristin McCoy (BFA '14); Jade Peeples (BFA '13); Nicole Renfro (BFA '14).

**Bottom row:** Lauren Vermilion (BFA '13); Kathryn Williams (BFA '13); Jasmine Wilson (BFA '13).



**Top row:** Tamin Totzke (MFA '13), Betsy Brandt (MFA '12), Renée Archibald (MFA '13), Jessica Cornish (BFA '12), Mark Deler (BFA '12).

**Bottom row:** Katy Kantner (BFA '12), Nibia Pastrana Santiago (MFA '12).

## Scholarships for Dance Projects (Est. 2010)

These scholarships support dance research and/or study for BFA and MFA students seeking to further their creative, performance, and/or scholarly work. Students are selected based on a diverse range of aesthetics within projects that demonstrate rigorous inquiry, individual voice, and curiosity.

Mary Albano (BFA '13)  
 Ashley Cizmar (BFA '13)  
 Kristin McCoy (BFA '14)  
 Jade Peeples (BFA '13)

Nicole Renfro (BFA '14)  
 Lauren Vermilion (BFA '13)  
 Kathryn Williams (BFA '13)  
 Jasmine Wilson (BFA '13)

# performance calendar 2012–2013

## November Dance

November 8–10, 2012

## February Dance

January 31, February 1–2, 2013

## StudioDance I

March 7–9, 2013

## StudioDance II

April 18–20, 2013

## Audition Dates

**BFA Program:** November 10, February 2, March 4

**MFA Program:** January 30–31

### From left:

Anna Clarke (BFA '12), Kamilla Kinard (BFA '14),  
Alana Parekh (BFA '12), Jasmine Wilson (BFA '13),  
Megan Murphy (BFA '12), Luis Vasquez (BFA '14), and  
Andrea Chim (BFA '13) in Philip Johnston's *Undertow*.



# faculty/staff list & magazine credits

## Faculty

Jan Erkert, *Professor, Department Head*  
Denis Chiamonte, *Visiting Lecturer*  
Laura Chiamonte, *Visiting Lecturer*  
Catrina Choate-Heretoiu, *Visiting Lecturer*  
John Dayger, *Visiting Lecturer*  
Sara Hook, *Professor, MFA Program Director*  
Joseph Hutto, *Visiting Lecturer*  
Philip Johnston, *Lecturer*  
Kate Kuper, *Visiting Lecturer, Community Outreach Liaison*  
Linda Lehovc, *Associate Professor, BFA Program Director*  
Jennifer Monson, *Professor*  
Rebecca Nettel-Fiol, *Professor*  
Tere O'Connor, *Professor*  
Cynthia Oliver, *Professor*  
Kirstie Simson, *Assistant Professor*  
John Toenjes, *Associate Professor, Music Director*  
Renée Wadleigh, *Professor*

## Guest Artists 2011–2012

Sahar Azimi, Spring 2012 Artist in Residence  
Azure Barton  
Campania Flamenca José Porcel  
Mark Morris Dance Group  
Merce Cunningham Dance Company  
Miguel Gutierrez  
Aaron Landsman  
T.Lang  
Angela Fleddermann Miller  
Spirit of Uganda  
Keisha Turner  
Ni'Ja Whitson

## Staff

Mary Albano, *Intern*  
Amanda Bati, *Athletic Trainer*  
Ken Beck, *Specialist in Music*  
Abby Brandolino, *Intern*  
Natalie Fiol, *Photographer*  
Kimberly Hardin, *Physical Therapist*  
Kathleen Kelley, *Graduate Video/Media Coordinator*  
Sarah Kent, *Manager of System Services*  
Jacqueline Kinsman, *Assistant to the Head*  
Cindy Masko, *Office Support Specialist*  
Caitlin Miles, *Intern*  
Jaclyn Patrick, *Human Resource Coordinator*  
Alison Rhoades, *Intern*  
Mallory Rubin, *Intern*  
Tracy Tieman, *Business Manager*

## Teaching Assistants

Renée Archibald  
Betsy Brandt  
Johanna Meyer  
Nibia Pastrana Santiago  
Tamin Totzke  
Rebecca Walter

## Graduate Video/Media Coordinator

Kathleen Kelley

## Graduate Space Coordinator/ DRK Manager

Nico Brown

## Accompanists

Brian Behrns  
Jason Finkelman  
Beverly Hillmer  
Gordon Kay  
Jeff Zahos

## Special Thanks to:

Program Jewish Culture and Society  
Illini Hillel Center  
Champaign-Urbana Jewish Federation  
Champaign-Urbana Jewish Endowment Foundation  
Gordon Brookstone Cultural Arts Fund  
The Israel Education Center  
Jewish Agency for Israel  
Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation  
Marge Goldwater and the Foundation for Jewish Culture  
Matti & Drora Shalev  
Jeff Hannah  
Erez Cohen  
Michelle Guera and the Wellness Center  
Activities and Recreation Center

## Magazine Credits

Jacqueline Kinsman, *Editor*  
All photography by Natalie Fiol, unless otherwise noted.  
SURFACE 51, Design – [www.surface51.com](http://www.surface51.com)  
Cover Image – Renée Archibald (MFA '13) in Nibia Pastrana Santiago's *sweat*.  
Back Cover – Alison Rhoades (BFA '13)





“ through ‘dipping my toes in the water’ of something different, I’ve been affected.”

ALISON RHOADES (BFA '13)



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