



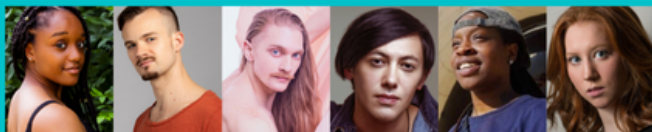


2022 **new**
dances

The central graphic features the text "2022 new dances" in a large, bold font. Below it are the logos for "THODOS DANCE CHICAGO" and "DanceWorks CHICAGO". The background is a blurred image of a dance studio.

*Cheers to Celebrating 21 Years of
New Dances Under the TDC Umbrella!
Let's Toast our 2022 Artists!*



Kaleigh Dent

Brandon DiCriscio

Trey Johnson

Marco Pizano

MurdaMommy

Taylor Yocum



Adeline Else



Amaya Arroyo



Ashley Fox



Ashley Rivette



Brooke Gist



Caitlin Yatsuhashi



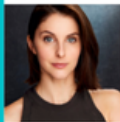
David Anthony
Scheurman



Isabella Limosnero



Jasmine Chavez



Kaitlyn Pasquinelli



Kara Hunsinger



Lucy Pierson



Madeline Klein



Raechel Springman



Vinny Haberman



cheers!



*As New Dances comes of
age under the TDC
umbrella, we celebrate
21 years and 21
Chicago-based artists:
6 Choreographers and
15 Dancers!*

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*The Athenaeum Center salutes
Thodos Dance Chicago
and DanceWorks Chicago
on their production of
New Dances.*

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About *New Dances*

We're thrilled to Celebrate Chicago Dance Month and get up close and personal with dance movers and makers through *New Dances* 2022! Thodos Dance Chicago and DanceWorks Chicago enjoy a partnership centered around a shared tradition of developing choreographic talent and serving Chicago's dance community. *New Dances* has been part of Chicago's dance history for 39 years, originating with The Chicago Repertory Dance Ensemble. In 2022, *New Dances* comes of age under the TDC umbrella, celebrating 21 years by featuring 21 Chicago-proud artists: 6 Choreographers and 15 Dancers! See World Premieres by Kaleigh Dent, Brandon DiCriscio, Trey Johnson, MurdaMommy, Marco Pizano, and Taylor Yocum.

The *New Dances* project continues to be a vital project for the community by providing diverse applicants at different stages in their careers the chance to grow artistically. For almost forty years, *New Dances* has been committed to Chicago and its dancemakers by providing an opportunity to create new work for the stage with no expectation other than the investment in the journey. *New Dances* is not only a celebration of dance making, but also a celebration of our community dancers who help to bring the choreographers' visions from studio to stage. This is especially true as we celebrate the Year of Chicago Dance in 2022.



New Dances 2022

Supporters

New Dances 2022 aspires to serve, celebrate, and lift up a vibrant and inclusive group of Chicago-based movers and makers. Thodos Dance Chicago and DanceWorks Chicago gratefully acknowledge the generous support of donors, who are part of NEW steps.

If you are moved by your experience, please consider a tax-deductible donation to continue the *New Dances* legacy of support for local artists and create a more sustainable and empowering future for dance and dancers in Chicago.

thodosdancechicago.org/support/ or danceworkschicago.org/support/

Wish List Angels

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1st Act

Kim Vatis

2nd Act

Lesli Babbs

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Michael Richter

Closing Night Celebration

Kimberly Miller

Performance Floor

Diane and Paul Reilly

Mentorship Panel

Heiji and Brian Black

New Dances 2022

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***New Dances* Photos and Videos**

Kirstin Jones

***New Dances* Industry Night Tickets**

Ron and Julie Allen

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Sharon and Bill Lear

Marina Natsis

Shannon Raglin

Open Company Classes (free to the community)

Ron and Julie Allen

Jean and John Atchison

Sharon and Bill Lear

Jimi Loc Nguyen

Nancy and Thomas Patterson

Woan Family Fund

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Vin Reed

John Schmitz

This program is partially supported by grants from the Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events, City of Chicago, and the Illinois Arts Council Agency.

New Dances 2022

Supporters

Thank you to our Lead Sponsor
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Deb and Scott McGowan

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Network For Good



NEW DANCES 2022

About Thodos Dance Chicago

Melissa Thodos, a choreographer, educator, and performer for over 30 years, founded Thodos Dance Chicago in 1992. For 25 years, the company offered dancers a place to perform, a place to create new work and a place to educate the next generation of dancers. Thodos Dance Chicago successfully performed and taught for over one million dance fans in Chicago, across the country in 27 states, and around the world on five continents. In its 30th year, Thodos Dance Chicago has evolved to undertake projects that provide the greatest impact in the Chicago community and beyond as a project-based dance organization. Our mission is to engage and enrich the community through dance creation, advocacy, education, mentorship and production. For more information, visit <https://thodosdancechicago.org/>.

TDC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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About DanceWorks Chicago

Led by Co-founder and Artistic Director Julie Nakagawa, DanceWorks Chicago fills a niche in the dance ecosystem. A creative incubator, DWC fosters a diverse next generation of movers and makers, empowering young artists to cultivate their unique voices through skill acquisition and development, collaborations and relationship-building with a global perspective, intense and intentional mentorship, and performances. DanceWorks Chicago believes that the inclusion of different perspectives and ideas will unearth a standard of creativity and innovation that cannot be achieved by one. To inspire and empower artists, audiences, and good dance citizens is DanceWorks Chicago's way to impact the field. Cheers to Thodos Dance Chicago on the 21st Anniversary of New Dances! Always moving. www.danceworkschicago.org Facebook and Instagram: [/danceworkschicago](#)

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Program

A 70s Suite (Ode to my Mother)

Choreography: Kaleigh Dent

Music: Boogie Wonderland by Earth, Wind & Fire, The Emotions; Bennie and the Jets by Elton John; Ain't No Sunshine by Bill Withers; A Song for You by Donny Hathaway

Costuming: Kaleigh Dent

Performers: Amaya Arroyo, Jasmine Chavez, Kara Hunsinger, Raechel Springman, Caitlin Yatsuhashi

Note from the Choreographer: An appreciation of one of the best eras of music.

Resilient; Unapologetic Joy

Choreography: Marco Pizano

Music: Sound of Streets and Sound Effects score compiled by Marco Pizano, Pump to the Beat (Runway Mix) by Xeraph featuring PUMPDABEAT, This is My Hair by Alaska Thunderfuck, Cherry Blossom by Lana Del Rey

Costuming: "Glitter", Joseph Bahena

Performers: Adeline "A" Else, Vinny Haberman, Madeleine Klein, Kaitlyn Pasquinelli, Ashley Rivette

Note from the Choreographer: What we do in life is often riddled with choices and this piece gives the option to explore them using postmodern ideologies, the bodies' natural and unnatural movements, and vogue aesthetics as a catalyst.

beginnings of things.

Choreography: Taylor Yocum

Music: Concerto in D Major "Grosso Mogul" RV 208: II. Recitativo: Grave by Antonio Vivaldi, Performed by Giovanni Antonini, Die Walkure: Wotan's Farewell and Magic Fire Music by Richard Wagner, Performed by Sir George Solti and Vienna Philharmonic, Original Scores by Francis Pacé-Nuñez. Edited by Francis Pacé-Nuñez.

Performers: Ashley Fox, Brooke Gist, Isabella Limosnero, Lucy Pierson, David Anthony Scheuerman

Note from the Choreographer: A look into human interactions and accepting the present moment.

10 Minute Intermission

just like water

Choreography: Trey Johnson

Costume Design and Construction: Trey Johnson

Music credit: "The Spin" by Greg Haines

Performers: Brooke Gist, Madeleine Klein, Isabella Limosnero, Lucy Pierson, Ashley Rivette, Caitlin Yatsuhashi

Note from the Choreographer: Water is the element of change and transformation.

To Experience 160: Transformation

Choreography: MurdaMommy

Music: Humble by Lil Baby, dis hittin by DJ Rah Rah-Boy, Get on the floor let's juke by DJ Solo, You ain't ready to battle by DJ Nate, The Bang by DJ Clent, Sleepy by RP Boo

Costuming: MurdaMommy

Performers: Adeline Else (A), Amaya Arroyo (A Money), Kara Hunsinger (RaRa), Raechel Springman (Pressure)

Note from the Choreographer: To experience Chicago Footwork transformation through the arts and to experience transformation through Self

Veiled Encounters

Choreography: Brandon DiCriscio

Music: Sonata No. 1 for Cello and Piano, "The Roots, a Tale Sonata": Adagio molto (Like a Funeral March)

Costuming: Brandon DiCriscio

Performers: Jasmine Chavez, Ashley Fox, Vinny Haberman, Kaitlyn Pasquinelli, David Anthony Scheuerman

Note from the Choreographer: Intimate worlds destined to collide, indirectly influenced by a drifting external force.

Meet Our Team!

Choreographers



Brandon DiCriscio, of Wilmington, DE, received his initial training from Anne Marie and Sonny Leo. He then went on to pursue a B.A. in Dance at Point Park University. While in school, he apprenticed with River North Dance Chicago and then became a company member in 2007, dancing with the company through the 2011-12 season. His true passion is for dance-making, storytelling, and teaching. Brandon has set works on various Chicago-based dance companies. He looks forward to continuing to share his voice throughout the vibrant Chicago Dance Community.



Kaleigh T. Dent is a graduate from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, receiving her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance. She is dancing with Still Inspired and Joel Hall Dancers and is a Company Member and Rehearsal Director for Identity Performing Arts. She teaches various dance styles for recreational and competition dancers in Elk Grove Village. In 2021, Kaleigh created Rivet Dance Company, a dance-for-camera, project-based company in Chicago. Recent collaboration projects include We Worship, a music video for up-and-coming gospel artist, Johanna Marie (2021), and Father, Father showcased in Trifecta Dance Collective's A New Light: Emerging Choreographer Showcase (2022).



MurdaMommy is a dancer, musician, actor, and innovator in the film, fashion, and gaming industries. As a lesbian artist and a teen who experienced homelessness, she brings her life experiences into her practice and teaches the dance form of Chicago Footwork to people who live on the South and West sides of Chicago. In 2019, she was recognized by SWAN Day Chicago, celebrating black women in dance, 2019 Dance/USA fellow and as a 2020 Queer Art Yaa Asante digital grant finalist. MurdaMommy has performed across the U.S. In Chicago, she mentors and connects with all generations through performances and workshops.



Marco Pizano is a queer, Chicago based choreographer/performer with a post-modern, North American aesthetic in movement. He has trained in techniques such as Cunningham, Ballet, and Vogue Femme. He focuses on art that centers on American LGBTQ experiences; specifically queer nightlife behavior, vogue aesthetics, drag, and how these people move through a heteronormative world. Pizano holds a BFA in Dance from Columbia College Chicago. The works of Alaska 5000 and John Waters have molded much of Pizano's artistic aesthetic and serve as inspiration constantly. When thinking about movement, Pizano is heavily inspired by nature and human behavior.



Taylor Yocum began her dance career in Spokane, Washington. She attended SUNY Purchase College and graduated in 2021. In the Fall of 2019, Taylor studied abroad at Beijing Dance Academy in Beijing, China. She has supplemented her training at summer programs with Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Alonzo King Lines Ballet and Springboard Danse Montreal. Taylor is currently performing with South Chicago Dance Theatre. She is honored to share her choreographic voice with the world and highlight the human experience through movement.



Trey Johnson, from Saint Louis, MO, began their dance training at the Center of Creative Arts, or COCA, under the direction of Kirven and Antonio Douthit-Boyd. Trey received a BFA in Dance Performance and Choreography from the UMKC Conservatory of Dance in 2019. They have performed works by choreographers such as George Balanchine, Kevin Iga Jeff, Frank Chavez, Christopher Wheeldon, Gregory Dawson, and more. Trey has danced professionally as a company member with Wylliams-Henry Contemporary Dance Company, Cerqua Rivera Dance Theatre, and Deeply Rooted Dance Theatre. Trey joined Danceworks Chicago in November 2021.

Performers



Adeline K Else began pursuing the art of dance at the age of 3. They have worked with an abundance of renowned choreographers such as Julie Nakagawa, Terence Marling, Mark Caserta, Joseph A. Hernandez, Alysia S. Johnson, Meredith Dincolo, Joshua Manculich and Paige Cunningham. They have worked with DanceWorks Chicago, ESPN, "Then A Cunning Voice" by Emily Johnson and COMMON Canvas. Throughout Adeline's career, they have performed with COMMON's "Chronicle", Movement Revolution Dance Crew, The Dance Center Columbia College Chicago and Ballet Des Moines Contemporary Works. They strive to create community environments of artistry, authenticity, empathy and benevolence.



Amaya Arroyo was born in Columbus, Ohio, and began her dance training at the age of 13 years old. Amaya was a founding member of Dance ELITE Performance Academy where she trained under the direction of Samara Tillman, in modern, ballet, contemporary, jazz, and hip-hop techniques. Amaya is currently continuing her training at Columbia College Chicago working towards her BA in Dance. In addition to her studies, Amaya is an Emerging Artist at South Chicago Dance Theatre under the executive artistic direction of Kia S. Smith.



Ashley Fox, from Puyallup, WA, began her professional dance training at The International Ballet Academy under direction of Vera Altunina. She has trained with artists from the Paris Opera Ballet, New York City Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, and Vaganova Ballet Academy. At the age of 15, she moved on to train at the Moscow State Academy of Choreography (Bolshoi Ballet Academy), where she finished her classical dance training. After graduating from the Academy, Ashley moved to Chicago to train with Hubbard Street Dance Chicago (HSPro) under the direction of Alexandra Wells. Currently, Ashley is working as a freelance dance artist here in Chicago.



Ashley Rivette, from Upper Marlboro, Maryland, began her ballet training in Stuttgart, Germany. She has a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Dance from Shenandoah University. While at SU, she worked with choreographers Sidra Bell, Christian Von Howard and Tiffanie Carson to name a few. In 2019 and 2020 Ashley was an apprentice with Christopher K. Morgan Artists in Washington, DC. She performed in the Merce Cunningham Trust Centennial Celebration at Dance Place DC. Additionally, Ashley has trained with DanceWorks Chicago, Perry Mansfield (Yin Yue Dance Company), BARE Dance Company and American Dance Festival. In 2021 she joined DanceWorks Chicago.



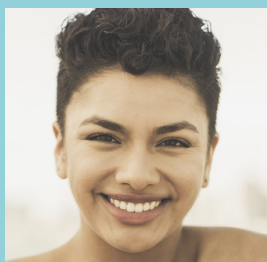
Brooke Mackenzie Gist received her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance from The Ohio State University. She was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois, and attended Whitney M. Young Magnet High school. During her collegiate experience as a dancer she served as a Class Representative for the class of 2022, a Department of Dance Student Ambassador, has traveled to multiple states within the dance department on tour, traveled across the country with the department to Brazil and Paris, and has been in numerous faculty dance pieces. She is a firm believer in dance being a powerful method of communication, a way to tell a story without having to use words.



Caitlin Yatsuhashi (Norfolk, Massachusetts), received her classical training from Walnut Hill School for the Arts. She continued her education in the Ailey/Fordham dance program where she graduated in 2021 with a BFA. Her Ailey performance credits include works by Alvin Ailey, Manuel Vignouille, William Isaac, Jessica Castro, and Anna Sokolow. Additional performance credits include works by Gabriela Vazquez T, Nacho Duato, Florian Lochner, Robyn Mineko Williams, Terry Marling, Lauren Lovette, Katie (Kozul) Moran-Guiati. Caitlin attended intensives at Festival Ballet Providence, Charlotte Ballet, Alonzo King Lines Ballet, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Ballet X, and Hubbard Street Dance Chicago.



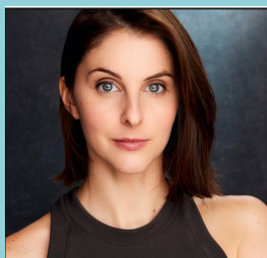
David Anthony Scheuerman began training at Midwest Regional Ballet, southwest Missouri. He spent summers dancing with Tulsa Ballet, Hubbard Street, Texas Ballet and participated in Hubbard Street's Professional Program (HSPro). Dancing in HSPro, David worked with Rena Butler, Robin Mineko Williams, Adam Barruch, Jonathan Alsberry, and Ryan Mason. He has performed with Cerqua Rivera Dance Theater resulting in works created by Monique Haley, Shannon Alvis, Katlin Bourgeois, and Stephanie Martinez. He is currently in his first season with DanceWorks Chicago with Julie Nakagawa and has had the privilege of performing works from Hanna Elisabeth, Greg Blackmon, Joshua Manculich, and Robert Battle.



Isabella Limosnero (they/she) grew up on the Ohlone land known as Gilroy, CA. In 2018, after completing their time on a competition team, Limosnero began their training at Alonzo King Lines in the Training Program in San Francisco under the direction of Karah Abiog. Outside of the program, they have also been able to work with James Graham Dance Theater (2017-2021). Since finishing the program in 2020, they have spent time choreographing and dancing, leading them to move to Chicago in July 2021. They worked with LittleFire on their newest collection of dances which premiered April 2022.



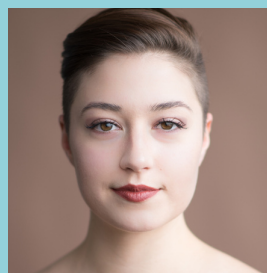
Jasmine Chavez's background is a 21 year old, Hispanic, female dancer. She is only a year away from receiving a BFA in Dance and a BA in Social Psychology from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. She is trained in many dance styles such as ballet, jazz, contemporary, Horton, Graham, salsa, and more. She was put in a studio since the age of two and hasn't left since. She aspires to be a professional dancer after she finishes her undergraduate degrees. Jasmine keeps working to become the person she is most proud of.



Kaitlyn Pasquinelli is a forever student of dance. She came back to dancing 5 years ago after a hiatus and has dived into intensive technical training at Visceral Dance Center, Broadway Dance Center, and Chicago Movement Collective. She is trained in ballet, jazz, contemporary, musical theater, heels, and fusion styles. She has danced in multiple professional intensives and showcased at Lumber Studios Dance Galleries. She teaches at All About Dance and loves choreographing and collaborating with other dancers in the community.



Kara Hunsinger, from Modesto, CA, started dancing at Juline's School of Dance. Kara graduated Magna Cum Laude with a BFA in Dance from the University of Arizona. At U of A, she performed works by George Balanchine, Nacho Duato, Tamara Dyke-Compton, Autumn Eckman, Alexei Ratmansky, and Christopher Wheeldon. Kara has danced with Hawkinsdance, Visceral Dance Chicago, and DanceWorks Chicago. Kara's additional training includes Alonzo King LINES Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, Ballet West, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Ate9, Share Dance Intensive, and San Francisco Conservatory of Dance



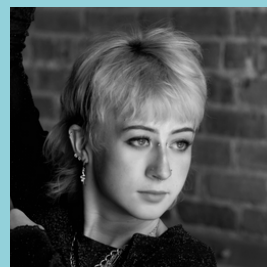
Lucy Pierson began her training at International Ballet Academy in Cary, NC, where she developed a strong background in classical ballet. Through summer intensives with Alonzo King LINES Ballet and Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Lucy found a passion for contemporary and modern-based movement. Lucy graduated Magna Cum Laude with honors from Point Park University, and is currently a freelance artist in Chicago. Lucy has previously performed with South Chicago Dance Theatre and Cerqua Rivera Dance Theatre, where she has been fortunate to work with choreographers such as Alice Klock, Katlin Bourgeois, Monique Haley, and Noelle Kayser.



Madeleine Klein (she/her) is a Chicago native who has been dancing all her life. While studying at Oberlin College, she danced under the direction of Holly Handman-Lopez, Ann Cooper Albright, and Bobby Wesner of Neos Dance Theater. After graduating in 2017, she danced with Cocardoco Dance Project, under Ronn Stewart and David Maurice. Currently, she is a company member with Noumenon Dance Ensemble.



Raechel Springman recently graduated from Oklahoma City University with her Bachelor of Performing Arts in Dance Performance. Her most recent credits include performing at Worlds of Fun, as well as having a featured role in *Springing Into Spring*. When not performing, Raechel teaches and takes various dance classes here in Chicago and stage manages around the U.S. Raechel would like to extend her gratitude to her family and friends for supporting her and continually pushing her to be her best.

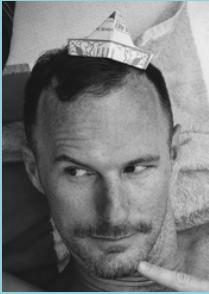


Vinny Haberman, 20 years old, has been dancing in Chicago since August 2020, where they have trained with Chicago Dance Crash, COMMON Conservatory and Columbia College. With a background in musical theater, they have performed professionally at Zach Theatre in Austin, TX. Vinny is currently working on a collaborative art series titled "F. Art" and continues to paint whimsical portraiture, as well as creating/editing short films.

Mentorship Panel



Lisa Gonzales is a choreographer, improviser, performer and teacher. She has shown her work nationally and internationally in places and spaces such as: DTW in New York; diverse spaces in Chicago; Taipei, Taiwan; St. Petersburg, Russia; Helsinki, Finland; Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic; and Yogyakarta and Jakarta, Indonesia. Described as a performer of “stunning power and nuance” by the New York Times, she values the lessons inherent in the practice of collaboration and performance. She is co-founder of The Architects, The Movement Intensive in Compositional Improvisation, and Improvisation Assembly: Practice in Action. Gonzales is an Associate Professor and Chair of Dance at Columbia College Chicago.



Jeff Hancock performs, teaches, and designs movement and clothing to move in. Performing for River North, Hubbard Street, Same Planet, The Lyric Opera and others collided his dance and design life, and shaped his path as a teaching artist. The semiotics of movement and clothing and their mutual influence fuels his research. Upcoming work: EX/BODY strike, vibrate, shatter with Molly Shanahan/Mad Shak. Design: Boomsday – Dance Crash, Tend – khacari He received a Ragdale residency and grants from the Illinois Arts Council, and was nominated for Ruth Page awards in choreography and performance. He is a member of AEA, AGMA, AGVA, NDEO, and the ISMETA.

Melissa Thodos See below for photo and bio.

Directors



Melissa Thodos (Thodos Dance Chicago Founder and Artistic Director) began her training at the Evanston School of Ballet, choreographing and dancing in High School, and at Skidmore College. Becoming a featured performer educator and choreographer with The Chicago Repertory Dance Ensemble, she then founded Thodos Dance Chicago (TDC) in 1992. TDC served as a platform for her choreography and other American choreographers. For 25 years, the Company performed in over 25 states and 6 continents. At TDC Melissa created an environment that trained dancers, nurtured them as choreographers, and mentored them as educators. The New Dances project has been part of TDC's structure since 2000 and has been in collaboration with DanceWorks Chicago since 2018.



Julie Nakagawa (DanceWorks Chicago Artistic Director and Co-founder), from Evanston, IL, Julie was a featured dancer with Christopher D'Amboise's Off Center Ballet, Cleveland Ballet, and Twyla Tharp Dance. Returning to Chicago upon her retirement from dancing, Julie joined the staff of Lou Conte Dance Studio in January 1994, at the invitation of Lou Conte, and rose to the position of Associate Director. In addition, she led Hubbard Street 2 from its inception in 1997 through February 2007 as the artistic director of the second company of Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, nurturing young dancers and establishing the National Choreographic Competition to provide creative opportunities for emerging dance makers. A sought-after teacher, Julie has taught classes for dance studios, university programs, and companies, nationally and internationally. She has served as a board member and officer of Dance/USA and has been a panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts. The Chicago Foundation for Women's Asian American Leadership Council honored Julie for her work in the creative arts.

Staff



Emma Lambert (Thodos Dance Chicago General Manager), from Dearborn Heights, MI, is a graduate of the Master of Management program from the University of Michigan's Ross School of Business. She also studied at the University of Michigan for her undergraduate degrees where she received a BS in Movement Science and a BFA in Dance. Emma grew up studying many styles of dance and knew she always wanted to stay involved in the arts community, whether performing on stage or not. Emma was part of the *New Dances* 2020 planning team as an intern and she is grateful to join the team again for *New Dances* 2022.



Ginger Jensen (DanceWorks Chicago Operations Manager), from Nebraska, followed her ambition to Chicago to pursue the more abundant opportunities in dance. After completing her Master's of Science in Nonprofit Management with honors from Spertus Institute in Chicago, she interned at the Adler Planetarium in individual and major giving and worked as the development manager for Lucky Plush Productions. As a dance educator, Ginger has assisted in growing programs at multiple Chicago dance schools and has developed curriculum-based ballet, jazz & modern programs. She continues to perform and choreograph as an independent artist while also teaching master classes as a guest instructor.



Jacob Snodgrass (Production Manager and Lighting Designer) has been designing lights and working within the performing arts community since 2000. He has been involved in *New Dances* since 2008(ish). Jacob has created with Aerial Dance Chicago, BONEdance/Breakbone Dance Company, Ray Leeper, Jumaane Taylor, Khecar Dance Theater, Peter Chu, Giordano Dance Chicago, Ray Mercer, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Peter Carpenter Performance Project, REDCLAY Dance Theater, Nejla Yarkin, Same Planet Performance Project, James Morrow/the movement, Roni Koresch, J'Sun Howard, REIDance, Soham Dance, Joel Hall Dancers, Hedwig Dances, Ruth Page Foundation, Space Movement Project, Canada's lbs/sq", and Free Street Theater. He has been Technical Director at Ruth Page Theater, Links Hall and Hamlin Park Dance Theater and Lighting Director at Dance Center of Columbia College Chicago. Jacob is Technical Director for Giordano Dance Chicago.



Robyn Wilson (Stage Manager) has been training under the direction of Jacob Snodgrass for two years as a technician. Originally a dancer who got their BFA from Columbia College in 2020, they've branched out to doing lighting design, sound, and projections for shows around the Chicago area. From designing Nejla Yarkin's reimagining of Ruth Page's solo "Expanding Universe" on the Ruth Page Training Company, to working with companies such as Deeply Rooted dance, Robyn has been making their mark on the dance technician scene.



Zach Dreelin (New Dances Intern), from Richmond, VA, started as an aspiring visual artist, which led to a focus in scenic painting. Additionally, he trained in theater and was cast in productions including Virginia Repertory Theatre's *Stories Under the Big Top* in the role of the Strongman. Zach continued his studies of technical theater at James Madison University, where he fell deeply in love with dance and obtained his B.A. in Dance and a minor in Theater. Zach's dance film, *Time will only tell. With the time we have left.*, will be released in the coming months.



merde!

**Congratulations
New Dances** on 39
years of incubating
Chicago talent! And
thanks to the chore-
ographers, dancers,
designers and donors
who keep us moving.



vin @vinnous

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*Congrats
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Good luck to all those involved in the *New Dances 2022* project!

DANCE DIVAS
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Chicago's leading dance men portraying the world's leading female Dance Divas from film, music and stage. A night of high heels and high camp benefiting The Dancers' Fund.

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Tributes



"Isabella, We wish we could be there with you. Just knowing that you're living your dream is enough for us for now. Shine bright, Sunshine. -Love, Mama, Dad, Mikaela, Trevor and Fiona

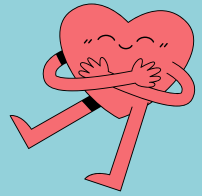
Congratulations to Ashley Rivette, *New Dances*, and the DanceWorks Chicago Team! Ashley, you are my Soul Friend and one of my biggest inspirations. I love you so much; you are incredible! - Ashayla Byrd





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Sheridan you are an inspiration to what is possible if you believe in yourself and have a vision. Keep doing you and inspiring others. I couldn't be prouder to call you FRIEND!!! - Kelli Moore

I have had the pleasure of working with Kenesha this year and I've seen the contributions she has made to the lives of the students we serve. She has pulled people out of their shell and introduced dance education to our school! We appreciate you! - Morris

Shout out to Kenesha Sheridan! She is the life of the party at Learn 8. Ms. Sheridan keeps the kids and the staff happy and moving. I am so proud of you! Keep up the good work and continue to let God use you! -Mrs. Smith

OK Sheridan, you bring your best wherever you go! Proud of YOU!
- M&M

Super proud of you and Keep it Up. The Lion Squad is rooting for you. She brings the energy to the building. - Ms. Williams

You are so amazing and I am so proud of your accomplishments!! I am so happy had the chance to get to work with you. - Henson

MERDE to Sheridan and all the choreographers and dancers! Congratulations! Chicago dance is the greatest in the world; so proud of you! LEARN <3s you. - Solow

MurdaMommy - ALWAYS killing it with kindness, compassion, skill, and a strong work ethic. Congrats on many many jobs well done!
- Mr. Mellin

I just wanted to shout out Kenisha Sheridan for inspiring youth not only to become dancers but teaching and showing them that they can be anything they put their minds to. Kenisha is nothing short of amazing especially when it come to building relationships with youth. My wish is that she keeps pushing her self to be the best, inspiring youth, and continue to be as amazing as she already is . We love you Sheridan!
- Sade Vaughns

MurdaMommy has been an outstanding leader and influencer in her community, especially to the youth. Murda has been dancing since she was a child and has taken her passion and skills and shared it with so many others. We are truly blessed to have such an inspiration in the community helping keep the children off the streets by highlighting their skills and talents. - Cryssie Gayles

Congratulations, MurdaMommy on your achievement!! I am so proud of you! Dedication, determination and self motivation are all words that describes you. How I see it, when it comes to hard work, no one can compare. Ms. Mommy you are a winner and a shining star. Keep up the excellent work and blessings to you and your family. Out of everything you have accomplished so far, it can only go up from here.
- Alexis Holloway

Congrats MurdaMommy! You're one of the most talented & hard working artists I know. It's a blessing to witness your genius! Keep pushing & showing out for your city. We need your greatness!
Peace, Aaliyah Christina

Congratulations, Madeleine! We are always thrilled to watch you dance and very proud of your amazing work!
Love, Mom and Joel



Ashley Rivette – Beautiful Dedicated Powerful and Incredibly Caring young women that won't let anything get in the way of her dreams to DANCE!
We are so proud of you. Love, Mom and Dad



Always moving.

GRATEFUL to Chicago Dance Artists for inspiring Team DWC!

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IRL...woo!

APPRECIATIVE of the artists, administrators, board members, production personnel, and supporters (gifting time, talent, or treasure) who make the magic happen!

This may be the end of the program; however, *New Dances* is a platform for new artistic journeys!

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