



3-DAY INTENSIVE PRO

DANCE WORKS **MKE**

JUNE 14 - JUNE 16

Ignite your passion at our 3-day dance intensive for professionals. With over 15 classes and lectures led by industry leaders, delve into technique and choreography led by the company members of Danceworks Performance MKE, as well as special guests and choreographers.

Expand your artistic horizons amidst a vibrant community of dancers. Whether a seasoned performer or daring newcomer, this immersive experience promises to elevate your artistry with equal rigor and sensitivity.

Classes range from contemporary/modern and somatic improv to hip hop, Afro contemporary, repertoire, and creative practice. Registrants who enroll for the 3-day intensive will automatically be held a spot at the Danceworks Performance MKE audition on June 16th. Intensive participants are expected to have some collegiate-level training or professional-level experience.

Questions can be directed at Artistic Director, Christal Wagner.
christalw@danceworksmke.org

ENROLL



TUITION

FULL 3-DAY | \$280

ANY SINGLE DAY | \$105

3 day and single day registrations auto
enroll participants for the open
Audition.

THE SCHEDULE

	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
7:30 AM	D O O R S O P E N		
8:00 AM	Yoga GINA LAURENZI	Somatic Improv KATELYN ALTMANN	Yoga GINA LAURENZI
9:00 AM	Contemporary TESSA RITCHEY	Contemporary GINA LAURENZI	Contemporary Ballet SEJAIN BASTIDAS
10:30 AM	15 M I N B R E A K		
10:45 AM	Strength & Conditioning GRETA JENKINS	Hip Hop GABI SUSTACHE	Afro Contemporary ADREAN MAXWELL
12:00 PM	30 M I N P E R S O N A L T I M E		
12:30 PM LUNCH & LECTURE	Demystifying Fundraising MAGGIE SEER	Dance For Diversity Screening ELISABETH ROSKOPF	Creative Practice Q & A
1:30 PM	Contemporary Rep CHRISTAL WAGNER	Contemporary Rep CHRISTAL WAGNER	Modern / Graham ISAAC ROBERTSON
3:00 PM	Improv for Performance KATELYN ALTMANN	Creative Practice PETER STATHAS	OPEN AUDITION 2:45PM START
	4:30PM END OF DAY	5:00PM END OF DAY	4:15PM END OF DAY

COMPANY MEMBERS



ISAAC
ROBERTSON



KATELYN
ALTMANN



TESSA
RITCHEY



MAGGIE
SEER



GRETA
JENKINS



ELISABETH
ROSKOPF



GINA
LAURENZI



GABI
SUSTACHE



ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
CHRISTAL WAGNER

Christal Wagner is the Artistic Director of Danceworks Performance MKE and an alumna of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee dance department (BFA), where she is also adjunct faculty. She is a screendance artist and has produced work as a cinematographer, performer, editor, and director for Joe Goode, Josh Halverson, Maria Gillespie, Danceworks Inc, Milwaukee Dance Theatre Network, Milwaukee Opera Theatre, UWM Dance, The Saint Kate Arts Hotel, The Cactus Club, and Li Chiao-Ping Dance, where she was a 2020 SEED Creation Fund grant recipient. Christal has danced for Your Mother Dances, Gina Laurenzi Dance Project, Dawn Springer Dance Projects, Skylight Music Theatre, and spent 14 years as a company member with DPMKE. Christal is a co-founder of the music and dance trio Cadance Collective, co-creating pieces through processes where music and dance are worked on simultaneously through improvisational practices and original soundscapes. In 2020, Christal Wagner became the Saint Kate Art Hotel's first artist in co-residence. She is the recipient of 8 Wisconsin Jerry Awards for her work in musical theatre and has choreographed over 20 musicals in the city of Milwaukee. Christal's mission is to support and elevate the voices of her community, collaborators, and fellow artists.

THE FACULTY

SPECIAL GUESTS



ADREAN MAXWELL

Adrean Maxwell, also known as Prince Adrean, embarked on his dance journey in the sacred halls of church, where his love for dance was born. With Ton Ko-thi as his training ground, Adrean honed his skills inside West African dance as a member of the Ko-thi Dance Company's youth ensemble, collaborating with esteemed artists such as Naima Adedapo, Bembe Drum and Dance, Yousouf Koumbassa Mbemba Bangoura, Ameniya Payne, and more. Amidst the challenges of the pandemic, Adrean and fellow members of Milwaukee's dance community founded a collective in 2020 to celebrate the culture that has enriched the city for over 55 years. Co-founding Milwaukee African Drum and Dance, Adrean serves as the lead choreographer and artistic director, continuing to showcase the rich tapestry of West African dance and drum culture. Balancing academia and artistry, Adrean is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Dance at Columbia College Chicago, while also lending his talents as a company member of Muntu Dance Theater. Beyond his performances, Adrean crafts choreography that pays homage to the diverse traditions within the African diaspora inside a contemporary fashion



SEJAIN BASTIDAS

Sejain Bastidas was born in Caracas, Venezuela. She started her ballet training at the age of seven, at the Freddy Reyna Ballet and Music School and finished her training and graduated as a professional ballet dancer at Fundación Gustavo Franklin Ballet Arte School. She has been part of many professional ballet companies, including Ballet Contemporaneo de Caracas (2009), The Metropolitan Ballet in Minneapolis, Minnesota (2010-2011), the Nina Novak Ballet (2011), Ballet Nuevo Mundo de Caracas (2012-2013), and the Compania de Ballet del Teatro Teresa Carreño de Caracas (2013-2016). She has also danced as a soloist dancer with the National Ballet of Ecuador (2016-2017) and The National Ballet of Peru (2017-2022). Sejain participated in the opening gala of the 2019 PanAmerican Games, the World Ballet Competition in Orlando, Florida, and she has been featured in dance history books in her home country of Venezuela. She was involved in a social media campaign with the United Nations about arts and immigration in Latin America and also had a mini-documentary made about her story as an immigrant artist on the Ecuadorian television show "Cara a Cara con Rosalía."



PETER STATHAS

Peter Stathas began his dance career at the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point and transferred to SUNY Purchase to finish his dance training. He moved to New York City to study with such dance luminaries as Gerri Houlihan, Lar Lubovitch, Mel Wong, Mark Morris and his mentor Maggie Black. He performed with the Jose Limon Dance Company and worked extensively with Bessie winning choreographer and filmmaker Marta Renzi.

For the past 30 years, Peter has worked as a Physical Therapist forming his own successful private practice, Freedom Physical Therapy Services, which has four locations in the greater Milwaukee area. After a long hiatus, his love for dance inspired his decision to return to choreography. Peter returned to the stage in 2016 presenting his first work in over 30 years. Learn more at peterstathasdance.com.

COMPANY BIOS



KATELYN ALTMANN

Katelyn Altmann (she/her) is a movement-based artist, choreographer, and improviser currently residing in Milwaukee, WI. She graduated magna cum laude with a BFA in Contemporary Dance Performance and Choreography from the UW-Milwaukee's Peck School of the Arts and currently serves as adjunct faculty for the UW-Milwaukee Department of Dance. Her choreographic work has been set on Wild Space Dance Company, UW- Milwaukee, and Point Dance Ensemble. It has also been shown at Velocity(WA), Gibney(NY), Danceworks(WI), MYARTS(WI), Milwaukee Fringe Festival(WI), Dance Masters of Wisconsin(WI) and the Chicago National Association of Dance Masters(ILL). Her work, "soft ground, stiff shoulder" was selected to be presented at the 2019 ACDA conference. Altmann has collaborated with and performed in works by Esther Baker-Tarapa, Daniel Burkholder, Li Chiao-Ping, Mair Culbreth, Simone Ferro, Melanie George, Joe Goode, Maria Gillespie, Holly Johnson, Debra Loewen, Dawn Springer, Christal Wagner and worked with artists such as Ishmael Houston-Jones, Kathleen Hermesdorf, and Irene Dowd among others. She is a current performance and collaborative artist with Wild Space Dance Company, Danceworks Performance MKE, Li Chiao Ping Dance, Gina Laurenzi Dance Project and Hyperlocal MKE. Katelyn's work lives in embodied study, tested and realized through creation processes, improvisational strategies and performance. This takes shape through porous embodiment, visceral play, collaboration and radical attunement.



ELISABETH ROSKOPF

Elisabeth Roskopf is a dancer, performer, choreographer, educator, pianist, and a mother to her daughter, Alina. Elisabeth was born in South Korea and raised in Appleton, Wisconsin where she began dancing at the age of 6. She is a company member of Li Chiao-Ping Dance, Danceworks Performance MKE, the Gina Laurenzi Dance Project, and a performance collaborator with Wild Space Dance Company. Elisabeth co-produced and performed in "Provenance: A Letter to My Daughter", an award winning screendance work created with director/choreographer Li Chiao-Ping and cinematographer/editor Christal Wagner. Elisabeth teaches ballet and modern classes at UW-Milwaukee where she is earning her MFA in Dance as well as performing and studying under the distinguished professors and guest artists such as Daniel Burkholder, Maria Gillespie, Mair Culbreth, Dan Schuchart, Dawn Springer, Deb Loewen, Mauriah Donegan Kraker, Vershawn Sanders-Ward, Alexandra Beller, and Sooyeon Lee. Elisabeth is also the Founder and Creative Director of Dance For Diversity, an annual screendance project that is made explicitly for Choreographers of Color to share their unique voices and stories of identity through their dance-making and performance work. Elisabeth signed on as a model and actress with The Belle Agency in hopes that she can create greater representation for herself, her daughter, and other Asian Americans in the film industry.



GINA LAURENZI

Gina Laurenzi graduated from the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee (UWM) with a BFA in Dance: Choreography & Performance. Before beginning her chapter in Milwaukee, Gina was awarded a full merit scholarship to train at Giordano Dance Chicago and later performed with Giordano II and Inside Chicago Dance, among other Chicago artists. Since living in Milwaukee, Laurenzi has been able to perform the works of Daniel Burkholder, Simone Ferro, Marie Gillespie, Dani Kuepper, Deb Loewen, Dawn Springer, Christal Wagner, and Morgan Williams among many others. Laurenzi continues to set work on the Gina Laurenzi Dance Project and has created works for Danceworks Performance MKE (DPMKE), Danceworks Youth Performance Company, Danceworks Intergenerational Performance Company (DIPC), Makaroff Youth Ballet (Appleton, WI), the Milwaukee Ballet's Pre-Professional Program students, Milwaukee's High School of the Arts, UWM Dance Dept., and Water Street Dance Milwaukee. Laurenzi is currently on faculty at both Danceworks and the Milwaukee Ballet and continues to teach at UWM where she is also pursuing her MFA in Dance. Laurenzi is happy to be able to continue to work with the wonderful artists of DPMKE after performing with the company since 2013.



TESSA RITCHEY

Tessa Ritchey (she/her) was born and raised in Walworth, Wisconsin, where she trained at The Dance Factory. She graduated from The University of Iowa in 2018 with a B.F.A. in Dance Performance and Choreography. Tessa has furthered her training by attending intensives such as American Dance Festival, ELSCO Dance Intensive, NW Dance Projects Five Dance Days, the Gypsy Project, and Water Street Dance Festival. While in college, Tessa apprenticed for Dance In the Parks in Chicago, where she was able to perform and help run the shows. Along with performance experience, she has had multiple of her own choreographic works produced by the university, one of which was selected to perform at the 2018 ACDA North Central Conference. After college, Tessa has had her work presented at the College of DuPage's Choreographic Showcase, MADCO 2's Dare To Dance, Trifecta's A New Light, the Iowa Dance Festival, Emergence, SMUSH Moves Vol. 7, JELLO, and MKE Fringe. Tessa has had the privilege of working with Alluvion, a Chicago Dance Company, premiering a work in 2019 as well as in 2023.



GABI SUSTACHE

Gabi Sustache, a Milwaukee native, is a performer, choreographer, and dance educator. A recent graduate from UW-Milwaukee, where she received her Bachelor of Arts in dance from the program in Spring of 2020. In addition to being a member of Danceworks Performance MKE, she is also a company member with Danceworks On Tap, Danceworks' resident tap dance company. Gabi enjoys performing with various Milwaukee-based hip hop crews and was recently a guest performer with the Gina Laurenzi Dance Project. Her choreography has been featured as part of Danceworks' DancelAB concert series Ignite: A Hip Hop Dance Experience from 2013-19, Get It Out There 2016-19, Milwaukee Bucks halftime performances, for several high school musical theater productions in and around the Milwaukee area, and was selected in 2019 to be adjudicated at the American College Dance Association's North Central Conference. Gabi joined the Danceworks faculty in 2014, where she teaches studio classes. You can also find Gabi teaching in the community for the Danceworks Mad Hot Rhythm program in addition to other workshops and residency work.



ISAAC ROBERTSON

Isaac Jerin Robertson (He/They) has been passionately involved in the art of dance and dance making for over 17 years. Robertson first started their training in post modern and Graham styles under the direction of Lisa Andrea Thurrell and Robert E. Cleary. Isaac also studied classical ballet at Madison Ballet under the direction of W. Earl Smith. Later, from 2010-2014, Robertson danced with Kanopy Dance Company for four seasons. They attended summer dance programs on scholarship at Pacific Northwest Ballet and Alonzo King LINES Ballet. As an undergraduate at the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee, Isaac studied contemporary dance and choreography from 2014-2017. Isaac Jerin has been a company dancer with Danceworks Performance MKE (DPMKE) since 2018. Robertson toured with DPMKE to the 2022 Making Space Festival held by TBD dance collective based in Omaha, Nebraska. Isaac continues to create work, educate and dance in Milwaukee. Isaac plans to go back to UW-Milwaukee in Fall 2024 to finish their BFA degree.

GRETA JENKINS

Greta Jenkins is a dance artist, choreographer, teacher, and personal trainer. She has been a Milwaukee resident for two years and grew up dancing in northern Kentucky. She received her BFA in dance performance from Ball State University. While at college, Greta became fascinated with combining the two worlds of artistry and athleticism to create authentic contemporary movement connections for the body and soul. While in school, Greta had the opportunity to learn and perform the repertoire piece "Steps in the street" by the Martha Graham Dance Company. She also performed work by Chicago choreographer Jamey Meek and had the privilege to train and perform at the Radio City Rockette Summer Intensive in NYC. Greta is also a company artist with THREE POINT PROJECT. She has performed with THREE POINT PROJECT in MashUp Contemporary Dance Company's International Women's Day Dance Festival in Los Angeles as well as THREE POINT PROJECT'S Milwaukee show "INTRINSIC". Greta has also performed with DPMKE at TBD Dance Collective's "Making Space" Dance festival in 2022.



MAGGIE SEER

Maggie Seer is a seasoned fundraising professional known for her leadership in advancing arts organizations in Milwaukee, WI. Currently Director of Institutional Giving at the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra (MSO), she drives corporate, foundation, and government fundraising goals through strategic collaboration with board members and executive leadership. Maggie has extensive expertise in managing grants and funder relationships, including proposal writing, donor research, and effective gift stewardship. With additional background in annual campaigns, donor cultivation, and event management, Maggie has also contributed to organizations like the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee's Peck School of the Arts, Danceworks, and Present Music. Committed to Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, Maggie serves on the MSO's EDI Leadership Committee. Her passion for the arts is rooted in her training in contemporary dance and vocal music. Maggie received her BFA in Dance Performance from UW-Milwaukee and has worked professionally for the past decade with companies such as Danceworks MKE, Wild Space Dance Company, Hyperlocal, Present Music, the MSO, Skylight, and more. Outside of work, she enjoys rock climbing and outdoor adventures with her fiancé and their Pitbull, Trisha.

ABOUT DPMKE

Danceworks Performance MKE, formerly Danceworks Performance Company (DPC) - is an ensemble of performing artists that uses its diverse breadth of techniques to strengthen the virtuosity of art making through dance performance. The group maintains a commitment to celebrating the vitality and diversity of the Milwaukee arts community, creating works with curiosity and rigor, heightening the voices and talents of our skilled performers and community members.