

Dance

The Oberlin College Dance Program functions within the liberal arts tradition. Though many of the students go on to be successful dancers and choreographers, the emphasis in the department is on encouraging students to create, perform, and think about movement in a manner that is consonant with their experience in the other fine and liberal arts.

Dance at Oberlin is characterized by its commitment to experimentation and creation of original work. Student, faculty, and visiting artist choreography is shown throughout the year in events ranging from fully produced proscenium concerts to adjudicated student concerts presented in the dance-specific Main Space theatre to student-run concerts that embrace a wide variety of student work. Choreographers often are involved in collaborations with musicians and composers from Oberlin's Conservatory of Music, as well as with media and installation artists from the Art Department. This type of creative work is guided and supported by dance faculty who collaborate and teach with faculty from related disciplines.

From their first semester at Oberlin, students have many opportunities to create work and to perform. These are not limited to dance majors or minors; all auditions – from placement classes for upper level technique classes to auditions for performances – are open to all students. First year students who have had experience in dance can step into the upper level courses. Students for whom dance is a new venture can choose from a variety of introductory courses requiring no prior experience.

Courses offered in the Dance program are often cross-listed with Women's Studies and with African American Studies, reflecting the integration of scholarly and artistic pursuits and the diversity of offerings in the dance curriculum.

Student run organizations hold classes and produce concerts that focus on jazz, tap, hip hop, and a broad array of forms not included in the course offerings. Winter Term allows students the opportunity for intensive study with a guest artist on campus, to study dance off campus, or to work on a project devised by the individual student. Recent Winter

Term projects included Bellydance, Capoeira, and Contact Improvisation.

The Theatre and Dance Program offers students an interrelated series of courses and performance activities designed to provide a sound liberal arts grounding in the theory and practice of theater and dance. Our major objectives are:

- a. To provide a critical understanding and enhanced appreciation for theater and dance, and their relationships to other liberal arts.
- b. To encourage interdisciplinary artistic collaboration and studies with such related disciplines as Music, Film, English, Art, Creative Writing, and others.
- c. To provide concentrated preparation in dance and theater for students wishing to pursue advanced studies or professional careers.
- d. To provide practical experiences in all aspects of production, both on and back stage.

Oberlin Dance Season 2006-2007

DANCE DIASPORA CONCERT, Adenike Sharpley

November 10th and 11th, 8 PM, Warner Main Space

A performance by the Dance Diaspora student company, directed by Adenike Sharpley of Theater and Dance and African-American Studies.

FELL

November 12th, 7 PM, Warner Main Space

Non-adjudicated works presented by and for students.

FALL FORWARD

November 30th, December 1st and 2nd, 8 PM, Warner Main Space

Adjudicated works by students and faculty.

MUSIC AND DANCE IMPROVISATION RESIDENCY:

Chris Aiken and Andre' Gribou

January 11th-14th, Warner Main Space

A part of the Winter Term Improvisation Symposium.

DIANNE MCINTYRE DANCE RESIDENCY

January 15th-26th, Warner Main Space

Dianne McIntyre was recently awarded a Bessie for her pioneering work with women, African-American and American spiritual traditions in dance, and for fusing music and words. Ms. McIntyre will teach technique and choreograph a new piece for the students in this Winter Term Project.

DAUGHTER OF A BUFFALO SOLDIER

Choreographed by Dianne McIntyre, performed by Michael Medcalf and **Cleveland Contemporary Dance Company.**

February 9th and 10th, 8 PM, Warner Main Space

Based on the story of Oberlin alumna Margaret Christian.

KAYO MIKAMI -- Butoh Guest Artist from Japan

Lecture/Performance -- February 16th, 4:30 PM, Warner Main Space

Masterclass -- February 17th, 1 PM, Warner Main Space

LADY AOI, A TALE OF GENJI CHARACTER

February 20th, 8 PM, Warner Main Space

A Noh play presented by a twelve member company from Japan.

February 19th 4:30-6:00 PM, Warner Main Space.

*A company member will lead a **master class**.*

Also sponsored by East Asian Studies.

VIBE TAP AND JAZZ COMPANY

March 2nd and 3rd, 8 PM, Warner Main Space

Jazz and Tap dances choreographed and performed by members of this student organization.

ESSENCE DANCE CONCERT, Adenike Sharpley

March 16th and 17th, 8 PM, Warner Main Space

An annual concert designed to promote and develop creativity in dance performance, through the Black experience. Dance forms used include: modern, Afro-forms, Black urban vernacular dances.

SPRING BACK

April 12th, 13th, and 14th, 8 PM, Warner Main Space

Adjudicated works by students and faculty members.

SENIOR DANCE CONCERT, TATYANA TENENBAUM

April 27th and 28th, 8 PM, Warner Main Space

A concert integrating music and dance by senior dance and music composition major, Tatyana Tenenbaum.

SPRUNG

April 29th, 7 PM, Warner Main Space

Non-adjudicated works presented by and for students.

OBERLIN DANCE COMPANY

May 4th and 5th, 8 PM, Hall Auditorium

The student dance company will perform works created by guest choreographer K.T. Niehoff, artistic director of LINGO Dance Theater and a founding member of the Velocity Dance Center of Seattle, and also by Oberlin guest choreographer Holly Handman-Lopez.

TIMARA AND DANCE ALUMNI FESTIVAL

May 11th, 8 PM, Hall Auditorium

A concert of Oberlin alumni choreographers and composers who continue to work collaboratively.

COMMENCEMENT DANCE CONCERT

May 27th, Warner Main Space

Graduating Seniors present their works in an open concert.

Revised 11/2006