DANCE (DANC)

Graduate Degree Program
College: Arts and Humanities

Abstract
The School of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies offers a Master of Fine Arts degree in Dance, focusing on developing highly skilled teaching artists with concentrations in either performance or choreography. The program is designed to give outstanding students advanced training, experience in teaching, and opportunities for creative growth. The School also offers MA, MFA, and PhD degrees in theatre. For more information visit the School website at http://tdps.umd.edu.

Aimed primarily at modern or contemporary dancers with a high skill level and background in creating and performing at a professional level, the MFA Dance program integrates studio, theory, and pedagogical practices, culminating in the third year in both a shared concert of original work(s) and an off-campus internship in a professional organization, agency, company, or school.

The competencies that students learn during the program will allow them to teach a broad range of dance and dance-related subjects after they graduate. They will be able to produce and present dance in a number of contexts and modalities, on campus, in professional and site-specific venues, and in the community.

The program provides many performance opportunities, which are directed by faculty members, visiting guest artists and fellow students. Important emphasis is given to dance theory and practices in western and world dance and to the study of current issues. We wish our graduates to exhibit a high degree of insight into the cultural contexts in which dance has developed in the past and continues to develop today.

Students are expected to spend a significant amount of time learning about technical aspects of dance as well as promotion and house management and the myriad of other organizational details that go into producing a dance performance. They will be actively involved in the practical application of this knowledge as part of their training.

The program is highly selective (four students per year) and auditions are required. The MFA is a full-time three-year program. Financial support is available for each student selected.

Financial Assistance
Four candidates are admitted each Fall, and each of the four are offered financial support through teaching assistantship appointments, or if available, fellowships. Assistantships are never guaranteed and funding can change year to year. All qualified applicants may be nominated for Graduate School fellowships; the deadline for all applications is posted on the TPDS website annually. For more information, visit http://tdps.umd.edu or call 301-405-6694.

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Keywords: Competency-based degree with emphasis on developing highly skilled teaching artists with concentrations in either performance or choreography. Option to receive Certification in Laban Movement Studies.

Admissions
General Requirements
• Statement of Purpose
• Transcript(s)
• TOEFL/IELTS/PTE (international graduate students (https://gradschool.umd.edu/admissions/english-language-proficiency-requirements))

Program-Specific Requirements
• Letters of Recommendation (3)
• CV/Resume
• Sample of Work: A 10-15 minute video, providing example of applicant’s choreography with a description to include name of the work, performers and other choreographers, either on the applicant’s professional website or through a Vimeo/YouTube link entered into the Multimedia Requirements section of the application

Applicants should have a strong undergraduate preparation in technique and dance composition. They should have completed the following undergraduate courses or their equivalent: improvisation, kinesiology, dance teaching methods, dance production, Laban Movement Analysis, and two semesters of dance history or one semester of history and one of dance philosophy, ethnology or aesthetics. Undergraduate deficiencies will be considered on an individual basis.

For more admissions information or to apply to the program, please visit our Graduate School website: www.gradschool.umd.edu/admissions

Application Deadlines

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Type of Applicant</th>
<th>Fall Deadline</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Domestic Applicants</td>
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<tr>
<td>US Citizens and Permanent Residents</td>
<td>25 Jan</td>
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<td>International Applicants</td>
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<tr>
<td>F (student) or J (exchange visitor) visas; A, E, G, H, I and L visas and immigrants</td>
<td>25 Jan</td>
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For more admissions information or to apply to the program, please visit our Graduate School website: www.gradschool.umd.edu/admissions
Other Deadlines: Please visit the program website at http://tdps.umd.edu/programs/mfa-dance

Requirements

- Dance, Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) (https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/graduate/programs/dance-danc/dance-mfa)

Facilities and Special Resources

The location of the campus, eight miles away from Washington D.C., places the School a half hour away from America’s arts district where one may study and enjoy a wide variety of offerings of ballet, modern and world dance. Washington D.C. is also a center for policy and participation in the public discourse about the arts.

Faculty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>First/Middle Name</th>
<th>Graduate Faculty Status</th>
<th>Academic Credentials</th>
<th>Positions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fang</td>
<td>Adriane</td>
<td>Full Member</td>
<td>M.F.A. Dance, George Mason University, 2009; B.A. Dance/Psychology, University of Wisconsin Stevens Point, 1996, NYC; Wally Cardona, Gwen Welliver, Ronald K. Brown, Christian Canciani, Kevin Wynn, Jackie Villamil, Jan Miller, Cherylyn Lavagnino</td>
<td>Keefe Maura Full Member</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pearson

Sara

Full Member

BA, Dance/Music, University of Minnesota, 1971;
Nikolaus Louis Dance Lab, New York City, 1973-74;
Alexander Technique/Somatic Training, Regina Wray, Ann Rodiger, 1976-96

Associate Professor, Dance

Widrig

Patrik

Full Member

BA, Education, Pädagogische Hochschule Rorschach, Switzerland, 1981;
Nikolaus Louis Dance Lab, New York City, 1984-87;
Alexander Technique/Somatic Training, Regina Wray, Ann Rodiger, 1986-96