



COLLEGE DANCE

 College of DuPage



Photo by Jason Adrian, courtesy of Suburban Living Magazine

Welcome to the MAC! Your home for entertainment.

I have worked in the performing arts for the entirety of my career and after 10 seasons at the MAC, I can unequivocally say our patrons are ***Simply the Best!*** The support you provide and the sense of community you have fostered make the

MAC such a special place for all who step through the doors. In honor of our patrons, the MAC is bringing you ***Simply the Best!*** in the 2024-2025 season. Get ready for an incredible year with the best shows.

Join us for a complimentary pre-show MAC Chat or Q&A following specific performances. Our arts center, located in a community college, offers over 60 student productions supported by professional lighting, sound, and costumes. These can be enjoyed at affordable costs, or you can attend our FREE programs like Music Fridays at Noon and our free International Global Film series in February. We hope to exceed your expectations with excellent service and special pre- and post-show engagement opportunities. These will help you connect with the artists and art forms more deeply. While you are here, don't forget to visit the Cleve Carney Museum of Art in the lobby to experience cutting-edge contemporary art. You can also enjoy our full-service concession area and gift shop.

After your visit, please stay connected with us by joining us on Facebook (AtTheMAC) or subscribing to our e-newsletter to find out about added shows, events, and special offers (www.AtTheMAC.org). We challenge you to try something new at the MAC and expand your cultural palate. Come see the New Philharmonic Orchestra or a Buffalo Theatre Ensemble play. Or join us this summer for the Hokusai exhibit. We are grateful for your presence here and we want to ensure that your visit is enjoyable. If you need anything, please don't hesitate to ask any of the staff and we will do our best to accommodate you.

Thank you for being a part of our community of arts enthusiasts and being ***Simply the Best!*** We can't wait to share these unforgettable experiences with you and hope you have a wonderful time. We look forward to entertaining you and seeing you at the theater.

Enjoy the show!

Diana Martinez
Director, McAninch Arts Center

Dance at the MAC

It is with great enthusiasm that I welcome you to College of DuPage's 2024 Catalyst Dance Concert! This is the Dance Program's fourth performance since I joined the faculty, and I am so proud to share the growth of our program and of the students with you this season. Since last semester we have welcomed two new faculty members, Rachel Benzing and Todd Rhoades. Rachel received her MFA in Dance from Trinity Laban Conservatoire; is a writer for SeeChicagoDance.com; an award-winning Tap, Jazz, and Hip Hop instructor throughout the Chicagoland area; and has performed with the Chicago Human Rhythm Project Rhythm World Festival, M.A.D.D Rhythms, and Tapman Productions as well as in her own works. Todd received his MFA in Dance from the University of Iowa; has danced professionally across the US with various dance, theater, and opera companies – here in Chicago with Luna Negra Dance Theater, Danzloop Chicago, The Seldoms, Ron de Jesus Dance Theater, and the Lyric Opera of Chicago; and is a sought-after choreographer and dance educator working throughout the Chicago area and nationwide. We are so proud to have them join our faculty!

I would like to thank our guest choreographer Marc Macaranas who has set a beautiful new work on our students this semester titled *Cozy Modus*. It has been such a joy to have Marc with us in the studio this semester and have him share his expertise and artistry with our students! Marc is the Head of Dance at Northern Illinois University and it has been an enriching opportunity for our dancers to work with him and learn more about dance in a university setting.

I am especially excited to present dance for the camera as part of *Catalyst* as an alternative viewpoint and medium for dance. If making dance films or learning motion capture technologies is of interest to you, consider registering for Dance Technology (Dance 1820-001) in the spring semester. Other new classes listed in the Spring semester are Dance Pedagogy or learning how to teach dance (Dance 1130) and Hip Hop (Dance 1180-002).

If you are interested in joining the Dance Program, our Spring courses and the Emergence Dance Concert choreographer/dancer information dates are listed in the program and online – all are welcome to participate with no auditions or experience required. The Dance Program at COD believes dance is for everybody and every body, and we welcome you to join us!

I would like to lastly thank those who have been collaborators and that work continually to support the Dance Program: Dr. Brian Carlson; Stephen Thompson; Rachel Benzing; Guillermo Leyva Barley; kt williams; Todd Rhoades; Daniel Millhouse; Tim Arroyo; Katherine Sifers; Mara Baker; Elliot Bowers; Nelson Cantada; David Ouellette; David Swope; Iva Erkapic, Wellin Chen; Tracey Dulceak; Sal Garcia and Multimedia Services; Rick Arnold; Kim Morris; Elias Morales; Diana Martinez and the entire staff of the McAninch Arts Center; the staff and faculty of the Arts, Communication, and Hospitality Division; the students of the COD Dance Program; and the Interim President of College of DuPage, Dr. Christine Hammond.

Please enjoy the 2024 Catalyst Dance Concert, and we look forward to seeing you in our audience and studio again soon!

Jessica Kondrath

Dance Program Adjunct Faculty | Catalyst Fall Dance Concert Artistic Director
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McAninch Arts Center
at College of DuPage
presents

Catalyst

Dance Concert

College of DuPage Dance Faculty

Guillermo Leyva Barley
Rachel Benzing
Jessica Kondrath
Todd Rhoades
kt williams

Artistic Director

Jessica Kondrath

Student Choreographers

Madi Doweidt, Katrina Spencer Fenner, Grace Gagliano,
Francheska Lopez, Aubrey McGee, Allie Psaras, Sonya Vallejo

Guest Artist

Marc Macaranas

Lighting Design

Elias Morales

Costume Design

Kimberly G. Morris

*The use of flash photography is strictly prohibited during the performance.
Food and beverages are prohibited in the theatre. Please turn off cell phones
and refrain from talking during the performance. Thank you.*

Friday, Oct. 25, 2024
Belushi Performance Hall, 7:30 p.m.

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MURMURATION

Choreography: Jessica Kondrath, COD Dance Faculty

Music: Hauschka

Dancers: Angelina Enea, Grace Gagliano, Xavier Lillig, Aubrey McGee, Ruby Meza, Allie Psaras, Grace Smith, Lena Smith, and Sonya Vallejo

Monsters of the Mushroom Garden

A film by Madi Doweidt

Cinematography: Aubrey McGee

Editing: Katrina Spencer Fenner

Direction & Dancers: Madi Doweidt, Katrina Spencer Fenner, and Aubrey McGee

Music: Various sounds of the night

Location: Under the stars in a Garden of Mushrooms

Dreams of Long Away

Choreography: Todd Rhoades, COD Dance Faculty

Music: Wilson Hicken

Dancers: Madi Doweidt, Katrina Spencer Fenner, Taylor Fuller, Mary Guzman-Ryan, Annika Larson, Angelica Martinez, Aubrey McGee, Lena Smith, and Hanna White

A Girl in Her Own World

Choreographer and Performer: Grace Gagliano, Student Choreographer

Music: Loren Allred

I Want To Dance!!

Choreography: kt williams, COD Dance Faculty

Music: ESG

Dancers: Theresa Behme, Lashan Cobb, Katrina Spencer Fenner, Frankie Lopez, Allie Psaras, Lena Smith, Jameson Smykal, and Sonya Vallejo

COD Modern I/II

PROGRAM

Back to Black

Choreography: Madi Doweidt, Student Choreographer

Music: Amy Winehouse

Dancers: Madi Doweidt, Grace Gagolino, Kate Houlahan, Annika Larson, Aubrey McGee, Kennedy McGuire, Hannah Simpson, and Hanna White

Orange Colored Sky

Choreography: Rachel Benzing, COD Dance Faculty

Music: Natalie Cole

Dancers: Gabriella Jurinek, Ruth Nelson, and Grace Smith
COD Tap I

Cozy Modus

Choreography: Marc Macaranas, Guest Artist

Music: Jan Jelinek

Dancers: Madi Doweidt, Angelina Enea, Katrina Spencer Fenner, Grace Gagliano, Ara Krossovitch, Ruby Meza, Aubrey McGee, Allie Psaras, Lena Smith, Sonya Vallejo, and Hanna White

INTERMISSION

Fifth Wall

Choreography: kt williams, COD Dance Faculty

Music: Michael Wall

Dancers: Madi Doweidt, Aubrey McGee, Ruby Meza, Grace Smith, Lena Smith, Allie Psaras, and Sonya Vallejo

Growing Pains

Film concept and editing: Katrina Spencer Fenner

Direction: Katrina Spencer Fenner, Ben Sanchez, and Ethan Sanchez

Cinematography: Ben Sanchez and Ethan Sanchez

Music: Ellise

Performers: Dorraine Fenner, Katrina Spencer Fenner, and Elizabeth Psaras

PROGRAM

u t o p i a

Choreography: Frankie Lopez, Student Choreographer

Music: Rihanna

Dancers: Angelina Enea, Katrina Spencer Fenner, Ara Krossovitch, Angelica Martinez, Frankie Lopez, Grace Smith, Lena Smith, Jameson Smykal, and Hanna White

Tarantella

Choreography: Guillermo Leyva Barley, COD Dance Faculty

Music: Danish National Radio Symphony Orchestra
& Gennady Rozhdestvensky

Dancers: Theresa Behme, Eva Buxton, Donna Douglas, Silvia Escorcia, Jennifer Glowacki, Annika Larson, Daniela Luna, Aubrey McGee, Enya Mejia, Odalis Mendez, Melissa Milford, Nasirah Scott, and Hannah Simpson

COD Ballet I/II

BRIEF PAUSE

RUE

Choreography: Aubrey McGee, Student Choreographer

Music: Justin Timberlake

Dancers: Madi Doweidt, Angelina Enea, Taylor Fuller, Kate Houlahan, Frankie Lopez, Ruby Meza, Allie Psaras, Sonya Vallejo, and Hanna White

Convulsions

Choreographer and Dancer: Katrina Spencer Fenner,
Student Choreographer

Music: Madison Beer

road runners

A film by Aubrey McGee

Dancers and Cinematographers: EJ Marshall, Aubrey McGee, Avery McGee

Choreography and Concept: Aubrey McGee

Music: Jungle

PROGRAM

Kataniko

Choreography: Allie Psaras & Sonya Vallejo, Student Choreographers

Music: Labrinth

Dancers: Theresa Behme, Angelina Enea, Katrina Spencer Fenner, Taylor Fuller, Grace Gagliano, Mary Guzman-Ryan, Kate Houlahan, Xavier Lillig, Allie Psaras, and Sonya Vallejo

French Fry Feet

A Film by Allie Psaras

Featuring: Madi Doweidt, Katrina Spencer Fenner, Aubrey McGee, and Allie Psaras

Music: Michael Wall

Last Dance

Choreography: Rachel Benzing, COD Dance Faculty

Music: Donna Summer

Dancers: Amaryah Chandler, Katrina Spencer Fenner, Grace Gagliano, Ana Garcia, Aubrey McGee, Kennedy McGuire, Kaitlynn Pace, Allie Psaras, Tana Purcell, and Xavier Lillig

COD Jazz I/II

PRODUCTION STAFF

Production Manager.....Richard Arnold, Jr.
Stage Manager..... Elias Morales
Technical Director Elias Morales
Audio Engineer..... Zak Zubka
Stage HandsNathan Sojka, Courtney Lilly
Costume Shop Manager Kimberly G. Morris
Assistant Costume Shop Supervisor.....Gretchen Woodley
Costume Shop AssistantsLynn Borge, Natalie Cross, Eleanor Evans,
Will Lech, Courtney Lilly, Z Fritz

SPRING DANCE PROGRAM COURSE OFFERINGS

1/27/2025 – 5/23/2025

Dance Appreciation	DANCE 1100	NET/Online	
Ballet I/II	DANCE 1101/1102	M/W	1:00 - 2:50 PM
Modern I/II	DANCE 1104/1105	T/Th	10:30 AM - 12:20 PM
Jazz I/II	DANCE 1107/1108	M/W	9:00 AM - 10:50 AM
Tap I	DANCE 1110	M/W	11:00 AM - 12:50 PM
Hip Hop	DANCE 1820-002	T/TH	10:30 AM - 12:20 PM
Choreography & Composition	DANCE 1122	T/Th	1:00 - 2:15 PM
Dance Pedagogy	DANCE 1130	M/W	6:00 – 8:50 PM
Dance & Technology	DANCE 1820	T/Th	1:00 PM - 2:50PM
Dance Production & Performance	DANCE 1120	T/Th/F	T 2:45 – 4:55PM Th 3:00-5:10 PM F 12:00-2:10 PM

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SPRING DANCE CONCERT

**FACULTY, GUEST ARTIST, AND STUDENT
CHOREOGRAPHERS/DANCERS INFORMATIONAL MEETING**

Tuesday, Jan. 28th 3:00-5:15PM

PEC Room 145/Dance Studio

*Come learn about performing in the Dance Concerts
All are welcome to join, no experience required*

Questions or for more information email
Jessica Kondrath kondrathj@cod.edu



Dining Partners

Eat, drink & enjoy - MAC dining partners

Coupons are only valid on performance days or nights.

For all your pre-show meals and post-show bites, we are thrilled to be partnering with these neighborhood restaurants. Our dining partners offer MAC patrons exclusive discounts and special offers. All MAC ticket orders receive coupons to these local favorite restaurants!



GUEST ARTIST PROFILE

Marc Macaranas (he/him) is a dance artist and educator whose creative practice includes performance, choreography, and media design. He has performed across North America and Europe with companies that include Lucky Plush, Rubberband, Khecari, The Seldoms, DanceWorks Chicago, Luna Negra Dance Theatre, Cerqua Rivera Dance Theatre, Big Boy Dance, and others. As a choreographer, Macaranas' work has been seen in the repertoires of Cerqua Rivera Dance Theatre, The Big Muddy Dance Company, and DanceWorks Chicago. He holds a BA in Dance from the University of California, Irvine and an MFA in Dance from the University of Iowa. He is an Assistant Professor of Dance at Northern Illinois University where he serves as Dance Program Coordinator in the School of Theatre and Dance.

COD FACULTY PROFILES

Guillermo Leyva Barley trained at the Professional School of Arts in Camaguey, Cuba. After graduating, he began dancing professionally at the Ballet de Camaguey under Fernando Alonso's direction. He was with the Ballet de Camaguey company for 11 years as a principal dancer where he danced several classic roles. Later he danced for three years with the Ballet de Monterrey in Mexico, under the direction of Ann Marie D' Angelo, Fernando Alonso, and Fernando Bujones. He also danced as a principal dancer with Joffrey Ballet of Chicago, Lexington Ballet, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Illinois Ballet, Cincinnati Ballet, Ballet de Santiago, Chile and Ballet Royal de Wallonie in Belgium. Leyva Barley has worked with renowned choreographers, Alberto Alonso, Frederick Franklin and danced under the direction of Alonso King and Randy Duncan. He is co-artistic director of Alma Dance Theater, NFP.

Leyva Barley has coached students for The Youth America Grand Prix Regionals and Finals resulting in his students placing and winning in both the junior and senior divisions. He was awarded Outstanding Teacher in 2014 at the Youth America Grand Prix Indianapolis Regional and in 2019 at the Chicago Semi-Finals.

Leyva Barley's dream as a child was to direct his own classical ballet company and to be a successful choreographer. He also dreamed of having his own Art Ballet School to help children from low-income areas to get out of the streets and become professional dancers. One of his goals is to keep passing on to his students all of his knowledge and experience, which he has always done with deep love.

Rachel Benzing (she/her), a native of South Elgin, IL, began her dance training at Copeland Dance Academy and continued her dance education studying at

COD FACULTY PROFILES

Joel Hall Dance Center, Visceral Dance Center, the American Rhythm Center, and as a member of Xtreme Dance Force. Her dance career has led her to learn from and perform for many great teachers and choreographers such as Sarah Burney, Brooke Pierotti, Tony Tzar, Laura Edwards, Lane Alexander, Lillian Barbeito, Rosalynde LeBlanc, Sarah Savelli, and many more proficient teachers from diverse backgrounds and styles.

Benzing graduated from Loyola Marymount University (2014) with a Bachelor's Degree in Dance and a Bachelor's Degree in History, where she was able to work with professional dance artists such as Lillian Barbeito (BODYTRAFFIC), Barak Marshall, Tony Czar, and Rosalynde LeBlanc (Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company), and choreographed numerous works, one of which was featured at the American College Dance Festival (2014). Benzing is a graduate of Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance where she received a Master of Fine Arts Degree (2016) in Dance: Creative Practice and was able to pursue a performance art based creative process.

Benzing has performed on stage in the Chicago Human Rhythm Project Rhythm World Festival with the reunion of the all female tap ensemble Rhythm ISS (2018) as well as performing with M.A.D.D. Rhythms in "A Journey Of The Dance Through Rhythm" (2019) and award-winning tap ensemble Tapman Productions original work "What It's Like To Be Human" (2019).

Benzing currently teaches in the Chicagoland area and choreographs for dance studios and competition teams around the country. Her work has won numerous awards for Choreography, Entertainment, Creative Concept, Overall Presentation, and has been chosen as contending nominees for the Industry Dance Awards. Rachel is a writer for SeeChicagoDance.com, writing reviews of professional dance performances in the greater Chicago area and holds a 200 hr level Yoga Teacher Certification from Core Power Yoga.

Jessica Kondrath, a Chicago native, holds degrees in dance from UC Santa Barbara (BFA) and California State University, Long Beach (MFA). Her choreography through her company GRAYSCALE has been presented nationally and internationally; and she's had works commissioned by Moorpark College, Mt. San Antonio College, Cyprus College, El Camino College, Rio Hondo College, CSU Long Beach, Santa Monica College, CSU Fullerton, College of DuPage, Stevenson and Beverly Hills High Schools, and Momenta Performing Arts Company for their 35th and 40th anniversary concerts.

She has taught guest classes and lectures at Loyola Marymount University, Colorado State University-Fort Collins, University of Wyoming-Laramie, CSU Fullerton, the University of Colorado-Boulder, Columbia College Chicago,

COD FACULTY PROFILES

Joffrey Ballet Academy, and Novia University in Finland.

As a dancer, Kondrath recently performed the works of Carol McDowell, Liz Hoefner Adamis/Immediate Action Dance, Sarita Smith-Childs and in her own work as part of the *Hi, Solo* series and at Beyond Baroque's Poetry Series *You Can Get There from Here* curated by Liz Hoefner Adamis.

Kondrath has been part of an ongoing collaboration with visual artist Diana Baumbach showing their collaborative works nationally and internationally, most recently at Columbia College Chicago. She was a recipient of the Professional Artist Fellowship Grant from the Arts Council of Long Beach for her work as the Artistic Director of GRAYSCALE, was recently nominated for a Faculty Teaching Award at Loyola University Chicago and listed as an Outstanding Divisional Adjunct Faculty Member at College of DuPage.

Over the past twenty years, Kondrath has also worked as a lighting designer for dance, a Pilates Instructor certified at the Kane School of Core Integration under the direction of Kelly Kane and she is currently on faculty in the Dance Departments of College of DuPage and Loyola University Chicago. Her most recent projects include an artist residency and premier of the evening length work *Invisible Landscapes* at The Visionary in Mt. Vision, NY, the One Hour Project with Project Bound in Chicago, for the choreography of the dance film *Hemlighet* in Vassa, Finland, and for the production of *Terräng* at Columbia College Chicago with Carina Ahlskog and Diana Baumbach.

Todd Rhoades received his BFA in Dance from Point Park University and his MFA in Dance from the University of Iowa. Rhoades has danced professionally across the US with various dance, theater, and opera companies. He started his professional dance career as a guest artist at Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, moving on as a company member at Ballet Austin. He relocated to Chicago, where he danced with Luna Negra Dance Theater, Danzloop Chicago, The Seldoms, and Ron de Jesus Dance Theater. Rhoades was a Principal Dancer with the Lyric Opera of Chicago for twelve years and performed at many of the Chicago theater houses, including the Marriott Theatre, Drury Lane Theater, the Paramount Theatre, and the Goodman Theatre. He was seen onstage at the Tennessee Williams Festival in Provincetown, MA, and the MUNY in St. Louis.

Rhoades' choreographic credits include Nomi Dance Theatre, Inaside Chicago Dance, Project Bound Dance, Chicago Dance in the Parks, Trifecta Dance Collective, Finger Lakes Opera/New York State Ballet, New Orleans Opera/New Orleans Ballet, Des Moines Metro Opera, Paramount Theatre (Aurora, IL), Music Theater Works (Wilmette, IL), Lifeline Theatre (Chicago, IL), The Theatre School - DePaul University, University of Michigan (Opera, Theater, Dance

COD FACULTY PROFILES

Departments), and The University of Iowa (Department of Dance). His works have been presented at the Trifecta Dance Festival (Chicago, IL, in 2020), MADCO – Dare to Dance (St. Louis, 2022), and the Iowa Dance Festival (The James Theater - Iowa City, IA, in 2022; Grinnell College - Grinnell, IA, in 2023).

As an instructor, Rhoades has taught movement in various forms, including dance (ballet, jazz, modern, contemporary), Pilates, Yoga, and functional exercise/injury prevention for over twenty years. He has been on faculty at Hollins University, The Theatre School – DePaul University, the University of Iowa - Department of Dance, Ballet Austin Academy, The Youth Ballet at the University of Iowa, and a guest instructor for Ballet Des Moines, Roanoke Ballet Theatre, Inaside Chicago Dance, Thodos Dance Chicago, and Chicago School of the Arts. Rhoades also served as the private yoga and Pilates instructor for the touring cast of Cirque du Soliel's Luzia.

Rhoades is a proud SDC, AEA, AGMA, and Director's Lab Chicago member.

kt williams is a contemporary dance artist, educator, and dance-maker based in Chicago, IL. She earned her MFA in Dance/Choreography from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and her BFA in Dance from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where she received the Donald Carducci Memorial Scholarship Award for overall excellence in dance performance.

She has performed professionally in works by Renay Aumiller, Sara Hook, Michael Estanich, Lucy Riner, Megan Rhodes, and B.J. Sullivan, and she currently dances with RE|Dance Group in Chicago, IL. As an artist, williams is curious about the intersections between history, space, and emotion and their somatic influence on the body. Her dance works dynamically blend concert dance, experimentation, and interdisciplinary performance, and she is fascinated by socially-engaged art practices and its ability to create immersive dance spaces that cultivate collective transformation.

In addition to choreographing as an independent artist, williams is also a co-founder and co-artistic director of DanSeries Collective with creative colleague Caitlyn Schrader. Together they make duet work that explores and pushes common traditions of dance performance through social provocation and immersive community platforms. williams is a practitioner and pedagogue of Safety Release Technique and her embodied practice is informed by somatic perspectives, including Bartenieff Fundamentals, the Feldenkrais Method, and Pilates. williams's pedagogical, artistic, and scholarly practice is collaborative in nature, as she genuinely believes working in community fosters the wellbeing and sustainability of the artist-citizen.



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STUDENT CHOREOGRAPHER PROFILES

This is **Madi Doweidt**'s second year in the dance program at College of DuPage and the second dance she has choreographed. Prior to dancing here she had been dancing competitively since elementary school. This dance is a very sultry jazz piece inspired by a 1920s speakeasy.

Grace Gagliano is so excited to be performing in the Catalyst Dance Company Fall Concert! This is Gagliano's 4th dance recital at COD. Gagliano has been dancing since she was 4 years old and she loves to explore and learn new dance techniques and styles. Gagliano loves to be involved with the wonderful dance program at COD. She loves dancing with her fellow dancers, as well as learning from her incredible dance instructors! She is thrilled to dance her heart out across the stage. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Francheska Lopez's dancing journey shows us, when you love something it will come back. Her parents enrolled her into dance at the age of three. She did dance in Chicago and started with ballet. As time went on she did tap, jazz and hip-hop along with ballet. She loved it so much that she did it for over 10 years at the same company she started, Forevermore. Her parents decided they wanted to move out of the city though so she had to leave the company. Lopez tried to find a dance company that fit for her but none could compare to her original company so she gave up on dance. After high school, Lopez noticed there was a dance appreciation class at COD and she decided to take it along with her other classes. It was fun to learn about types of dance, and at the end of the semester the final was to watch the dance concert at COD in the fall. Originally she did not know there were dance classes at COD and after watching the concert she decided to take two dance classes for the next semester. She did Jazz and Modern and absolutely loved it and there was also a dance performance and production class where she joined another dance that her friend was choreographing. Doing dance again was something so special and nostalgic for her. The love for dance came back. She was considering choreographing a piece for the upcoming concert and her modern teacher, kt williams told her, "if not now, when" and she decided to sign up for the choreography class and make a piece. This semester she is doing Modern 2, Choreography and dance production again. She is so excited to see where her dance journey takes her and she hopes everyone in her piece has fun with it and that the audience enjoys watching!

STUDENT CHOREOGRAPHER PROFILES

This is **Katrina Spencer Fenner**'s third semester in COD Dance. She is so excited to continue dancing with the College Dance program. In a decision to challenge herself, she decided to choreograph a contemporary solo which is a big change from what she choreographed the past two semesters "Sleeping with the Sun" (Fall 2023, Group Jazz), "Pop Princess" (Fall 2023, Group Hip Hop), and "i need a love" (Spring 2024, Group Jazz). She is excited to do a long-awaited contemporary solo. Along with dancing, Fenner is also an actress and has previously been in College Theatre's productions of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* (Information); *Hare Today, Tortoise Tomorrow* (Bethany Bunny); *Dead Man's Cell Phone* (Ensemble); and *Bibbidi Bobbidi Doo Wop* (Lady Fremhilda). She will be in College Theater's upcoming production of *A Christmas Carol* and is the President of COD's Improv Club. While Jazz and Contemporary are her favorite styles of dance, she dances a variety of styles and loves to explore more styles and forms of dance. Fenner began dancing in high school at Downers Grove South taking part as a founding member of the "Orchesis Dance Company" which is also where she began to choreograph her own pieces. Throughout her time with the Downers Grove South Orchesis, she choreographed three pieces that were put on stage in the Orchesis annual dance show cases in February 2020, May 2021, and April 2022. She can't wait for all her friends and family to finally see the efforts of her hard work and is looking forward to continuing to learn and grow while refining her art through dance.

Aubrey McGee is a seasoned dancer possessing a substantial career spanning over a decade. Her journey has been marked by significant contributions from Maywood Fine Arts / Stairway of the Stars under the direction of Lois Baumann, Heidi Renteria, Taiyana Shurn, and classical ballet teachers Emmanuel Ramirez and Indira Espin. McGee is trained in many genres of dance including ballet, modern, jazz, pointe, and tap - earning an esteemed "golden tap shoe" award. McGee has performed roles in countless performances over the years including *Snow White*, *Swan Lake*, *Cinderella*, *Le Corsaire*, and *Coppelia*.

Beyond the stage, McGee was also an assistant dance teacher. Encouraging students of all ages and backgrounds to do their best, and to never give up so they can reach their maximum potential on and off the stage. Her experiences extend to guest artist performances with

STUDENT CHOREOGRAPHER PROFILES

Maywood Fine Arts' annual Pumpkin Patch performance and Walk for Equity and Opportunity in the Arts, The Creative Circle's celebration of "Juneteenth," the Wave Wall Moves dance performance series at Navy Pier, as well as the annual 9-11 Lemonade "Kids Helping Kids" charity performance.

This is McGee's second year dancing and choreographing with College of DuPage's dance program and is excited to continue to share her talents and love for dance through choreography and performing. This semester, McGee choreographed a piece titled "RUE," a vibrant hip hop piece with some contemporary influence.

McGee contributes her continued love for dance to her amazing instructors for their endless support and growth with teaching.

Allie Psaras and Sonya Vallejo are a dynamic choreographic duo known for their powerful and emotive pieces. This fall, they collaborated to create a compelling dance performance set to the song "Mount Everest" by Labrinth. Their partnership combines their unique talents and shared vision, resulting in a piece that captures the song's themes of struggle, triumph, and resilience.



Elias Morales (Lighting Design) is excited to be working as the Lighting Designer for another amazing production at College of DuPage! For over 18 years he has worked professionally as a freelance lighting designer and stage manager around Chicago. In addition, he has also had the pleasure of traveling across the US on tour with dance and sketch comedy companies. While working with so many individuals throughout the US has been fun, it is a pure delight to be working with all the passionate and talented individuals at the MAC on tonight's show!

Kimberly G. Morris (Costume Design) is pleased to continue her work with College of DuPage. Prior to joining the staff at COD she spent 13 years as a freelance costume, makeup, wig, prop and puppet designer throughout Chicago and the east coast. Favorite past projects; recreating five outfits worn by Frida Kahlo for the *Frida Kahlo Timeless* exhibit at the CCMA at COD. Puppet design/build of Allan the dog for the movie *Allan the Dog*. Costumes for *The Merry Widow*, *The Mikado* and *La Traviata* with New Philharmonic. Props design for *100 Dresses* and *A Year with Frog and Toad* with Chicago Children's Theatre. Costume and puppet design for *Blue Planet* with Akvavit Theatre. Puppet, mask and costume design for *Neverwhere* and *Island of Dr. Moreau* with Lifeline Theatre. Recent projects include garments for the WARHOL exhibit in 2023 at the CCMA.




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For more information

Contact Thomas Stark at (630) 942-2391 or starkt1620@cod.edu.

For ADA accommodations, please email access@cod.edu with the event title in the subject line and your accommodation request. Please email two weeks in advance.

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The Friends of the MAC is a family of those who have decided that a world-class performing and visual arts center should reside in their community. Ticket sales provide only 42 percent of our \$4 million operating budget. It is through the support of College of DuPage and through the generous gifts from patrons and local businesses that we can keep art in our museum and on our stages.

Your Gift to the MAC

- Brings nationally and internationally renowned artists to our community
- Supports our SchoolStage program that annually offers affordable arts experiences to thousands of schoolchildren
- Provides students and community members the opportunity to interact with artists
- Enhances quality of life in our community

Without the generous support of the Friends of the MAC, we would not be the beacon for the arts in DuPage County. We gratefully thank our friends, and we invite others to join them.

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Donor may choose to direct gifts to the Arts Center Endowment or the MAC-tastic Treat Seats – Tickets for Kids & Families Endowment. Donations made to these MAC Endowments, our “savings accounts,” go into principal secured, invested accounts that will provide ongoing support for arts programs and arts accessibility for years to come.

The McAninch Arts Center and the College of DuPage Foundation can also provide you with information on planned giving options, gifts of stock, IRA Charitable Rollovers and other giving opportunities.

For complete details, visit the MAC Box Office or contact the College of DuPage Foundation at (630) 942-3088 or foundation@codfound.org.

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We are always looking for enthusiastic, dedicated, reliable and customer service-oriented people to become Volunteers serving as ushers, greeters and docents at our events.

Volunteers provide invaluable service by assisting guests to their seats, answering questions and most importantly creating a welcoming environment for our guests.

Volunteers are unpaid, but that doesn't mean you won't be rewarded. The cultural perks you'll enjoy as a volunteer include vouchers for every shift worked offering discounts to use at the MAC Box Office and invitation to our annual volunteer appreciation dinner including prizes and gifts.

Visit AtTheMAC.org/Volunteer to fill out an online application and for more information on requirements and qualifications. Applications accepted year-round.

Questions or for more information, contact Volunteer Coordinator Rob Nardini: email nardinir@cod.edu, phone (630) 942-3705.



HOUSE NOTES

- Cameras and recording devices are not allowed in the theater and are prohibited by our contracts with the artists.
- Smoking is not permitted in the theater or on campus.
- For your comfort and security, all backpacks and large bags must be checked.
- Please turn off all cell phones and any other alarms while in the theater.
- Emergency phone number at COD Police Department for after-hour calls is (630) 942-2000.
- Latecomers seated at discretion of the House Manager.
- Groups of 10 or more may contact (630) 942-3026 or grouptix@cod.edu to arrange for group discounts.
- If you notice a spill in the theater, please notify an usher.
- McAninch Arts Center volunteers are people who assist the house staff in areas of ticket taking, ushering and general management during performances. To get involved, call (630) 942-3705.
- For **Americans With Disabilities Act** accommodations, call (630) 942-2141 (voice) or (630) 858-9692 (TDD).
- **Infrared Assistive Listening Devices:** For audience members who desire audio amplification of performances, headsets with individual volume controls are now available. You may check out the headsets at the Box Office with a driver's license. *Underwritten by a generous gift from The Knowles Foundation.*

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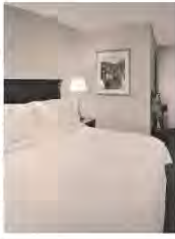
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