



COLLEGE DANCE



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 we welcome you to College of DuPage's Spring 2025 Emergence Dance Concert! This is the Dance Program's fifth performance since the pandemic, and we are so proud to share the growth of our program and of the students with you this season.

Tonight's performance presents a diverse mix of student choreography and faculty works. Our dance students have been working tirelessly with a deep passion and curiosity for dance, and tonight, we are thrilled to showcase their dedication, artistry, and collaborative efforts in the production of this concert. Our student choreographers range from beginner to seasoned, with some students having choreographed for several semesters at COD. We celebrate all of our student works, as we are proud of the creative inquiry our students have demonstrated this semester.

We are especially excited to present screendance as part of the Emergence Concert as an alternative viewpoint and medium for dance. Three students have created original dance film projects as part of our Dance Technology course offered this semester, which are presented in this program. If dance film, or learning about motion capture technologies and dance, is of interest to you, consider registering for Dance Technology (Dance 1820-001) for the Fall 2025 semester.

We would like to thank our guest choreographer, Tina Diaz for setting a beautiful new work on our students this semester titled "Exit Zero." It has been such a joy to have Tina with us in the studio this semester and have her share her professional expertise, movement style, and skilled artistry with our students!

We would also like to thank those who have been collaborators and that work continually to support to the Dance Program: Dr. Brian Carlson; Stephen Thompson; Andrew Buckler; Kayla Kurtzweil; Cierra Nizar-Weller; Wellin Chen; Rachel Benzing; Guillermo Leyva; Todd Rhoades; Matt Shevitz and the COD Jazz/Pop Ensemble; Daniel Millhouse; Tim Arroyo; Katherine Sifers; Mara Baker; Elliot Bowers; Nelson Cantada; David Ouellette; Eric Fuertes; David Swope; 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.

Lastly, we are thrilled to share that *Cozy Modus*, choreographed by guest artist Marc Macaranas during Fall 2024, will perform in Chicago on May 9, 2025 at the Ruth Page Dance Center as part of the Trifecta Dance Festival! Please join us next week in downtown Chicago and to support and continue celebrating the accomplishments of our COD dancers and blooming dance program!

Jessica Kondrath and kt williams

Dance Program Adjunct Faculty | Emergence Dance Concert Artistic Directors

www.cod.edu/dance | Follow us on Instagram: @cod.dance

McAninch Arts Center
at College of DuPage
presents

Emergence *Dance Concert*

College of DuPage Dance Faculty

Guillermo Leyva Barley
Rachel Benzing
Jessica Kondrath
kt williams

Artistic Directors

Jessica Kondrath and kt williams

Student Choreographers

Madi Doweidt, Rae Hoppszallern, Katrina Spencer Fenner, Grace Gagliano, Alyssa Geyer, Rowan Julian, Ara Krossovitch, Frankie Lopez, Aubrey McGee, and Lena Smith

Guest Artist

Tina Diaz

Lighting Design

Richard Arnold, Jr.

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, May 2, 2025
Belushi Performance Hall, 7:30 p.m.

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but we can't do it without you!



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PROGRAM

Exit Zero

Choreography: Tina Diaz, Guest Artist for the COD Dance Program

Music: Eluvium

Dancers: Angelina Enea, Rowan Julian, Lena Smith, Ara Krossovitch, Frankie Lopez, Grace Gagliano, Aubrey McGee, Katrina Spencer Fenner

CASCADE

Choreographer, Editor and Cinematographer: kt williams, COD Faculty

Music: Beautiful Chorus, Caroline Shaw, Attacca Quartet

Dancers: Madi Doweidt, Ara Krossovitch, Geneieve Lemaster, Aubrey McGee, Lena Smith

ne m'aime pas bien

Choreography: Katrina Spencer Fenner & Madi Doweidt

Music: Isak Danielson

Dancers: Madi Doweidt, Katrina Spencer Fenner, Alyssa Geyer, Kate Houlahan, Aubrey McGee

My Baby Just Cares For Me

Choreography: Rachel Benzing, COD Faculty

Music: Nina Simone

Dancers: Peter Akaniroj and Gabriella Jurinek

COD Tap I (DANCE 1110)

Dancing & Dreaming

Choreography & cinematography: Grace Gagliano, Katrina Spencer Fenner

COD Dance Technology (DANCE 1820-001)

PROGRAM

Unstoppable

Choreography: Alyssa Geyer

Music: Tate McRae, Dove Cameron, Zedd

Dancers: Madi Doweidt, Katrina Spencer Fenner, Alyssa Geyer, Kate Houlahan, Tamron McGee, Lena Smith, Hanna White-Ferreyra

WHERE GRAVITY FALLS

Choreography: Aubrey McGee

Music: Teddy Swims

Dancer: Aubrey McGee

Quicksilver

Choreography: Ara Krossovitch

Music: Ghost

Dancers: Grace Gagliano, Rae Hoppszallern, Gianna Khant, Ara Krossovitch, Tamron McGee, Lena Smith

Sing, Sing, Sing

Choreography: Rachel Benzing, COD Faculty

Music: Sing, Sing, Sing - Fosse Original Broadway Cast Recording

Dancers: Gabriella Jurinek and Destiny Marinkovic

COD Jazz I (DANCE 1107)

Cycles and Spirals

Choreography: Rowen Julian

Music: Ludovico Einaudi

Dancers: Frankie Lopez and Rowen Julian

PROGRAM

UBIQUITY

Choreography: Jessica Kondrath, COD Faculty

Music: Miles Davis

College of DuPage Jazz/Pop Ensemble Director: Matt Shevitz

Musicians: Neil Harmon- trumpet, Chris Whitson- trombone,
Kendall Tarabus-piano, Alex Smith-bass, Angel Gamardo-drums

Dancers: Madi Doweidt, Grace Gagliano, Gianna Khant, Genevive
LeMaster, Aubrey McGee, Kennedy McGuire, and Lena Smith

INTERMISSION

Glory

Choreography: Frankie Lopez

Music: Common and John Legend

Dancers: Peter Akaniroj, Angelina Enea, Genevive LeMaster,
Annika Larson, Frankie Lopez, Kennedy McGuire

On Eggshells

Concept, videography, and editing: kt williams, COD Faculty

Choreography and movement direction: kt williams,
in conversation with the dancers

Music: True Cuckoo, The Mini Vandals

Dancers: Marissa Finkelstein, Savannah Jenkins, Caitlyn Schrader

Can you keep up?

Choreography: Lena Smith

Music: Destiny's Child

Dancers: Madi Doweidt, Angelina Enea, Alyssa Geyer, Ara Krossovitch,
Aubrey McGee, Tamron McGee, Lena Smith

re [START]

Choreography: kt williams, COD Faculty

Music: Ben Böhmer

Dancers: Riley Brown, Genevieve LeMaster, Roberto Lopez

COD Modern I (DANCE 1104)

What's Done in the Dark

Film Concept, Direction, & Editing: Katrina Spencer Fenner

Cinematography: Katrina Spencer Fenner,
Molly Heideman, Frankie Lopez

Music: Mariah the Scientist

Performers: Taylor Baird and Katrina Spencer Fenner

COD Dance Technology (DANCE 1820-001)

United in Grief

Choreography: Rae Hoppszallern

Music: Kendrick Lamar

Dancers: Rae Hoppszallern, Alyssa Geyer, Hannah White-Ferreyra

xoxo, babe <3

Choreography: The Dancers

Music: Chappell Roan

Dancers: Angelina Enea, Katrina Spencer Fenner,
Annika Larson, Tamron McGee

The Art of Movement

Cinematographer, director, editor, original sound score: Frankie Lopez

Featuring: Ethan Castro, Jeremy Castro, Olivia Castro, Yuliana Castro, Ethan Hicks, Jaliyah Hicks, Jaquelyn Hicks, Stephen Hicks, Stevie Hicks, Abigail Lopez, Emily Lopez, Frankie Lopez, Jennifer Lopez, Joaquin Lopez, Jose Lopez, Marisol Lopez, Joseph Muana, Ismael Ortiz, Juan Ortiz, Maribel Ortiz, and Mildred Ortiz

COD Dance Technology (DANCE 1820-001)

Seguidillas

Choreography: Guillermo Leyva Barley, COD Faculty

Music: Minkus

Dancers: Erin Compton, Jennifer Glowacki, Ashlyn Hickey, Annika Larson, Daniela Luna, Aubrey McGee, Michaela Moore-Biscan, Britney Quiroz, Isabella Sacco, Lena Smith, Jocelyn Velazquez

COD Ballet I/II (DANCE 1101/1102)

Good Riddance Good Life

Choreography: Grace Gagliano

Music: NSYNC

Dancers: Peter Akaniroj, Angelina Enea, Katrina Spencer Fenner, Grace Gagliano, Alyssa Geyer, Gianna Khant, Genevieve LeMaster, Frankie Lopez, Kennedy McGuire

Just Fine

Choreography: Rachel Benzing, COD Faculty,
with contributions from the students

Music: Mary J. Blige

Dancers: Jonpaul Bell, Grace Gagliano, Gabriella Jurinek, Ara Krossovitch, Neela Lugo, Aubrey McGee, Tamron McGee, Lena Smith

COD Hip Hop (DANCE 1820-002)

PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage ManagerRichard Arnold, Jr.
Technical DirectorRichard Arnold, Jr.
Audio Engineer..... Natalie Cross
Stage Hands Izzy Alexander, C.J. Morris, Harry Smith
Costume Shop Manager Kimberly G. Morris
Assistant Costume Shop Supervisor.....Gretchen Woodley
Costume Shop Assistants Lynn Borge, Alexandra Espino,
Maria Belen Cardenas Flores, Courtney Lilly,
Noor Khankan, Will Lech

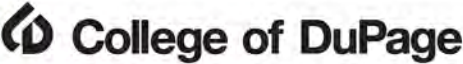


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For more information
Contact Thomas Stark at (630) 942-2391 or starkt1620@cod.edu.

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.



FALL DANCE PROGRAM COURSE OFFERINGS

8/25/2025 – 12/19/2025

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
Choreography & Composition I/II	DANCE 1122/1123	T/Th	1:00 - 2:50 PM
Dance Pedagogy	DANCE 1130	M/W	6:00 – 8:50 PM
Dance & Technology	DANCE 1820-001	T/Th	1:00 PM - 2:50PM
Hip Hop	DANCE 1820-002	T/TH	10:30 AM - 12:20 PM
Dance Production & Performance	DANCE 1120	T/Th/F	T 3:00 – 5:50PM Th 3:00-5:30 PM F 12:00-2:30 PM

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FALL 2025 CATALYST DANCE CONCERT INFORMATION

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

Tuesday, Aug. 26th 3:00-5:30PM

PEC Room 145/Dance Studio

CHOREOGRAPHER AND DANCER CASTING

Thursday, August 28th, 3:00 – 5:30PM

PEC 145/Dance Studio

Come learn about performing in the Dance Concerts.

All are welcome to join, no experience required.

For more information, email Jessica Kondrath: kondrathj@cod.edu

GUEST ARTIST PROFILE

Tina Diaz (she/her), from New York, is a multidisciplinary movement artist based in Chicago, IL. She holds a BFA in Dance and a Minor in Psychology from The Conservatory of Dance at SUNY Purchase and is a recipient of the school's Outstanding Senior Award for her excellence in academics and artistry. While there, Diaz performed in works by Merce Cunningham, Jose Limon, Hannah Garner, and Andrea Miller among others. Since then, she's collaborated with artists and companies such as Noelle Kayser, Terence Marling, Elijah Motley, Jessi Stegall, Annie Franklin, Nicole Wolcott, Skyla Schreter, Chih-Jou Cheng, Khecari, RAWdance, and Purus Motus. Tina recently starred in an independent short film titled "Todo el Tiempo en el Mundo." Shot in Chilean Patagonia, the film featured her as both an actress and a dancer. Diaz has shown her choreographic work at New York Live Arts, Downtown Art, and Arts on Site and has been commissioned to create works for The Seldoms, Little Fire Artist Collective, Visceral Dance Chicago's Trainee Program, Dance in the Parks, Evanston Dance Ensemble, and New Dances. Currently, Diaz is a company member with the Midwest's leading physical theater company, Chicago Dance Crash, and is interested in storytelling through the mediums of dance, theatre, and film.

COD FACULTY PROFILES

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 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

COD FACULTY PROFILES

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. Benzing 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 the ACDA Conferences in the Baja and North Central Regions, Loyola Marymount University, Colorado State University-Fort Collins, University of Wyoming-Laramie, CSU Fullerton, the University of Colorado-Boulder, Columbia College Chicago, 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

COD FACULTY PROFILES

Series You Can Get There from Here curated by Liz Hoefner Adamis. 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. Her company GRAYSCALE will present work celebrating its 20th year this spring at Links Hall in Chicago. You can find her at grayscaledance.org

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.

COD FACULTY PROFILES

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.

kt williams is a contemporary movement artist, choreographer, dance filmmaker, and Safety Release Master Teacher based in Chicago, IL. Originally from Oak Park, IL, kt earned a BFA in Dance Performance from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where she received the Donald Carducci Memorial Scholarship Award for overall excellence in dance performance. She earned an MFA Dance/Choreography from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, where she studied Safety Release Technique (SR) intensively and worked closely alongside B.J. Sullivan, the founder of SR. kt is one of three Safety Release Master Teachers in the world, and her intensive study with this work has supported her integration and specialization of somatic practices expertly enveloped within a rigorous and full body contemporary dance technique class. In addition to teaching on faculty in the Dance Program at COD, williams also leads seasonal SR workshops for advanced/professional dancers across the Chicago dance community. She choreographs independent projects under the name, "kt williams + artists" and is the co-artistic director of collaborative duo, "DanSeries Collective," with creative colleague, Caitlyn Schrader. williams has also performed in dance works by Renay Aumiller, Michael Estanich, Sara Hook, Rebecca Netti-Fiol, Megan Rhodes, Lucy Riner, B.J. Sullivan, Sheldon Smith, and Abby Zbikowski, and currently, she performs with RE|Dance Group in Chicago, IL. williams considers dance as a site for collective transformation, 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. Prior to dancing here, she had been dancing competitively since elementary school. This is the third piece she has choreographed for the dance program.

This is **Alyssa Geyer**'s second semester dancing at COD. She has been passionate about dance her entire life, training at a studio and competing for many years. Last spring, you may have seen her performing in the Jazz class piece, "Groove Steps". This semester, she is excited to be back on stage with Dance 1120, sharing her love for dance with the audience. Geyer is especially thrilled to be choreographing her own jazz piece, which shows female empowerment and confidence. She is eager for her friends and family to see the dedication, creativity, and hard work she has poured into this performance.

This is **Grace Gagliano**'s fifth semester doing dance at COD. In the years that Gagliano has been involved with the dance recitals at COD, she has choreographed four dances; two of those choreographed dances were solos and two were group dances. Gagliano loves exploring new dance styles while having fun and expressing herself. Her favorite styles of dance include tap, jazz, contemporary, and hip hop. Gagliano would like to thank her wonderful dance teachers, and the excellent dance instruction she has received from them. This is Gagliano's last semester at COD, and she is so sad she is leaving, but doing dance at COD will always hold special memories in her heart. She'll never forget the number of amazing dances and experiences she has had. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Rae Hoppszallern is showing a work in progress. A thematic piece on grief. Inspired originally by the line "Everybody grieves different" from the song of the same title by Kendrick Lamar. She wanted to explore forms of grief embodied differently yet united in purpose and space. How can bodies communicate ways in which grief might be experienced internally and how it's expressed in behavior and decision making? Our bodies are not the people grieving as much as a representation of grief in physical space and movement.

STUDENT CHOREOGRAPHER PROFILES

Rowen Julian is a sophomore at College of DuPage. They've wanted to dance ever since they were twirling in time with a borrowed ballet DVD. After years of thinking it was too late, Julian took a leap of faith and registered in a choreography class last semester. For a while, they exclusively created their dances in the back corner of the studio. As time progressed, they gained confidence and explored new approaches to dance making. One of their favorite aspects of choreographing is how it engages both the body and mind to create an expression from endless possible combinations of the variety of styles into a narrative, thematic, or abstract dance. They especially enjoy creating thematic and narrative modern dances.

Ara Krossovitch is a first year student at COD. She has been dancing and doing movement-based activities like tumbling and martial arts for most of her life. Coming from color guard, she really enjoys choreography that uses props as an extension of the body and a way to create shapes and images that can't be created with arms and legs. In this piece, she took inspiration from Busby Berkeley's dance films and the way he used patterns and shapes and unison and symmetry created with bodies. She is heavily inspired by extremely theatrical rock and metal bands, as well as dance troupes like the Rockettes, and movement styles like poms, cheer and majorette.

Francheska "Frankie" Lopez grew up dancing and loving dance. She danced for a good amount of her childhood and then when she got a bit older and moved, she did not know where to find a good place to dance. Thankfully, one day she found COD dance. She tried out a modern class and a jazz class as well as doing a dance production and performance piece. She loved them so much and was inspired to continue her dancing journey. Last semester she choreographed her first piece and this semester she choreographed another, to the song "Glory" by John Legend and Common, as well as making her first film. She is so grateful for College of DuPage Dance, and she excited to see where dance takes her in the future.

Aubrey McGee is a second-year dancer and choreographer with COD's Dance Program. She is excited to continue to share her talents and love for the arts through dance. As her last performance with College of

STUDENT CHOREOGRAPHER PROFILES

DuPage, McGee choreographed a piece titled, "WHERE GRAVITY FALLS," a contemporary solo which she dedicates to her Grandma and her boyfriend - EJ.

Beyond COD McGee's dance journey has been marked by significant contributions from Maywood Fine Arts / Stairway of the Stars where she was trained in many genres of dance including ballet, modern, jazz, pointe, and tap. She has performed roles in countless performances over the years including *Swan Lake*, *Le Corsaire*, and *Coppelia*. Her experiences extend to performances with The Creative Circle's celebration of Juneteenth, the annual 9-11 Lemonade "Kids Helping Kids" charity performance, as well as choreographing for COD's very own Black History Month celebration under the leadership of diversity and inclusion manager, David Swope.

Lena Smith has been a part of the dance program for two years now. She has been dancing since she was little and it was her first love. She previously was a student choreographer last spring and is so excited to be once again this year!

This is **Katrina Spencer Fenner's** fourth semester with COD Dance. She is so excited to continue dancing with the College Dance program. This semester Fenner collaborated with choreographer and friend, Madi Doweidt on a small group contemporary piece, and embarked on directing another dance film. Past College Dance pieces include "Convulsions" (Fall 2024, Contemporary Solo), "i need a love" (Spring 2024, Group Jazz) "Pop Princess" (Fall 2023, Group Hip Hop) and "Sleeping with the Sun" (Fall 2023, Group Jazz). Along with dancing, Fenner is also an actress and has previously been in College Theatres productions of *Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime* (Information); *Hare Today, Tortoise Tomorrow* (Bethany Bunny), *Dead Man's Cell Phone* (Ensemble), *Bibbidi-Bobbidi Doo Wop* (Lady Fremhilda), *A Christmas Carol* (Nanny), *Our Town* (Woman on the Balcony) and runs the college improv team with fellow officer Will Lech. While Jazz and Contemporary are her favorite styles of dance, she performs a variety of styles but 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"

STUDENT CHOREOGRAPHER PROFILES

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, & April 2022. She can't wait for all her friends and family to finally see the efforts of her hard work. She is looking forward to continuing to learn and grow while refining her art through dance.

DESIGNER PROFILES

Richard Arnold, Jr. (Lighting Design) is excited to join the creative team at the College of DuPage. Prior to coming to COD, he spent 15 years teaching Theatre Design and Technology at Elmhurst University. Beyond teaching, he has designed over 100 theatre productions around the Midwest. Additionally, he spent several years working in other areas of the entertainment industry, designing and producing corporate events, concerts, television commercials, as well as exhibits for several Chicagoland museums. He is a member of the United States Institute for Theatre Technology and the Illinois Theatre Association.

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 *Nowhere* and *Island of Dr. Moreau* with Lifeline Theatre. Recent projects include garments for the WARHOL exhibit in 2023 at the CCMA.

Friends of the MAC

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.

Arts Center and MAC-tastic Treat Seats Endowments

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
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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.

For more information, contact Volunteer Coordinator
 Rob Nardini: nardinir@cod.edu | (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 groupitx@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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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!

