DANCE '23

April 28-30, 2023
NKU Corbett Theatre
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR’S WELCOME

Welcome to Dance ’23! I am filled with gratitude for the students, faculty, and choreographers that make up the dance community at NKU and I am beyond proud of the creative work that they have done.

I want to specifically thank Michael Hatton, Christopher Ryan, Jo Sanburg, Rob Kerby, Alexandra Deaton, Cat Schmeal, John Gatch, Ted Lavender, the dancers, and the choreographers Jeaneuta, Rowan, Thomas, Teresa, Christopher, Molly, and Julius for their literal unwavering support for the vision of this concert, the dancer’s hearts, and me.

Dance is a universal language that transcends boundaries and brings people together. It has the power to reflect the diversity of our world and highlight the many voices within our community. Dance brings us together in step, heart, and breath. Tonight, we celebrate the richness of our art form and what is possible when we move together, honoring our separate journeys down the same road. – Jeri Gatch

PROGRAM

Part I: On this side of the dirt... Blessings
Excerpts of traditional dances Kakilambe (Guinea) and Ise Egbe (Nigeria) Harvesting and farming dances that ask the Spirits for life’s blessings.

Part II: On this side of the dirt... Deliverance and Gratitude (Afrofusion)
- Choreographer: Jeanaity Ìféwándé Château Olówè
- Musicians: Chukwudi Arogbotimi, Folasade Olówè, Jeanaity Olówè
- Music mix by DJ Sean Solomon of Xilhamarisu - African Drums and Deliverance DJ Karaba
- Dancers: Abegail Clark, Tyler Chambers, Antwanzia Fant, Rachel Gardner, Caitlyn Glorioso, Lilah Hoffert, Ted Lavendar, Yolee Louis, Hanson Nyugen, Ragan Savage, Noah Warner, Ki’azja Watterson-Brown
- Lighting Designers: Ellie Bennett, Jensyn Bowman, Jill Sharp

Aṣẹ Olódumáre, Ose pupo beautiful dancers and musicians, grateful to still be on this side of the dirt... love heals!

“Assemble”
- Choreographer: Rowan Salem
- Sound: Johnny Ripper, Blue Dot Sessions
- Dancers: Brenna Bray, Abby Clark, Antwanzia Fant, Caitlin Glorioso, Hannah Jenkins, Olivia Kegg, Ted Lavendar, Ki’azja Watterson-Brown
- Lighting Designers: Payne Ackermann, Ty Boyd

This piece is a structured improvisation. The dancers have landmarks, but make their movement choices in the moment based on tools they have developed. I thank my teachers Chris Aiken and Angie Hauser for introducing me to this form.

“Semi-Formal”
- Choreographer: J. Thomas Bell
- Composer: George Frederic Handel
- Dancers: Mackenzie Basal, Brenna Bray, Audrey Dant, Alicia Davis, Jenna Khan, Tiffany McIntosh, Hanson Nguyen, Mollie Tagher, Connie Viars
- Lighting Designers: Kristen Craven, Lexie Woodruff

“Home Waters Run Deep” (2022)
- Choreographer: Teresa VanDenend Sorge and Dancers
- Dancers: Lindsey Dean, Caitlin Doyle, Makenna Hyams, Hannah Jenkins, Olivia Kegg, Ted Lavender, Ki’azja Watterson-Brown
- Music: Home Waters Run Deep
- Composer: Peter Lefkovitz
- Musicians: Peter Lefkovitz, Noah Jacobs, James Lawrence Tober III
- Voice over: John Maclean, author of Home Waters
- Fisherpeople: Mike Arnold, Jim Sorge, Josephine Sorge
Home Waters Run Deep was made possible by support from the Scripps Howard center, which works to connect the NKU campus and the community. Support also was provided by Zalla Companies, Ron Ellis in memory of Debbie Ellis, Roebling Point Books & Coffee, and the Northern Kentucky Fly Fishers.

~ INTERMISSION ~

“Pitter Patter”
- **Choreographer:** Christopher Ryan
- **Scene:** Much Ado About Nothing, Act II, Scene iii
- **Dancers:** Anna Berry, Rachel Gardner, Jenna Khan, Yolee Louis, Briana Melvin, Alexa Morelle, Ragan Savage, Belle Scholles, Ella Tillery, Ally van Haaren
- **Actors:** Antwnazia Fant, Hades Whalen
- **Lighting Designers:** Morgan Abercrombie, Maria Schlaechter

Love and its accompanying myriad of emotions and experiences are such a nearly universally shared human experience that it’s really no wonder so many artists of so many different forms name it as their muse. In this exploration of love, I’ve used text from Shakespeare’s As You Like It (Act II, Scene iii) between Benedick, who has just heard sworn that Beatrice is madly in love with him, and Beatrice, who, until now has only known their interactions to be of the sparring rather than wooing nature. The jumping-off-place, for me, was the question: what if we were to see the characters’ tumult of emotions in dance, as they navigated this scene? I chose not to underscore this piece with music, but rather made it a call and response between Shakespearean prose and the pitter patterings of two hearts…in love?

“One of Us”
- **Choreographers:** Jeri Deckard Gatch and Dancers
- **Music:** Burt Bacharach, Mystrchristmas, Husa Sounds
- **Dancers:** Brenna Bray, Alícia Davis, Lindsey Dean, Hannah Jenkins, Olivia Kegg, Jenna Khan, Ted Lavender, Hanson Nguyen, Belle Scholles, Ally Van Haaren, Noah Warner, Ki’azja Watterson-Brown
- **Lighting Designers:** Luke Eisner, John Herndon, Emma Stewart

“One of Us” explores the experience of belonging to a community and the challenges of feeling disconnected or excluded from it. The dancers create moments of unity and moments of isolation, navigating the complexities of human connection.

NOTE: The score of this piece is unique, offering the option for a ‘silent disco’ format. Listening through headphones, choose your own soundtrack for this dance using the QR codes provided below. This approach creates an intimate and immersive experience, allowing you to make choices about how you engage with the piece and those around you. A dancer will direct you about when to push “play” and start your soundscape.

“Backbone”
- **Choreographer:** Molly Perez
- **Music:** “Eu Incomodo” Sarah Roston
- **Dancers:** Alicia Davis, Caitlyn Doyle, Jenna Khan, Alexa Morelle, Emilia Sanders, Belle Scholles, Abigail Schwartz, Ella Tillery, Connie Viars, Noah Warner
- **Student Assistants:** Connie Viars, Noah Warner
- **Lighting Designer:** Rachael Williams

*audience participation in the form of clapping or vocalization is encouraged. Enjoy!
Set 1: “Head to Head”
Set 2: “I, not We”
Set 3: “Kids in America”

- **Choreographer:** Julius “Eclypse” Jenkins
- **Music:** Jimmy Castor Bunch “It's just Begun,” Sohn “Lessons (Minorstep remix),” Dj Combat “Still Bangin’,” Manu Dia “Kids in America (Quiet Bison remix)"
- **Dancers:** Abby Clark, Audrey Dant, Antwnazia Fant, Lilah Hoffert, Jenna Khan, Ted Lavender, Kimberly Legel, Alexis Peterson, Emilia Sander, Ragan Savage, Connie Viars
- **Lighting Designers:** Eden Stempa, Jacqueline Williams

Black Vernacular Dance also known a Street Dance is an integral part of the American dancescape but many rarely get to experience it's forms authentically presented. While these dances weren’t born for stage, we attempt to adapt them to the theater setting. These pieces aim to highlight themes of Unity, Representation, Personal Accountability and Growth.

**PERSONNEL**

Producing Artistic Director .......................................................... Michael W. Hatton
Artistic Director ............................................................................ Jeri Deckard Gatch
Production Manager ........................................................................ Alexandra Deaton
Lead Production Assistant ............................................................ Ted Lavender
Guest Choreographers ................................................................. Thomas Bell, Jeri Gatch, Julius Jenkins, Jeauinita Olówè, Molly Perez, Christopher Ryan, Rowan Salem, Teresa VanDenend Sorge
Stage Manager ............................................................................. Jensyn Bowman
Assistant Stage Manager ................................................................. Andi Angel
Technical Director and Scenic & Props Coordinator ..................... Rob Kerby
Scene Shop Foreman ................................................................... Kevin Havlin
Costume Shop Manager and Costume Coordinator ...................... Cat Schmeal-Swope
Costume Stitchers ....................................................................... Annie Yuan, Anthony Schaefer, Bunnie Dolezal, Codi Rasor, Eden Stempa, Ella Prather, Gabriel Casto, Hades Whalen, Isobel Edgerly, Jessica Jones, Jessie Jones, Jill Sharp, Kristen Craven, Maria Schlaechter, Max Mason, Payton Trout, Shelby Smith, Sylas Craven, Tasha Conzelman
Costume Shop Assistants ............................................................. Annie Yuan, Bunnie Dolezal, Chloe Hedrick, Jill Sharp, Kristen Craven, Payton Trout, Shelby Smith, Sylas Craven
Lighting Supervisor and Sound Designer ...................................... Jo Sanburg
Production Electrician .................................................................. Luke Eisner
Electricians/Light Crew .............................................................. Aubry Ball, Chandler Murray, Codi Rasor, Dylan Perez, Emma Stewart, Field Oldham, Hunter Broyles, Jacqueline Williams, Jericah Greene, Keenan Deaton, Michael Kirby, Phoenix Bills, Rachael Williams
Light Board Operator .................................................................... Echo Hicks
Sound Board Operator .................................................................. Aiden Carmen
Flyman ........................................................................................... Jathan Briscoe
Backstage Run Crew ..................................................................... Flick Reardon, Maya Morgan
Wardrobe Supervisor ................................................................... Kanai Nakata
Wardrobe Crew ........................................................................... Jada Graves, Kaydence Mullins
Front of House/Ushers ................................................................ Chris Monnel, Lawson Smith
COMPANY & CREW PROFILES

Jeri Deckard Gatch (Artistic Director) is a Modern Dance Professor, Choreographer, and Performer. She earned her BS: Kinesiology from Indiana University, and her MFA: Performance and Choreography from Temple University in Philadelphia where she also taught for 2 years. Jeri was adjunct faculty at Virginia Commonwealth University in the Dance and Theater Departments. Since moving back to the Midwest in 1997, Jeri has worked through the Contemporary Dance Theater, Growth In Motion, and performed with several local choreographers, as well as guest teaching. Jeri has been Modern Dance faculty teacher at the Ohio Dance Festival, and in recent years was commissioned by Miami University, Berea College, and College of Lake County to set new works on their companies. Jeri is in her 3rd term serving on the Board of Trustees of OhioDance, and is a Founding and Board member of Greater Cincinnati Dance Alliance, where she is the Board Secretary and Membership Chair. She was President of the Mariemont School District’s Arts Association and after almost a decade of service, earned the “Friend of the Arts” award. Jeri has been a residency teacher and recital choreographer for Mutual Dance Theater (formerly Mam-Luft & Company) and the Kennedy Heights Arts Center. Jeri is on faculty at the Cincinnati Ballet where she teaches Adult and Academy Modern Dance technique, the “Cincy Dance!” Program, and was Co-Developer of the “Story Choreography Project” that premiered in Spring of 2019. Jeri is a full time Dance Lecturer and Dance Area Coordinator at Northern Kentucky University where she teaches Choreography, Dance History, dance technique classes, and also choreographs for NKU theatre musicals. Currently, Jeri is also an Adjunct Assistant Professor at the University of Cincinnati-CCM teaching Modern Dance Technique and Choreography to the Ballet majors, as well as elective Modern Dance classes. This Fall at UC, she wrote a new class for the General Studies Department, “Dance for Wellness.” Jeri has a heart for arts advocacy and is honored to be an active part of the regional dance community.

A native of Cincinnati and faculty member of African Dance Forms at NKU, Jeanita Iféwándé Château Weathersby Olówè is a professional dancer, choreographer, teaching artist and athlete for the past 30 years in African, Ballet, Jazz, Modern, Ballroom, Latin dances and Zumba®. She’s performed, taught and toured throughout the US, Canada, Africa, Asia since 1994 and performed for the US/NATO military in Europe and Mediterranean. Jeanita was one of the seven talented artists that traveled to perform in Europe during 2003-2005 for the United States and United Nations Armed Forces military families. She is a certified Zumba® fitness instructor and AFAA Group Fitness instructor.

Rowan Salem, MFA, is a dance artist and educator originally from Massachusetts, currently based in Ohio. Rowan earned a Masters of Fine Arts in Choreography and Performance as a Teaching Fellow/Gretchen Moran Scholar at Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts. Her work incorporates compositional improvisation and exploring perspective shifts through choreography and performance. She has performed in the work of Jennifer Nugent, Chris Aiken, Angie Hauser, Tara Rynders, Kate Speer, and is currently in collaboration with Teresa VanDenend Sorge. Her work was commissioned by Mutual Dance Theater in 2021. Her work has been presented at Green Street Studios in Boston, MA, The Dance Complex in Boston, MA, Third Life Studios in Cambridge, MA, Lesley University in Boston, MA, The School for Contemporary Dance and Thought in Northampton, MA, Smith College, Amherst College, Control Group Productions in Denver, CO and was a Create Award Resident at Art Gym in Denver, CO. She is a recipient of ArtsWave’s 2023 Black and Brown artists grant for her work, Viewpoints Embodied: Middle Eastern Voices in Cincinnati. Her teaching is influenced by Humphrey/Limon technique, contact improvisation, and contemporary forms. Current teaching affiliations include Xavier University, Northern Kentucky University, and Cincinnati Ballet Academy.

J. Thomas Bell is an accomplished professional performing artist, educator, choreographer, and lecturer. He has worked with numerous institutions and companies such as the School for Creative and Performing Arts in Cincinnati, OH, Lexington Ballet in Lexington, KY, and the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. Additionally, Bell has taught at various universities including Northern Kentucky University, Marshall University, and the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. Bell is a Bachelor of Fine Arts graduate in Theater and Dance from East Carolina University.
Teresa VanDenend Sorge, EdM is a dancer, dance educator and Founding Director of Koresh Kids Dance. An outreach initiative of Koresh Dance Company, Koresh Kids Dance serves nearly 500 Philadelphia public school children each week. For nearly a decade she was a full-time lecturer at Muhlenberg College in the department of Theatre and Dance specializing in dance education and developing a dance education laboratory. She remains a part time lecturer at Sidney Kimmel Medical College in Philadelphia using creative dance and choreographic practices to encourage empathy and kinesthetic awareness for medical students. Teresa recently moved to Cincinnati where she teaches dance at NKU and Miami Valley Ballet Theatre. Teresa has created a dance collective with collaborator Rowan Salem and in collaboration with Greater Cincinnati Dance Alliance, they were recently awarded an Artswave grant for their upcoming project, Synergy Series. Teresa's choreography and scholarship has been shared at multiple venues and in many community settings, including the Philadelphia Fringe Festival, The Cincinnati Art Museum, the Mayo Clinic, Northern Kentucky University, National Guild for Community Arts Education, Arts and Literacy Conference at UPenn, and National Dance Education Organization. Teresa attended Anne Green Gilbert’s SDIT, as well as the Institute for Restorative Arts with Buildabridge International, where she served as teaching faculty and Artist on Call. Teresa holds a BA in Dance Education and Dance Performance/Choreography from Hope College in Holland, Michigan and a Master of Education in Dance degree from Temple University. She is a 2023 candidate for Master of Fine Arts in Dance at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Christopher Ryan is a Dancer, Singer and Actor who has worked both in America and throughout Europe in dance companies, in musical theatre and in opera as a performer, choreographer and dance and fight captain. Christopher began his dance career directly after graduate school, working with the Improvisational Modern Dance company, Emotions Dance, and has continued to dance, ever since. Some of his choreographic work in Europe was seen in the first German language production of the musical Bridges of Madison County. He also taught dance for several schools across Britain, for the Performing Center Austria, and was the Director of Musical Theatre and Dance Professor for the International Performing Arts Institute every summer from 2009-2014. christopherryanmfa.com

Molly Schneider Perez, a Pittsburgh, PA native, is a dancer, educator, and choreographer. She danced professionally with Mordine & Co Dance Theater, The Dance COLEctive, and the Leopold Group in Chicago, IL and with CORE Performance Company, Staiibdance, and Catelilier Dance Projects in Atlanta, GA. She also danced and traveled with international choreographers Alicia Sanchez (Mexico) and Beppie Blankert (Netherlands). Perez co-founded indieMOVE, an independent movement project. In 2007 she received The Emerging Artist Award in Dance from the Office of Cultural Affairs in Atlanta. She was a teaching artist for Hubbard Street Dance Chicago and currently is an adjunct professor of dance at The University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. She holds a BFA in Dance from Ohio University’s Honors College and an MFA from the University of Michigan as a Rackham Merit Fellow.

Julius Eclypse Jenkins is a street style dance professional. His training and talent has taken him across the world teaching and performing. While his primary focus is Robotic animation, he has intimate knowledge of the most popular street dances of Hip-Hop, Breaking, Popping, Locking, House and Krump. Eclypse has performed with a variety of artists like Krs- One, Mr.Carmack, Lupe Fiasco, Herobust, Flux Pavilion and many others. He created the Heroes Rise Street Dance Academy, Cincinnati’s first Street Dance program, as well as founded the Non-Profit organization, Heroes Rise Inc. Locally, Eclypse teaches at studios and Universities. These include The Cincinnati Ballet and an Adjunct position with The University of Cincinnati-CCM. Eclypse also provides street dance session at after school programs for Cincinnati Public School students. At the corporate level, either through team building events or Corporate Leadership conferences, Eclypse is known for providing new perspectives to the business leaders of the Greater Cincinnati area street dance. Eclypse is passionate about street dance culture and always willing to share his passion with others. www.Heroesrisecincinnati.com
Kevin Havlin (Scene Shop Foreman), an alumnus of NKU, is proud to continue working with his alma mater, where he is the Scene Shop Foreman. Favorite production credits at NKU include: Lés Miserables, The Wedding Singer, Spamalot, A...My Name is Alice, South Pacific, My Favorite Year, The Rocky Horror Show, Titanic: the Musical, Bye Bye Birdie, and Cinderella and CTC's productions of Route 66, Make Someone Happy, Church Girls: The Musical, and The Taffetas. A few other favorite local credits include O.I.N.K.'s productions of Jesus Christ Superstar, Once Upon A Mattress, and Seven Brides for Seven Brothers. Also, Voices of Indiana's productions of Godspell, Hoosierville to Hollywood, and their annual Christmas Spectacular.

Rob Kerby (Technical Director) is a 1987 alumni of the Theatre & Dance Program with a BFA in Theatre Technology and also received his MFA in 2001 from the University of Illinois in Theatre Technology. He has worked at various educational and professional settings including Walt Disney World, The Ohio State University, Indiana State University and The Krannert Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Illinois. Along with being the technical director for the productions, Rob has also designed scenery for many productions including Love and Communication and Les Misérables for the Theatre & Dance Program.

Cat Schmeal-Swope (Costume Shop Manager) is a Costume Designer and Costume Technician based in the Greater Cincinnati area. She is Costume Shop Manager for Northern Kentucky University's School of the Arts, Theatre & Dance Program. Various show credits include: Around the World in 80 Days (Costume Designer, The Human Race Theatre Company), Swing! (Costume Designer, The Carnegie), Daddy Long Legs (Costume Designer, CATCO), Othello (Costume Designer, Ohio St. U. in collaboration w. Royal Shakespeare Co.), A Prayer for Owen Meany (Over-hire Draper, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park), Tales of Hoffman (Buyer, The Opera Theatre of St. Louis), True West (Costume Designer, Minnesota St. U.). Cat is a graduate of The Ohio State University with an MFA in Theatre Design.

Andie Angel (Assistant Stage Manager) // Senior BFA Musical Theatre
NKU: Princess Plays (Jiggles/Little Mermaid); Peter and the Starcatcher (Boy u/s, Hawking Clam); Freaky Friday (Hannah) // The Henry Theatre (NKU): Clown Bar (Director); Rocky Horror Picture Show (Director); The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (Schwarzy) // The Carnegie: Godspell (Performer)

Mackenzie Basl // Sophomore BA Creative Writing
NKU: Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase ’22 (Company); New Year’s Eve at the Stop-n-Go (u/s Mary Jane, u/s Jennifer); First Year Show 2021 (Meg/Dancer/Choreographer)

Anna Berry // Sophomore BFA Musical Theatre
NKU: First Year Show 2021 (Sophia Matilda); Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase 2022 (Dancer)

Jensyn Bowman (Stage Manager) // Senior BFA Stage Management
NKU: The Lightning Thief Musical (Stage Manager); Violet (Assistant Stage Manager); The Mystery of Edwin Drood (Spot/Projections Stage Manager); Gruesome Playground Injuries (First Assistant Director) // Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park: A Chorus Line (Run Crew); Children of the Corn Maze: In Search of the Greenville Ghost (Run Crew) // Constellation Stage and Screen: The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley (Assistant Stage Manager); Disney’s Beauty & the Beast (Spotlight Operator and Production Intern)

Brenna Bray // Freshman BFA Dance Pedagogy

Jathan “JB” Briscoe (Flyman) // Freshman BFA Musical Theatre
NKU: Snow White and the Dancing Dwarfs (Tango); Sleeping Beauty: Rise and Shine (Courtier/Dragon Puppet) // Leeds Center for the Arts: Into the Woods (Wolf); Alladin (Genie) // Lexington Children’s Theatre: Shrek the Musical (Donkey) // Fredrick Douglass High School: The Little Mermaid (Prince Eric)
Tyler Chambers // Sophomore BA Theatre
NKU: First Year Show 2021 (Josh); A Grand Night For Singing (Stagehand)

Abegail Clark // Freshmen BA Theatre

Audrey Dant // Sophomore BFA Musical Theatre
NKU: Dance ‘23 (Company); First Year Show 2021 (Ensemble)

Alicia Davis // Freshman BFA Dance Pedagogy
NKU: Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase 2022 (Company); Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde (Costume Crew) // Dance Etc.: Spring Showcase 2022 (Dancer and Choreographer)

Lindsey Dean // Junior BFA Dance Performance
NKU: Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase 2022 (Company); Dance ‘22 (Company / Production Assistant); Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase 2022 (Company); Dance ‘21 (Company / Production Assistant)

Antwnazia Fant // Senior BA Theatre, Japanese Minor
NKU: TADA! (Dani, Ava, Ensemble), Dance ‘22 (Company); Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde (Edward Hyde, Police Doctor & Orderly) // The Henry Theatre (NKU): Rocky Horror Picture Show (Transylvania)

Rachel Gardner // Senior BFA Musical Theatre
NKU: Violet (Old Lady/Hotel Hooker); Twelfth Night (Musician); Peter and the Starcatcher (Swing); The Lightning Thief (Swing)

Caitlin Glorioso // Junior BFA Dance Performance
NKU: Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase 2022 (Director/Company); Dance ‘22 (Company/Production Assistant); Dance ‘21 (Company)

Makenna Hyams // Junior BA Theatre
NKU: Dance ‘22 (Company); Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase 2021 (Choreographer); Dance ‘21 (Company); Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase 2020 (Company)

Lilah Hoffert Senior BA in College of Informatics
NKU: Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase 2022 (Choreographer); Dance ‘22 (Company); Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase 2020 (Choreographer) // The Henry Theatre (NKU): 10 Minute Plays (Actress)

Hannah Jenkins // Senior BS Exercise Science; Dance Minor
NKU: Dance ‘20 (Company); Dance ‘21 (Company); Dance ‘22 (Company); Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase 2022 (Choreographer/Company)

Olivia Kegg // Junior BA Biological Sciences
NKU: Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase 2020-2022 (Choreographer/Company); Dance ‘21 & ‘22 (Company)

Jenna Khan // Sophomore BFA Dance Performance
NKU: Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase 2021 (Company)

Ted Lavender // Senior BFA Dance Performance
NKU: Dance ‘22 (Company); Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase 2021, 2022 (Company); African Company Presents King Richard III (Ancestor/Ensemble) // Dinner Detective Theatre in Lexington: Peter Parker Dinner (Peter) // Leeds Center for the Arts: Into the Woods (Jack)
Kimberly Legel // Freshman BM Vocal Music Performance

Yolee Louis // Sophomore BFA Musical Theatre
NKU: Violet (Lula Buffington) // Paul Bunyan Playhouse: All Shook Up (Lorraine)

Tiffany McIntosh // Freshman BS Biology

Briana Melvin // Freshman BA Law; Dance Minor
NKU: Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase 2022 (Company)

Alexa Morelle // Freshman BFA Musical Theatre
NKU: Macbeth (Murderer #2/Apparition #3); Princess Plays (Run Crew) // Red Phoenix Theatre Co: ALW Phantom of the Opera (Confidante/Ballet Girl); Mamma Mia! (Dance Core Ensemble) // CYT Atlanta: Much Ado About Nothing (Hero); Godspell (‘Day by Day’ Soloist)

Gabriel Kanai Nakata (Wardrobe Supervisor) // Senior BA Theatre

Hanson Nguyen // Senior BA Health Informatics
NKU: Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase 2021 (Company); Dance ‘22 (Company)

Alexis Peterson // Sophomore BA Elementary Education
NKU: Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase 2022 (Company) // Walton-Verona High School: Rock of Ages (Sherrie) // Kincaid Regional Theatre: Bye Bye Birdie (Kim)

Flick Reardon (Run Crew) // Freshman BA Theatre
NKU: Princess Plays (Squirrel/Unicorn/Dragon 5); Macbeth (Banquo) // Meade County High School Chorus: Once Upon A Mattress (Queen Aggravain); Into the Woods Jr. (Little Red Riding Hood)

Emilia Grace Sander // Senior BFA Dance Pedagogy
NKU: Dance ‘20 (Company/Production Assistant); Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase (Choreographer/Company); Dance ‘22 (Company/Production Assistant) // Stage Right MTC: Frozen Jr. (Choreographer)

Ragan Savage // Junior BA Theatre
Bowie State Theater: DreamGirls (Wayne/Dancer); Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (Ensemble) // Muskingum University: The Omelet Murder Case (Hamlet); Creep Show (Ensemble)

Belle Scholles // Freshman BFA Dance Performance
NKU: Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase 2022 (Company)

Abby Schwarz // Senior BA Theatre
NKU: Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase 2022 (Company); Twelfth Night (Choreographer) // The Henry Theatre (NKU): Rocky Horror Picture Show (Lips/Choreographer); Lieutenant of Inishmore (Brendan) // The Dinner Detective Theatre: The Dinner Detective (Jessica/Ryan) // Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park: Children of the Corn (Nancy)

Lawson James Smith (Front of House) // Senior BA Theatre
NKU: A Grand Night For Singing (Jason) // The Henry Theatre (NKU): Clown Bar (Happy Mahoney); Tribes (Christopher); Closer (Larry) // Footlighters: Mamma Mia (Scuba Extra)
Mollie Tagher // Sophomore BFA Musical Theatre
NKU: Dance ‘22 (Company); Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase (2022) (Company) // Cincinnati Music Theatre: Wonderful Town (Ensemble)

Ella Tillery // Freshman BFA Musical Theatre
NKU: Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase 2022 (Company); Peter and the Starcatcher (Wardrobe) // Mindy’s Jessamine School of Classical Dance: Nutcracker ‘21 (Marzipan); Retrospective (Company) // East Jessamine High School Theatre: Chicago (Roxie Hart); Legally Blonde (Elle Woods)

Noah Warner // Senior BM Performance (Voice); Dance Minor
NKU: Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase 2022 (Artistic Director/Choreographer); The Mystery of Edwin Drood (u/s Chairman/Crispakee, Ensemble); Dance ‘22 (Company); Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase 2021 (Choreographer) // Cincinnati Landmark Productions: Kiss Me, Kate (Nathaniel/Flynt/ Ensemble) // Queen City Opera: Defiant Requiem (Singer) // Carnegie Hall: Mid-America’s 35th season (Soloist/singer) // Riverbend Music Center: Harmony Tour (Josh Groban) (Singer)

Ki’azja Watterson-Brown // Senior BFA Dance Performance
NKU: Dance ‘22 (Company)

Allyson van Haaren // Sophomore BFA Dance Performance
NKU: The Princess Plays (Assistant Choreographer); Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase 2022 (Choreographer/Company); Dance ‘22 (Company); Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase 2021 (Company/Swing) // Cincinnati Landmark Productions: Sister Act (Ensemble) // The Maysville Players: The Little Mermaid Jr. (Director/Choreographer) // Innovation Arts Academy: Xanadu Jr. (Melpomene); Matilda (Ms. Trunchbull)

Connie Viars // Sophomore BFA Dance Performance
NKU: Dance ‘22 (Company); Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase 2021 (Company); Emerging Choreographers’ Showcase 2022 (Company)

Hades Whalen // Sophomore BFA Acting
NKU: First Year Show 2021 (Eva); The Lighting Thief (Run Crew); Persona (Dana) // The Henry Theatre (NKU): Come Back to Earth (Hollis)
Please join us for the 2023 Summer Dance Institute! Participants between the ages of 14 and 23 can experience immersive dance major courses. Throughout the weekend, they will work with professors and fellow students, receive industry and pedagogical training, build their network, gain insight into all the various careers a dance major can provide. The opportunity provides the introduction to campus life in the new state-of-the-art dance studio.

The registration deadline is July 15, 2023.
The registration fee is $35, and the program fee is $300.

Register before May 15 and pay $250 for the program fee (save $50)
Register before June 1 and pay $275 for the program fee (save $25)
PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING TO THE
ALLY DAVIS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Dedicated to our beloved student whose love for musical theatre will endure forever through this scholarship.

Help us reach our goal of $25,000!
The Ally Davis Memorial Scholarship is intended to support rising female artists from Eastern Kentucky whose passion is Musical Theatre.

TO MAKE A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION

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CONTACT:

Sandy Davis, SOTA Budget Manager
davissa@nku.edu // 859-572-5935
NKU SOTA wishes to thank the following individuals and foundations for their generous financial support.

The Corbett Foundation  
Henry Konstantinow  
Tom & Christine Neyer Family

The Rosenthal Family Foundation  
Robert & Rosemary Stauss

SCHOOL OF THE ARTS (SOTA)

SOTA Director ...................................................................................................................Matthew Albritton
SOTA Associate Director ...................................................................................................Ronald A. Shaw
Theatre & Dance Program Head .....................................................................................Michael W. Hatton
Programs and Production Assistant ...............................................................................Alexandra Deaton
Events and Publicity Manager ......................................................................................Rick Endres
Scene Shop Foreman .......................................................................................................Kevin Havlin
Technical Director ........................................................................................................Rob Kerby
Costume Shop Manager .................................................................................................Cat Schmeal-Swope

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