



**DANCE
FOR LIFE**
AUGUST 26, 2021

CHICAGO DANCERS  UNITED

CHICAGO DANCERS  UNITED

Presents



Thursday, August 26, 2021 | 6:00pm | Pritzker Pavilion

FEATURED COMPANIES

Winifred Haun & Dancers
Giordano Dance Chicago
Trinity Irish Dance Company
South Chicago Dance Theatre
The Joffrey Ballet

-Intermission-

Movement Revolution Dance Crew
Visceral Dance Chicago
DanceWorks Chicago
Hubbard Street Dance Chicago
PARA.MAR Dance Theatre

"As One" WORLD PREMIERE BY

Randy Duncan

Original Music by Ira Antelis

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COVER PHOTOGRAPHY Todd Rosenberg
Dancer: Devin Buchannan

A Message from Chicago Dancers United

Welcome to Chicago's iconic Pritzker Pavilion and the **30th Anniversary Celebration of Dance for Life**, presented by Chicago Dancers United! It is our honor to present tonight's event to all of Chicago with free admission for the first time in the 30-year history of this beloved tradition.

Chicago Dancers United exists to support a thriving dance community by providing financial relief for preventative health care and critical medical needs for Chicago dance industry professionals. Through your spirit, generosity, and connection, **Dance for Life** allows us to raise the essential funds needed to achieve this mission, now and well into the future.

The devastating effects of the pandemic are still being experienced by so many, and we know there is still a long way to go before Chicago's artistic landscape regains equilibrium. Chicago Dancers United will continue to sustain the dance industry as we rebuild and renew together. To every audience member, donor, artist, technician, educator, administrator, and volunteer: **thank you** for being a critical part of this bridge of support.

Tonight, we **celebrate**. We rise. We applaud. We reflect. We inspire. We commemorate the resilience and passion of **you** — our incredible community.

With gratitude and joy,

The Board of Chicago Dancers United

A Message from Dance for Life 2021 Co-Chairs

As Chicago's vibrant dance community triumphantly returns to the stage to dazzle you tonight, we are thrilled to be celebrating THREE DECADES of uplifting dance professionals.

Thirty years ago, Dance For Life was born out of necessity due to a pandemic. At alarming rates, we were losing members of our dance community to AIDS, people who touched our lives both on and off the stage, whose lives were cut short. Members of the dance community recognized the need, envisioned and created Dance for Life, a performance to honor those lost and a benefit to help those fighting to survive.

Thirty years later, amid another pandemic, Dance for Life's goals are still to heal, unify and inspire. Chicago Dancers United is an organization prepared to meet the dance community's needs. The Dancers' Fund has been a beacon of hope to many dancers in crises, yet we know that we can reach further and help even more dancers with medical financial relief and critical medical needs. Chicago Dancers United works to ensure that Chicago's strong, vibrant and diverse dance community is not only healthy but that ALL its members **thrive**.

We want to thank everyone who has locked arms in support of Chicago's extraordinary dance community over the past 30 years — the companies, the dancers, the sponsors, the volunteers, and the audience. You all play a part in making Dance for Life a one-of-a-kind event. Thank you for your unwavering love, passion, and care.

Here's to good health, a thriving dance community, and **30 Years of Dance for Life**.

Cheers,

Mark and Tom Ferguson Gomez & Jennifer Edgcomb

GIORDANO DANCE CHICAGO
SEASON 59

Heather Booyesen Photography

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The story of Dance for Life and Chicago Dancers United

Having lost many close friends and dance colleagues due to HIV and AIDS, Keith Elliott, a member of Joseph Holmes Chicago Dance Theatre (JHCdT), felt it was time for Chicago dancers to take an active role in preventing the spread of the disease. Keith's idea — both brilliant and simple — was to bring Chicago's dance community together for one night each year, to Dance for Life.

In 1991, Keith and Todd Kiech began working to make Dance for Life a reality, enlisting JHCdT associate artistic director Harriet Ross to give their event the creative force required to make a significant impact. HIV/AIDS community activist and skilled fundraiser Danny Kopelson joined the project the following year, along with Hubbard Street Dance Chicago executive director Gail Kalver. The inaugural Dance for Life (DFL) was held in June 1992 at the Organic Theatre. Every seat was sold.

In the years following, annual DFL performances filled the Athenaeum Theatre, the Skyline Stage at Navy Pier, The Harris Theater for Music and Dance, and at the Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University, each selling out weeks in advance. DFL is proud to be held tonight at the Jay Pritzker Pavilion.

Over the past 30 years, 33 Chicago-based, professional dance companies and numerous choreographers have been presented at DFL, supporting and showcasing the city's unique diversity of talent, dance traditions and styles. DFL remains the only annual opportunity for the incredibly talented, world-renowned professional dancers of Chicago to unite artistically to help those affected by health through The Dancers' Fund. Dancers, companies and choreographers generously donate their time, energy and artistry to the cause. Millions of dollars have been raised by DFL since 1992, for the AIDS Foundation of Chicago, The Dancers' Fund, and 24 other AIDS prevention, treatment and advocacy organizations in Chicago. DFL has supported and helped produce several spin-off events.

In 1994, Board Member Harriet Ross created the Dance For Life Fund, later known as the Dancers Fund. The Fund provides assistance to any member of the professional Chicago dance community facing critical health issues. In response to the changing needs of Chicago's dance community, evolutions in the nature of HIV/AIDS, the growth of the annual event and its other programs, DFL has matured into a nonprofit organization, Chicago Dancers United.

Chicago Dancers United

Chicago Dancers United is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organization that provides financial relief for preventative health care and critical medical needs for Chicago dance industry professionals.

chicagodancersunited.org



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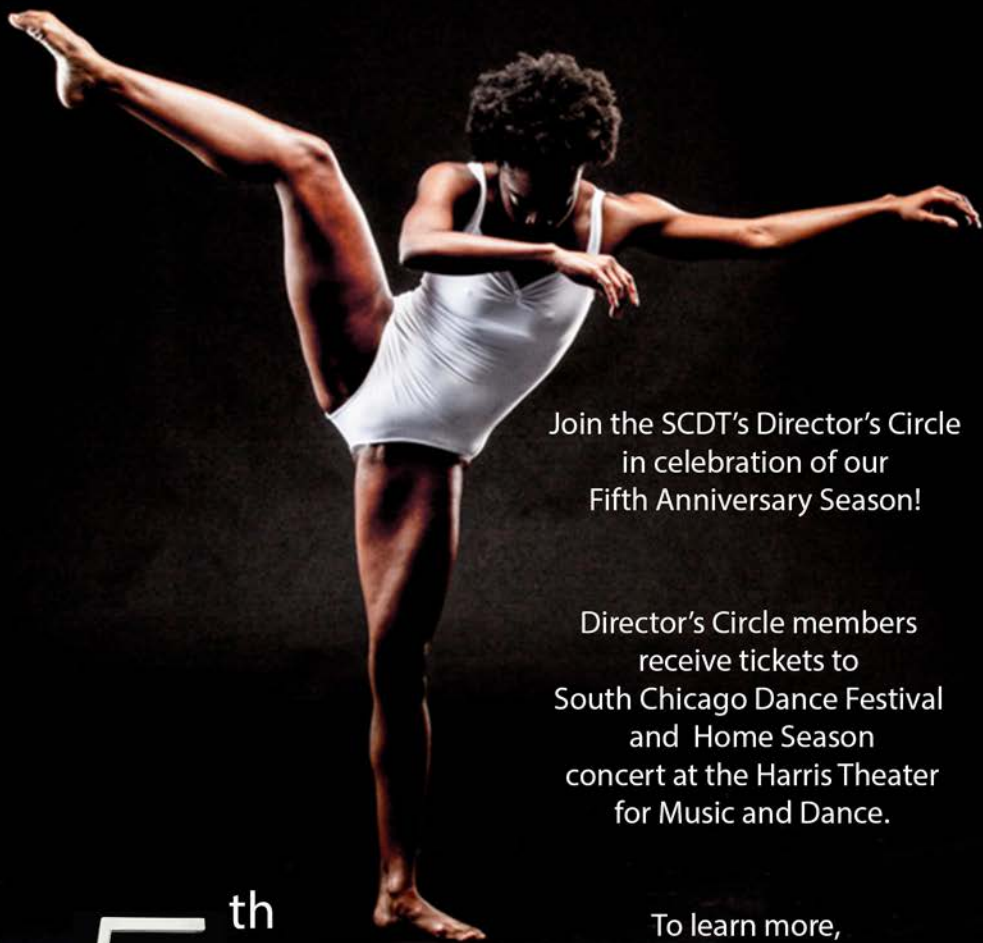
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Photo Credit: Thomas Mohr

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The Dancers' Fund provides short-term financial assistance to Chicago dance professionals diagnosed with a critical health need. In 2020, we broadened our grantmaking to include support for general health and wellness needs.

Although the Fund was created in response to the impact of the HIV/AIDS epidemic on the dance community, its mission has now broadened. The Fund offers assistance in, but not limited to, housing, utilities, insurance, medication and travel. Designed to help qualified individuals meet their financial obligations when faced with health issues, The Dancers' Fund is available to Chicago-based, professionally trained working dancers and those whose primary source of income is derived by serving the dance community. These include, but are not limited to: dancers in a professional dance company, choreographers, dance company full-time administration/production/technical personnel, full-time dance instructors, freelance dancers, musical theatre chorus dancers and full-time class/rehearsal accompanists.

How the Dancers' Fund Works

There are two grant opportunities through the Dancers' Fund:

The **Critical Health Need Grant** helps cover medical expenses related to the diagnosis of a critical health issue. Those expenses include, but are not limited to, doctor and hospital visits, surgery, medical testing, therapy, and medication. Funding of up to \$4,000 is available annually.

The **General Health and Wellness Grant** helps cover non-critical health expenses related to general health and wellness, such as insurance premiums, medical bills, dental bills, and mental health sessions. Funding of up to \$500 is available annually.

Grants are intended for temporary assistance and are paid directly to the collector. Each case is reviewed on an individual basis by a committee comprised of Chicago Dancers United board members. The board reserves the right to alter, amend, modify and change the purpose, categories of assistance, limitations on assistance, eligibility and documentation at any time. Chicago Dancers United does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status.

For more information and an application, please call 312-678-7919 or email info@chicagodancersunited.org. The application can also be downloaded on Chicago Dancers United's website: www.chicagodancersunited.org

Dance at the Harris

21/22

Akram Khan

XENOS

November 12 + 13, 2021

Ragamala Dance Company

Fires of Varanasi

December 2, 2021

English National Ballet

Akram Khan's *Creature*

February 24 - 26, 2022



Akram Khan's *Xenos*. Photo by Jean-Louis Fernandez.

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THE
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A Lifeline of Beneficiaries

Since 1992, Dance for Life has raised over \$6 million. The funds raised over the years have been distributed to the AIDS Foundation of Chicago, The Dancers' Fund, and 24 other HIV and AIDS service providing organizations in Chicago.

Agape Missions, NFP
AIDS Alternative Health Project
AIDS Legal Council of Chicago
AIDSCare
Better Existence with HIV
Bonaventure House
Brothers Health Collective
Center on Halsted
Centro Romero
Centro San Bonifacio
Chicago Child Care Society
Chicago House
Chicago Women's AIDS Project
Howard Brown Health Center
Interfaith House
Luck Care Center
Making a Daily Effort
Open Hand Chicago
Pediatric AIDS Chicago
Project VIDA
South Side Help Center
Stop AIDS
Test Positive Aware Network
Young Women's Empowerment Project

The AIDS Foundation of Chicago (AFC) was Dance for Life's first beneficiary in 1992. In 2020 a second partnership was formed with the American Cancer Society, as more dance professionals were having critical health issue beyond HIV/AIDS. With the funds raised through Dance for Life, AFC and ACS is able to support the efforts of these esteemed organizations to provide medical support, research and advocacy. In Illinois AFC is working to prevent new HIV infections and serve people living with HIV/AIDS.

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HONORED TO BE A PART OF THE 30TH CELEBRATION OF *DANCE FOR LIFE*

*"Visceral breathes life into
the Chicago Dance Community...."*

(Chicago Stage Standard)



PHOTO BY MILD PHOTOGRAPHY

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About the AIDS Foundation of Chicago

As we reflect on the myriad of challenges that arose in 2020, we are proud of the ways AIDS Foundation Chicago (AFC) innovated to support Illinois' HIV/AIDS community. From advancing our racial equity work to launching a hotel project to help those in need of temporary housing during COVID-19, AFC created new solutions to meet the emerging needs of people living with and vulnerable to HIV. These solutions center racial equity, at a time when those disproportionately impacted by HIV had to also contend with COVID-19 and related job losses, housing challenges and more. We cannot thank you enough for your support and trust in us during a challenging year. Together, we were able to respond, and together, we can move forward.

With gratitude,

John Peller, President and CEO, and Craig W. Johnson, Board Chair

About the American Cancer Society



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The Program

WINIFRED HAUN & DANCERS

Press on, regardless (film)

Choreography: **Winifred Haun**

Music: **Michael Wall**

Videographer: **Sean Rafferty**

Dancers: **Quint Lattimore & Summer Smith**

GIORDANO DANCE CHICAGO

Take A Gambol

Choreographer: **Joshua Blake Carter**

Music: **Maynard Ferguson, Perry Como, Mose Allison, Quincy Jones**

Lighting Designer: **Jacob Snodgrass**

Costume Designer: **Joshua Blake Carter, Nina G**

Dancers: **Tanner Boyer, Brittany Brown, Ashley Downs, Rosario Guillen, Zachary Heller, Amanda Hickey, Adam Houston, Sasha Lazarus, Skyler Newcom, Onjélee Phomthirath, Katie Rafferty, Fernando Rodriguez, Erina Ueda**

Set to a score of 1960's jazz classics, "Take A Gambol" features for the first time ever the new entire Giordano Dance Chicago ensemble of 13 dancers. The work was originally premiered in 2018 with a cast of 8, and has been completely re-worked for DFL to include the entire company.

TRINITY IRISH DANCE COMPANY

PUSH

Choreographer: **Mark Howard**

With contributing choreography by **Andrew Vickers**

Music: arrangements by **Mark Howard**

Costume Designer: **Cathy Fitzmaurice**

Dancers: **Michael Fleck, Renae Marshall, Ali Doughty, Chelsea Hoy, Abigail Graham-Luke, Francisco Lemus**

SOUTH CHICAGO DANCE THEATRE

Architect of a Dream (excerpt)

Choreographer: **Kia S. Smith**

Music: **Martin Luther King, Bernice Johnson Reagon**

Lighting Design: **Charlotte Rathke**

Costume Design: **Kia S. Smith, Shannon K. Washington**

Rehearsal Director: **Jessica Miller Tomlinson**

Dancers: **Shannon Washington, Heather Cagle, Kelly Anderson, Sam Crouch, Emmanuel Ramirez, Sydney Jones, Hayley Midea, Louis Pearson, Dorianne Thomas, Klm Davis, Ivan Aguayo, Taylor Yocum, Brenea Thomas, Lourdes Taylor, Amaya Arroyo, Louis Pearson**

The Program

THE JOFFREY BALLET

The Times Are Racing

Choreographer: **Justin Peck**

Music: **Dan Deacon**

Lighting Design: **Brandon Sterling Baker**

Costume Design: **Humberto Leon**

Sound Design: **Abe Jacob**

Staged by **Craig Hall**

Dancers:

Stefan Goncalvez, Xavier Núñez

Dara Holmes, Edson Barbosa

Anais Bueno, Olivia Duryea, Chloé Sherman, Fernando Duarte

Valeria Chaykina, Anna Gerberich, Gayeon Jung, Brooke Linford, Princess Reid, Miu Tanaka

Evan Boersma, Jose Pablo Castro Cuevas, Jonathan Dole, Hyuma Kiyosawa,

Graham Maverick, Aaron Renteria

World premiere: January 26, 2017, New York City Ballet, David H. Koch Theater, New York, NY

Joffrey premiere: February 12, 2020, Auditorium Theatre, Chicago, IL

Original Beatles Compositions (SESAC) administered by 2011 Ribbon Music
(SESAC) administered by Domino US Publishing Company (SESAC).

Selections from Dan Deacon's America

USA I – Is A Monster | USA II – The Great American Desert

USA III – Rail | USA IV – Manifest

-INTERMISSION-

MOVEMENT REVOLUTION DANCE CREW

Dedicated to the Originators

Choreographer: **Monternez Rezell**

Music: **The Originators** spoken word- Emcee Monte; Don't Nobody Want Nonte- TechN9n3;
Planet Rock- Afrika Bambaataa

Dancers: **KC Bevis, Kitta Boylan, Diamond Burdine, Tati Castaneda, Dana Christy,**
Ashley Esper, Molly Harris, Logan Howell, Trinity Kotarski, Jacequeline Kromash,
Jessica Leyva, Terrence Morris, Jr., Natalie Renee, Monternez Rezell

The Program

VISCERAL DANCE CHICAGO

Synapse

Choreographer: **Nick Pupillo**

Music: **Darryl Hoffman**

Lighting Design: **Nathan Tomlinson**

Dancers: **Braeden Barnes, Meagan Cubides, Meredith Harrill, Tyler Kerbel, Morgan McDaniel, Michelle Meltzer, Oz Shoshan, Brandon Talbott, Samantha Weeks, Morgan Williams**

Commissioned for Visceral Dance Chicago by the Harris Theater for Music and Dance with support from the Pamela Crutchfield Dance Fund through the Imagine Campaign.

DANCEWORKS CHICAGO

Mutter Matters

Chicago Premiere

Choreography by: **Charissa-Lee Barton**

Music by: **Mumbles**, written by Clark Terry, performed by Clark Terry and Oscar Peterson;

Blue and Sentimental, written by Count Basie, performed by Oscar Peterson Trio;

C Jam Blues, written by Duke Ellington, performed by Oscar Peterson Trio

Costumes by **VIN**

Dancers: **Imani English, Kara Hunsinger, Sayiga Eugene Peabody, Cole Vernon, Imani Williams**

HUBBARD STREET DANCE CHICAGO

This, That and the Third

Choreography By: **Rena Butler**

Music by: **Featured selections include: "Drum & Drone" by Justin Hurwitz from the film Whiplash. "The House Divided" speech by Abraham Lincoln, adapted and edited by Rena Butler, Spanish text translated and spoken by Abdiel Figueroa Reyes, Mandarin text translated and spoken by Connie Shiao, Arabic text translated and spoken by Mirza Shams, English text spoken by Rena Butler and Jessica Tong. "Sculpture," written and composed by Marcin Cichy and Igor Pudlo, published by Just Isn't Music, administered by Third Side Music.**

Costume Design: **Costume Design by Adrienne Lipson.**

Original lighting design by **Scott Nelson.**

Dancers: **Alyssa Allen, Alexandria Best, Craig D. Black Jr., Jacqueline Burnett, Michele Dooley, Michael Garcia, Elliot Hammans, Alysia Johnson, Adam McGaw, Andrew Murdock, Abdiel Figueroa Reyes, David Schultz, Kevin J. Shannon, Simone Stevens**

The Program

PARA.MAR DANCE THEATRE

kiss.

Choreography by: **Stephanie Martinez**

Music by: **Air on a G String, Johann Sebastian Bach**

Costume Design: **Stephanie Martinez**

Dancers: **Noelle Kayser, Ching Ching Wong, Nathaniel Hunt, Alicia Delgadillo, Myles Lavallee, Chase Buntrock, Brian Martinez**

In kiss, we witness the dancers on the perilous journey we all take to find and sustain intimacy - often only felt for a moment, before sliding back into obscurity.

FINALE

“As One” (2021)

Choreographer: **Randy Duncaon**

Music: **Ira Antelis**

Lighting Designer: **Margaret Nelson**

Costume Designer: **Richard Dayhoff**

Finale Coach: **Harriet Ross**

Dancers:

Jonathan E Alsberry (Hubbard Street Dance Chicago)

Mariterese Altosino (Water Street Dance Company)

Craig D Black Jr. (Hubbard Street Dance Chicago)

Evan Boersma (The Joffrey Ballet)

Genevieve Brady (Aerial Dance Chicago)

Heather Cagle (South Chicago Dance Theatre)

Ariel M Dorsey

Fernando Duarte (The Joffrey Ballet)

Paige Fraser (Lion King National Tour)

Jack Halbert

Adam Houston (Giordano Dance Chicago)

Ari Israel

Alysia Johnson (Hubbard Street Dance Chicago)

Joe Musiel

Fernando Rodriguez (Giordano Dance Chicago)

The Program

Understudies:

Jackson Bradford (Boston Conservatory at Berklee)

Quinn Kuch (Chicago Academy for the Arts)

Katelyn Reyes

Lincoln Seymour (Chicago Academy for the Arts)

Michelle Skiba

Assistant to the Choreographer: **Isaiah Day** (The Juilliard School)

Rehearsal Liaison: **Katelyn Reyes**

AS ONE

Composed by **Ira Antelis**

Produced by **Ira Antelis & Rick Fritz**

Recorded, Engineered, and mixed by **Rick Fritz**

Lead Vocal: **Stevie Robinson**

Female Lead Vocal: **Emily Blue**

Female spoken word: **Nikki Lynette**

Acapella Vocal: **Stella Tate Ricciardi Fitzpatrick**

Background Chants & Vocals: **Laveeta Renee Robinson, Isaiah Robinson, Rachel Robinson, Noemi Robinson.**

Crowd Chants: **Jim Hoffman**

Guitars: **Joe Shahid**

Bass: **Alan Berliant**

Horns & Marching Drums: **Jim Trompeter**

Drum Programming: **Dejion Madison**

Synthesizers, keyboards and drum programming: **Ira Antelis**

Press on, regardless

Choreography: **Winifred Haun**

Music: **Michael Wall**

Videographer: **Sean Rafferty**

Dancers: **Quint Lattimore & Summer Smith**

DanceWorks

CHICAGO

AUDIENCES!
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WELCOME BACK!
WOO!

CONGRATULATIONS TO CHICAGO DANCERS UNITED
ON THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF DANCE FOR LIFE!



DanceWorks Chicago is proud to share the stage with members of the Chicago Dance CommUNITY.

Follow DWC's journey as a professional training ground, creative lab, and performing company @DanceWorksChicago

SEASON 15 IRL

#ALWAYS
MOVING

dancer Imani Williams in *Mutter Matters*
by Charissa-Lee Barton, photo by Vin

Special Thanks

Dance for Life and the Dancers' Fund is supported year-round by the generosity of the community.

In 2021, the following events and partners contributed or will contribute critical support in raising funds for Chicago Dancers United.

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Chelberg**

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**Patti Eylar and
Charlie Gardner**

Auditorium Theatre, photo by Arturo Gonzalez. Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater in *Pasion Oculta*, photo by Dean Paul. Deeply Rooted Dance Theater in *Forces*, photo by Michelle Reid.

DANCEWORKS CHICAGO

Led by Co-founder and Artistic Director Julie Nakagawa, DanceWorks Chicago fills a niche in the dance ecosystem. A creative incubator, DWC fosters a diverse next generation of movers and makers, empowering young artists to cultivate their unique voices through skill acquisition and development, collaborations and relationship-building with a global perspective, intense and intentional mentorship, and performances. DanceWorks Chicago believes that the inclusion of different perspectives and ideas will unearth a standard of creativity and innovation that cannot be achieved by one. To inspire and empower artists, audiences, and good dance citizens is DanceWorks Chicago's way to impact the field. Congratulations to Chicago Dancers United on the 30th anniversary of Dance for Life!

Always moving. www.danceworkschicago.org

Facebook and Instagram: /danceworkschicago

GIORDANO DANCE CHICAGO

Giordano Dance Chicago (GDC) illuminates beauty and invigorates the world with deep connections. In 59 years as an artistic leader and innovator, Giordano Dance Chicago – one of the longest running jazz dance companies in the world - has contributed greatly to the health of Chicago's performing arts community. From our origins in Gus Giordano's family-run studio to our current incarnation as a professionally-run organization with over a half-century of worldwide performances (27 countries, 46 states, and more than 1,200 cities), our imprint on the art form of jazz dance is far-reaching and significant. Our contributions include: a vast repertoire of more than 175 original works; the mentoring of new and emerging choreographers; the commissioning of innumerable musical scores and production designers; the education of tens of thousands of under-resourced public school and community students; the creation of generations of professional dancers, and performances to millions of audience members worldwide.

Several major factors combine to be the engine behind all programs and which reflect the organization's mission and vision. First, the legacy of founder Gus Giordano suffuses the organization, its mission and its daily activities and cannot be over-emphasized. Second, the leadership of Artistic Director Nan Giordano and Executive Director Michael McStraw has challenged and transformed the organization to continuously raise its standards, take artistic risks, and expand its influence worldwide. Third, GDC recruits, hires, and fosters dance artists who possess more than just superlative technique and experience, but who also convey passion, humanity, and elegance. Lastly, ours is always a passionate and visceral offering which connects profoundly with our audience.

Our mission provides for strong educational programs and services, including teaching the Giordano Technique in residencies in college and university dance programs, as well as the Nan Giordano Certification Program® which offers multi-level instruction and certification in the proprietary Giordano Technique. GDC's *Jazz Dance/Science & Health* program, established in 2006, teaches elementary-school anatomy and nutrition curriculum through a dance-centric program in the science classroom over the course of 8 weeks. On average, each year the program provides 300 classes to 450 students in four under-resourced schools.

GDC purchased the Hermon Baptist Church in Lincoln Park/Old Town in January 2018 to serve as its new headquarters. Although plans have been temporarily delayed by the pandemic, the current structure will be modified/rebuilt to eventually house a dance school, multiple dance studios, office space, and an informal performance space.

PARA.MAR Dance Theatre

PARA.MAR Dance Theatre is a Chicago-based contemporary ballet repertory company, founded in 2020 and directed by award-winning choreographer, Stephanie Martinez.

Meaning together, with, and for, "PARA" represents the vision, purpose, and commitment to celebrating identity and creating community through contemporary ballet.

Together, with the belief that inclusion leads to innovation, and that dance is an essential mode of human expression, PARA.MAR's mission is to empower and elevate diverse voices in contemporary ballet by providing performances and programming rooted in artistic excellence, radical accessibility, and reflective of the unique identities of the communities it serves.

HUBBARD STREET DANCE CHICAGO

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago's mission is to bring artists, art and audiences together to enrich, engage, educate and change lives through the experience of dance. HSDC is committed to keeping its dancers creating and finding innovative ways to share exceptional contemporary dance with the community. Now under the artistic direction of Linda-Denise Fisher-Harrell, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago grew out of the Lou Conte Dance Studio in 1977, and Conte served as Artistic Director for 23 years. Hubbard Street offers extensive Education and Adaptive Dance Programs to ensure that residents in every neighborhood of Chicago have access to the benefits of dance. Visit hubbardstreetdance.com for more information.

THE JOFFREY BALLET

The Joffrey Ballet is one of the premier dance companies in the world today, with a reputation for boundary-breaking performances for more than 60 years. The Joffrey repertoire is an extensive collection of all-time classics, modern masterpieces, and original works.

Founded in 1956 by pioneers Robert Joffrey and Gerald Arpino, the Joffrey remains dedicated to artistic expression, innovation, and first-rate education and engagement programming. The Joffrey Ballet continues to thrive under The Mary B. Galvin Artistic Director Ashley Wheatler MBE and President and CEO Greg Cameron.

MOVEMENT REVOLUTION DANCE CREW

Movement Revolution Dance Crew (MRDC) was founded in 2010 by Chicago native Monternez Rezell. As Artistic Director Monte takes street dance to another level by integrating the street culture into concert dance; all while paying tribute to the founders and originators of the hip hop culture. MRDC performs styles of street dance seen in the hip hop culture including breaking, popping, locking, waving, litefeet, and tricking. MRDC also uses the elements of West African dance, street jazz and contemporary styles to create movement in a way that pushes the limits of dance and creates new possibilities for endless style.

SOUTH CHICAGO DANCE THEATRE

Since the South Chicago Dance Theatre's 2017 launch, the Main Company has toured regionally, nationally and internationally and commissioned the choreographic work of renowned artists. Its collaborative initiatives have included music ensembles, television, opera, art museums and public schools through a range of self-produced and presented performance events. Prioritizing intergenerational learning and exchange, overarching organization's core programs utilize the art of dance to reframe trauma narratives through creative storytelling and replace dominant cultural narratives with community narratives. The art of dance empowers our community to resist oppression and foster collective healing. Amongst SCDT's six core programs are the Main Company and Emerging Artist Program, the Choreography Center, the Education and Community Programs, the South Chicago Arts Administration Fellowship, the annual South Chicago Dance Festival, and the Choreographic Diplomacy Program. SCDT's work has been featured in Dance Magazine, the Chicago Tribune, the Hyde Park Herald, the Daily Jefferson County Union, the Chicago Sun Times, Chicago Magazine, See Chicago Dance, New City Magazine and Dancermusic.com. In 2018 SCDT received an entrepreneurship award from the Chicago Urban League, a Rising Star Award from the City of Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events, was recently nominated for two Princess Grace USA Awards and accepted into a three year dance leadership cohort sponsored by the Mellon Foundation in partnership with the International Association of Blacks in Dance.

TRINITY IRISH DANCE COMPANY

TRINITY IRISH DANCE COMPANY (TIDC) has significantly changed the direction and scope of Irish dance, re-introducing the art form as the phenomenon it is today. TIDC is constantly in search of an original means of expression while maintaining a high regard for tradition. Founded in 1990, this innovative, nonprofit company was created to celebrate the pioneering work of Founding Artistic Director Mark Howard. Howard's uniquely Irish-American company was the birthplace of progressive Irish dance, an innovative movement genre which opened new avenues of artistic freedom that led directly to commercial productions such as "Riverdance."

By using Irish dance as an instrument and a metaphor, TIDC redefines the medium with passion, flair, and precision. Through the years, TIDC has collaborated with many noted contemporary choreographers, which has led to an increased vocabulary of movement and the development of a new genre of dance. With a unique blend of uncompromising power and grace, TIDC sends a consistent message of female empowerment with a repertory that has elevated the art form for nearly three decades.

Considered an American treasure by critics and enthusiasts worldwide, TIDC has performed sold-out tours in Europe, Asia, and North America, appearing in distinguished venues, such as New York's The Joyce Theater, Washington D.C.'s Kennedy Center, UCLA's Royce Hall, Princeton's McCarter Theater, Ottawa's National Arts Center of Canada, Tokyo's Orchard Hall, and Chicago's Auditorium Theatre, among many others. The Company has travelled to entertain dignitaries as varied as Monaco's royal family, Irish and American presidents, Japanese royalty, and Indian meditation masters.

TIDC holds an important place in the dance world, offering both a highly skilled presentation of traditional Irish step dance and a brilliantly engaging interpretation of contemporary world vision.

VISCERAL DANCE CHICAGO

Visceral Dance Chicago has been engaging and connecting audiences with our artists since 2013. This internationally recognized repertory company, founded by Artistic Director Nick Pupillo, presents his daring vision to explore the infinite possibilities of contemporary movement and the best of emerging, established and innovative choreographers. The dancers of Visceral demonstrate choreographic invention and are recognized for their technique, passion and athleticism. Visceral has grown alongside Visceral Dance Center, which is recognized as one of the top dance training facilities in the country. Its outstanding reputation has made Visceral a destination with over 100 weekly open level drop-in classes in a wide variety of genres for teen through adult, exemplary pre-professional programs and a youth program focused on high quality and supportive training. Visit www.visceraldance.com for more information.

WINIFRED HAUN

Winifred Haun & Dancers was founded in Chicago in the 1990's by award winning choreographer and dancer, Winifred Haun. In 2001, the Company went on hiatus for several years while Ms. Haun raised her three young children. The Company re-started in 2008 with small projects and in 2009 presented their first full length work, "Promise". Since 2009, the Company has won a MacArthur Foundation Award, been chosen by the Martha Graham Dance Company to participate in their Lamentation Variation Project, twice received the Oak Park Area Arts Council's "Best in Class" Award, and been presented at Danspace Project in New York City.

The mission of Winifred Haun & Dancers is to create and present original, contemporary, innovative works that illuminate and elevate diverse artists, audiences, and global themes. Part of the Company's artistic vision is to have dance viewed not only in the context of professional presentation, but also at the community level and in non-traditional performance venues. The Company has a deep, long time commitment to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, as evidenced by it's artists, staff, and Board.

The Company has presented work at many prestigious local, national and international venues and festivals including Circus Oz in Melbourne Australia, Danspace Project in NYC, Dance Center of Columbia College, Come Together Dance Festival in Philadelphia, Athenaeum Theater, Link's Hall, and in many community based performance venues such as Historic Pleasant Home, Oak Park's Handel Week, and Frank Lloyd Wright's Unity Temple.

Individual Bios

Ira Antelis (Final Composition)

Ira Antelis has been writing and producing music for over 30 years. He's composed songs for Disney and artists such as Marc Anthony and Patti LaBelle. Brands like Gatorade (Be Like Mike) and McDonald's have used Ira's music for commercials. His latest project "We Have Loved" (wehaveloved.com) is an online music memorial to honor those we've lost during the pandemic. He's also written music for movies, television, and composed music for the theatre. "As One" which was composed for Dance For Life looks back and all we've been through as a nation and how much further we need to go.

Sarah Burnham (Project Manager)

Sarah Burnham (She/her/hers) is a Chicago-based Production and Project Manager. She is on staff at Lookingglass Theatre Company where she serves as the Production Manager and has previously worked with Peninsula Players Theatre and American Blues Theatre. Sarah has an extensive props design history having worked with companies such as Northlight Theatre, American Blues Theater, TimeLine Theatre, Northwestern University-Next Up Series, Steep Theatre Company, Jackalope Theatre and Lookingglass Theatre Company. Sarah holds a BFA from the University of Oklahoma with an emphasis in acting and scenic design. Sarah is also a founding member of For the Group Chicago: A Chicago BIMPOC Theatre Network, as well as part of the No More 10 out of 12s Working Group. She grew up dancing, and is excited to return to the world of dance with this project.

Richard Dayhoff (Final Costumes)

In the world of high-fashion apparel, the name Richard Dayhoff is synonymous with elegant simplicity. Dayhoff's clothing designs have been sold for more than twenty years in over 300 renowned retail establishments across America, including Nordstrom and Saks Fifth Avenue. A graduate of the International Academy of Design, and known for his sculptural approach to style and attention to detailing, Dayhoff continues to introduce intriguing, attention-commanding collections.

His talent has led to immense success in creating women's ready-to-wear garments and men's sportswear, as well as launching a signature fragrance, DAYHOFF, for men and women. Known as a visionary, this artist of personal presentation constantly innovates and sets new standards, most recently introducing a collection of eco-friendly first layers.

(continued next page)

Individual Bios

Richard's quiet confidence and inspired excellence have earned him the AIBI Designer of Tomorrow Award, the New York More Fashion Award, and a nomination for Chicago's Gold Coast Fashion Award.

In addition, Dayhoff earned the privilege of dressing Oprah Winfrey, as well as appearing on her show twice. He also co-hosted CBS TV's weekly "Fashion Police" segments, reporting on the fashion scene in general. His press credits are equally impressive: He has appeared on the cover of 'Women's Wear Daily' seven times, and has merited features in 'Harper's Bazaar', 'W', 'Elle', 'Glamour' and 'Men's Style.'

Dance for Life 2021

Richard Dayhoff designed these garments to serve as an ultimate first layer of clothing. His approach is artisanal, so his creations are made in limited editions, to precise specifications. They are carefully crafted with first-quality, environmentally friendly methods and materials which yield the minimalist, definitive simplicity of a force of Nature.

1994 & 1995

Designed and constructed the costumes for choreographer Randy Duncan for two world premiere finale performances for Dance for Life.

Randy Duncan (Finale Choreographer)

Randy Duncan, a native of Chicago, who began his dance training with Ms. Geraldine Johnson and credits much of his artistic development with Harriet Ross, has the unique privilege to be a three-time recipient of Chicago's prestigious Ruth Page Award for Outstanding Choreographer of the year. He has received numerous other awards including the Artistic Achievement Award from the Chicago National Association of Dance Masters, three Black Theatre Alliance Awards, and the Gay Chicago Magazine After Dark Award. He earned an American Choreography Award Nomination for his choreography in the block buster movie Save the Last Dance, starring Julia Stiles. Mr. Duncan's work has been seen in the companies of Joffrey Ballet, Giordano Jazz Dance Chicago, Ballet Met, and many others. He has created choreography for such theatres as the Goodman, Manhattan Theatre Club, South Coast Repertory, Actor's Theatre, Court Theatre, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Washington Shakespeare Theatre, and Portland Opera. Most recently, Randy's work can be seen in season four of Showtime's THE CHI. For the past 28 years he has been on the faculty of The Chicago Academy for the Arts, where he now serves as Dance Department Chair and received the 2019 Faculty Legacy Award. Randy has been choreographing the finale for Chicago's annual Dance for Life gala since 1994 and has received the 2013 AIDS Foundation Chicago Civic Leadership Award for his work with Dance for Life.

Individual Bios

Erin Harner (Operations Manager)

Erin Harner is a freelance artist who has performed with companies such as BOOM CRACK! Dance Company, CabinFever, Chicago Urban Dance Collective (since renamed Egun Artist Collective) and Peckish Rhodes Performing Arts Society. Erin's work with such companies, as well as various independent artists, has taken on the shape of evening-length performances at generative spaces such as Links Hall, as well as site-specific, immersive productions at the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Stony Island Arts Bank and Soho House. She has performed at events such as Prelude Midwest and World of Dance Chicago, in addition to a variety of Chicago-based festivals.

Erin has a rich teaching background and has facilitated classes within a myriad of movement spaces, as well as through school programming. Aside from her collegiate pedagogical education, Erin's accreditations include the Nan Giordano Certification Program, Yogaview's 200-hour Yoga Teacher Training, CorePower's Yoga Sculpt Teacher Training and AIR's Aerial Fitness Teacher Training. Additionally, she is in the midst of a course of study in relation to the somatic practice IMAGE TECH for dancers, under the direction of its creator, Alexandra Wells, and maintains membership with the International Association for Dance Medicine & Science.


Furthermore, Erin functions as the Assistant to the Artistic Director & Founder of Springboard Danse Montréal and the Operations Manager for Chicago Dancers United. Previously, she assumed the role of Manager of Artist Training at Hubbard Street Dance Chicago. Erin's previous and current roles afford her the pleasure of engaging in collaboration resulting in the promotion of innovation and generosity.

Margaret Nelson (Lighting Designer, Stage Manager)

Margaret has been lighting dancer (and other) stuff in Chicago and surrounding continents for about forever. Her favorite payment is sweaty dancer hugs. Dancers work hard. Attention must be paid!

Katelyn Reyes (Finale Ambassador)

Katelyn Reyes, originally from the Chicago suburban area, is a dance educator and performing arts advocate. She holds degrees in Dance Teacher Education, Physical Education, and Business Administration from Illinois State University, a Master of Science degree in Education with a concentration in Health Education from University of St. Francis, and a 200-hour Power Yoga Teacher Certification from CorePower Yoga. Formerly with the *Joel Hall Dancers*, she currently teaches full-time dance at Barrington High School where she directs the *Orchesis Dance Company* and co-produces the Giordano Choreography Project with *Giordano Dance Chicago*. In addition, she serves on the steering committee for *Illinois High School Dance Festival* as the Professional Company Performance Coordinator. Since 2017, Katelyn has been contributing her time working with *Chicago Dancers United* as a program associate and dance ambassador for *Dance for Life*, as well as Randy Duncan's finale rehearsal ambassador and a *Dance Divas* performer. *Dance for Life* is one of Katelyn's favorite events of the entire year!



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**endless pirouettes,
flights of fancy and
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Pursuing your passion means giving the best of yourself. We understand. That's why we're proud to support Chicago Dancers United, because great performance is worth the investment.



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- The LGBTQ community has a disproportionate burden of cancer, a higher prevalence of some risk factors and faces barriers to accessing health care beyond those of the general population.

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[acsheroes.org](https://www.acsheroes.org).**

AS ONE Lyrics

Choreographed by Randy Duncan

Music & Lyrics by Ira Antelis

CHANTS

DOWN WITH HATE (Repeat)

WHAT DO WE WANT

WE WANT FREEDOM (Repeat)

BLACK WHITE GAY STRAIGHT AIDS DOES

NOT DISCRIMINATE (Repeat)

Verse 1

So torn apart

Down on my knees

Can someone help me

I'm begging please

Where's the hope

That we all dreamed of

Where things would change

What did that mean love

What did that mean (what did that mean)

What did that mean (what did that mean)

What did that mean (what did that mean)

What did that mean (what did that mean)

Verse 2

So much hate

Growin stronger

I just can't take it

any longer

Where's the peace

show me some love

let's rise together

look to god above

To God Above (to god above)

Look to God Above (to god above) To God

Above (to god above)

Look to God Above (to god above)

Pre Chorus

Raise your hands to the sky

Raise your hands to the sky

Let's all stand united we won't compromise

Raise your hands to the sky

Raise your hands to the sky

Let's all stand united we won't compromise

Chorus

All together all as one

Show the world the time has come All

together all as one

Show the world the time has come

Verse 3

We've got to stop

with this ordeal

I'm out hear crying

it's time to heal

A new way forward

it's time to act

Let's stand together

Let's make a pact

It's time to act (let's make a pact) It's time to

act (let's make a pact) It's time to act (let's make a pact)

It's time to act (let's make a pact)

Verse 4

It's in the doing

That change will come

On shattered ground

We rebuild it up

We can't accept

All this oppression

It's a digression

From the main lesson

It's a digression (it's a digression) It's a

digression (it's a digression) It's a digression

(it's a digression) It's a digression (it's a

digression)

SPOKEN WORD/RAP

Unrelenting---never givin up Unrepenting-

--yes we've had enough Undecided---now

it's time to choose Undivided---we can

never lose Unrestrained ---chains are gone

Unashamed---standing strong Undervalued,

Unaccepted

OH YES WE'VE BEEN NEGLECTED

Unsupported---for so many years

Unreported---all the scars and tears

Unrecorded---treated bitterly

AS ONE Lyrics (continued)

Unseen---all our misery
Undesired--we'll rise above
Unrequited---show us some love
Uncensored, Undone
It's time we stand as one

PRE CHORUS

Raise your hands to the sky
Raise your hands to the sky
Let's all stand united we won't compromise
Raise your hands to the sky
Raise your hands to the sky
Let's all stand united we won't compromise

CHORUS

All together all as one
Show the world the time has come All
together all as one
Show the world the time has come

Verse 5

The time is now
If not now when
If you believe
Just say amen (amen)
let's face each other
Come take my hand
As one forever
Say yes we can (yes we can)
Say yes we can (yes we can)
Say yes we can (yes we can)
Say yes we can (yes we can)
Say yes we can (yes we can)

Verse 6

My years are short
I've rounded third
My light is fading
Though I have learned
Let's tell the whole world
We can recover
Let's always be there
Be there for one another
Be there for each other (be there for each
other) Be there for each other (be there for
each other) Be there for each other (be there

for each other) Be there for each other (be
there for each other)
Be there for each other (be there for each
other) Be there for each other (be there for
each other) Be there for each other (be there
for each other) Be there for each other (be
there for each other)

SPOKEN WORD/RAP

Unrelenting---never givin up
Unrepenting---yes we've had enough
Undecided---now it's time to choose
Undivided---we can never lose
Unrestrained ---chains are gone
Unashamed---standing strong
Undervalued, Unaccepted
OH YES WE'VE BEEN NEGLECTED
Unsupported---for so many years
Unreported---all the scars and tears
Unrecorded---treated bitterly
Unseen---all our misery
Undesired--we'll rise above
Unrequited---show us some love
Uncensored, Undone
It's time we stand as one

ACAPELLA

All together all as one
Show the world the time has come
All together all as one
Show the world the time has come

CHORUS

All together all as one
Show the world the time has come All
together all as one
Show the world the time has come
AS ONE!
AS ONE!
AS ONE!

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