

C. KEMAL NANCE, PHD

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www.blackmendance.com

CAREER OBJECTIVE

My goal is to secure a tenured position in a college dance community that supports my professional growth as a scholar, my commitment to community service, and my intellectual and artistic development.

EDUCATION

- 2008 to 2014 Doctor of Philosophy Degree
Dance Department
Temple University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 1992 to 1994 Master of Education Degree
Dance Department
Temple University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 1988 to 1992 Bachelor of Arts Degree
Sociology/Anthropology with the concentration in Black Studies
Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, Pennsylvania

PROFESSIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE & TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2017 to Present Assistant Professor
Departments of Dance and African American Studies
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
Urbana, Illinois
2019 – Acting Program Director, Bachelor of Arts Program in Dance. *I for developed research methods class for BA candidates and developed an evaluative system for assess thesis work.*
2018 – Director, Student Board
2017 – 2019 – Executive Committee, College of Fine and Applied Arts
I teach courses in contemporary African dance (Umfundalai), dance history, introduction to contemporary dance, and black masculinities. I have also designed a general education on-line course called Break Down!: Black Dances of Resistance.
- 2017 to Present Executive Director
National Association of American African Dance Teachers
Bethesda, Maryland
I direct this emerging non-profit organization that seeks to heighten awareness and appreciation for contemporary, African Diasporic form. The organization's chief responsibility has been to develop and implement individualized education plans for budding Umfundalai dance teachers who are seeking certification.

- 1996 to 2018
Co-Director
The Berry & Nance Dance Project
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
I directed an all African American male dance initiative that galvanizes the talent of dancing men from three American locations, Philadelphia, Columbus, and Illinois, as well as locations abroad including Kingston, Jamaica and London, UK, to present art that speaks to African American male discourse. I choreograph for the project, organize rehearsals, and recruit dancers.
- 2015 to 2017
Research Associate
Illinois Distinguished Postdoctoral and Visiting Scholar Program
Departments of Dance and African American Studies
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
Urbana, Illinois
I design and pursue a research agenda that includes mounting contemporary African dance choreography on dance communities at universities throughout the U. S. and abroad, performing with my own all-male company, and developing a manuscript for a forthcoming book project that involves masculinities and the American practice of African dance. Moreover, I teach contemporary African dance technique (Umfundalai) and lecture courses that centralize Black men in American concert dance.
- 2010 to 2017
President
Organization of Umfundalai Teachers
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
I direct a team of artists who plan and host professional development seminar/workshops twice a year for budding African dance educators.
- 2018
Master Teacher
Morley College
London, United Kingdom
I taught a master class in the Umfundalai technique of contemporary African dance to the college's dance majors.
- 2018
Teacher
The University of Illinois' High School Dance Intensive
Urbana, Illinois
I taught a week-long series of African Dance classes for a summer program designed to expose prospective students to the Department of Dance's course offerings.
- 2018
Teacher
American Colleges of Dance Association (ACDA) Conference
George Washington University (June)
Washington, DC
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (March)
I taught master classes in the Umfundalai technique of contemporary African dance.

- 2015 to 2018
Master African Dance Teacher
Afro Dance Xplosion Conference
WAC Arts
London, United Kingdom
I teach master classes in the Umfundalai technique of contemporary African dance and choreograph work on local artists for the conference's performance showcase.
- 2017
Guest Lecturer
The Pennsylvania State University
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
I presented my emerging research regarding Black men who dance and masculinities. I also conducted a small movement workshop.
- 2017
Dance Teacher
American Colleges of Dance Association (ACDA) Conference
Wichita State University
Wichita, Kansas
I taught two classes in contemporary African dance classes to ACDA Conference attendees.
- 2017
Guest Artist
Gustavus Adolphus College
St. Peter, Minnesota
I taught classes in the Umfundalai technique, developed original choreography on the college's dance students, and presented my research about the masculinities that surround African American men who practice African dance.
- 2016 to 2017
Adjunct Faculty
Graduate School, Immaculata University
Immaculata, Pennsylvania
I supervise a doctoral student's summer independent study on autoethnographic research methods and methodologies.
- 2015 to 2016
Master African Dance Teacher
African Utopia Festival
Southbank Park Centre
London, United Kingdom
I teach open master classes in the Umfundalai technique of contemporary African dance for the London's annual African culture festival.
- 2016
Guest Instructor
Champaign Dance Camp
Jefferson Middle School
Champaign, Illinois
In its maiden year, I taught a week-long series of African dance classes to the program's middle school population.

- 2016
Dance Teacher
American Colleges of Dance Association (ACDA) Conference
Anderson University
Anderson, Indiana
I taught two classes in contemporary African dance classes to ACDA Conference attendees.
- 2016
Guest Artist
Bucknell University
Lewisburg, Pennsylvania
I taught a series of classes in contemporary African dance (Umfundalai) and neo-traditional West African Dance. I also mounted original choreography on Bucknell's dance students.
- 2014 to 2015
Guest Tutor
Edna Manley School of the Performing Arts
Kingston, Jamaica
During the month of July, I teach African dance lecture and movement courses in the school's summer program. I choreograph original works on the Stella Morris Dance Company.
- 2015
Guest Artist
Denison University
Granville, Ohio
I taught a master class in the Umfundalai technique of contemporary African dance. The master class was part of residency the Berry & Nance Dance Project performed with Denison dance students.
- 2015
Lecturer/Master Class Instructor
"Dancing Our Africa" Umfundalai Intensive, City Dance
Bethesda, Maryland
I presented lecture African dance teaching competencies, taught a master class in the Umfundalai technique, and facilitated debrief discussion.
- 2015
Master Teacher/Lecture
The Place
London, United Kingdom
I taught a master class in the Umfundalai technique of contemporary African dance and presented a lecture about the development of choreography using African movement practice.
- 2015
Guest Lecturer
University of Oklahoma
Norman, Oklahoma
While assessing a colleague's teaching for potential Umfundalai certification, I taught a master class on the Umfundalai technique and lectured on masculinities in contemporary African dance.
- 2015
Dance Teacher
American Colleges of Dance Association (ACDA) Conference
University of Iowa
Ames, Iowa
I taught two classes in contemporary African dance classes to ACDA Conference attendees.

- 2015
Guest Teacher
University of Indiana
Bloomington, Indiana
I taught a master class on the Umfundalai Technique of African dance.
- 2014
Presenter
International Colloquium on Black Art: Body, Performance & Ancestrality
Federal University of Bahia
Salvador, Brazil
I presented research on the male presence in the Umfundalai's dance tradition in the United States and taught a master class in the technique to colloquium attendees.
- 2014 to 2015
Lecturer
Dance & African American Studies Department, University of Illinois Urbana, Illinois
I teach technique and lecture courses in African dance including Umfundalai, Introduction to Contemporary Dance, and Dance History
- 1993 to 2014
Associate in Performance
Department of Music and Dance, Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, Pennsylvania
I taught beginning and intermediate African dance technique courses and repertory courses for which I choreographed original works for student and faculty dance concerts. I presented guest lectures at selected music and religion courses.
 - Fall 2002: *I advised students on an Independent Study on contemporary African dance choreography and performance.*
- 2014
Lecturer/Master Class Instructor
Umfundalai Intensive, Coppin State University
Baltimore, Maryland
I presented lecturer on lexicons with African Diasporic Dance, taught a master class in the Umfundalai technique, and facilitated debrief discussion.
- 2014
Guest Lecturer
Department of Theater and Dance
Muhlenberg College
Allentown, Pennsylvania
I taught two sections of a lecture/movement course in African dance and culture.
- 2014
Master Class Teacher/Panelist
Black College Dance Exchange
Norfolk State University
Norfolk, Virginia
I taught master classes in neo-traditional West African Dance, Umfundalai, and participated in a panel discussion regarding preparedness for professional concert dance.

- 2006 to 2013
Director of Youth Leadership Initiatives
Philadelphia Youth Network, Inc
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
I designed and implemented the organization's youth leadership programs which include the Leadership Connector Project, the Student Success Center Leadership Academy, the PYN Youth Ambassadors Program. I developed the organization's philosophy and best practices for integrating youth engagement in its advocacy, policy, and program design practices.
I directed, choreographed, and performed in productions that featured youth and adult talent for the organization's high-profile press events.
- 2012 to 2013
Guest Lecturer
Dance Department
Denison University
Granville, Ohio
I participated in a panel discussion about African American dance and performed in the University's Africa Moves concert and master class series.
- 2012
Founding Member
Collegium of African Diasporan Dance
Durham, North Carolina
I serve on the CADD's conference committee for the first Dancing the Diaspora: Theories of African Dance Conference in at Duke University.
- 2008 to 2010
Teaching Assistant
Dance Department
Temple University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
I taught General Education and technique courses including Dance in Human Society and Jazz Century in America. I assisted faculty member, Kariamuwelsh, with a graduate level cultural studies course.
- 2008
Lecturer
Coppin State University
Baltimore, Maryland
I lectured on the cultural implications that the emergence of praise dancing in the African American Church has on the African American community. I also taught a master Umfundalai Dance Class.
- 2005 to 2006
Director of Student Success Centers
Philadelphia Youth Network, Inc
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
I organized a professional development series for city-wide Student Success Center Staff members. I designed the Student Success Center Leadership Academy in 13 of Philadelphia's comprehensive high schools. I hired, trained, and supervised Student Success Center Coordinators in 11 high school sites throughout the city of Philadelphia.

- 2004 to 2005
Special Projects Coordinator
Operations Division, Philadelphia Youth Network, Inc.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
I designed workforce competency-based curriculum for the Youth Opportunity Grant In-school recipients and managed its In-School Staff.
I negotiated commercial space and furniture for the organization's new office space and directed its relocation.
- 2007
Master Teacher
Maryland Council of Dance
Stevensville, Maryland
I taught master African dance classes to festival attendees.
- 2004
Guest Instructor
Jamaican Cultural Development Commission
Kingston, Jamaica
I assisted Kariamua Welsh in choreographing a new dance work on the Stella Morris Company by demonstrating advanced Umfundalai vocabulary. I taught master dance classes in Umfundalai technique.
- 2004
Instructor
World of Dance, The University of the Arts
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
I taught African Dance technique and ensemble courses to high school students from the greater Philadelphia region.
- 2004
African Dance Instructor
Freedom Theater
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
I taught adult classes in African dance to members of the theater's artist training program and youth who were enrolled in the theater's intensive training program.
- 2001 to 2004
Project Director
The Swarthmore College TRIO Upward Bound Program
Dean's Office, Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, Pennsylvania
I managed the budget, recruited student, and trained staff members to serve the academic, social, cultural need of students from the city of Chester, Pennsylvania. Under my direction, the Upward Bound program could proudly point to 100% college matriculation rate of graduating classes.

- 1995 to 2001
Administrative Assistant/Head Counselor
The Swarthmore College TRIO Upward Bound Program
Dean's Office, Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, Pennsylvania
I managed the daily office operations of the program. I developed a comprehensive database that tracked student and alumni achievement. I trained tutor/counselors for involvement in the program's summer studies phase. I served as a liaison between the program's tutor/counselor and administrative staffs.
- 1989 to 2001
(Summers)
Dance Instructor
The Swarthmore College TRIO Upward Bound Program
Dean's Office, Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, Pennsylvania
I taught African and hip hop dance to program participants and choreographed original works for the program's annual student and staff productions.
- 2001 to 2013
Associate Artistic Director
Kariam & Company: Traditions, Philadelphia Pennsylvania
I taught company repertoire, scheduled and directed company rehearsals. I choreographed original works and trained apprentice dancers.
- 2002 to 2004
Guest Lecturer
Rowan College, Camden New Jersey
I lectured about African dance and taught a master African dance class to World Dance course.
- 2001 to Present
Guest Artist
The African American Dance Ensemble
Durham, North Carolina
I taught a master class in the Umfundalai contemporary African dance technique to company's principal dancers.
- 2001
Artistic Director
Tomora Shillingsford (Miss Granada)
Miss Caribbean Pageant, Urban League of Philadelphia
I choreographed a dance routine and coached a contestant for the Miss Caribbean Pageant.
- 1996 to 2001
Assistant Rehearsal Director
Kariam & Company: Traditions, Philadelphia Pennsylvania
I taught company repertoire, scheduled and conducted company rehearsals. I danced leading roles in the company's home season concerts.
- 1997
Lecturer
School of Dance, The University of the Arts
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
I choreographed an original work for African Dance Ensemble students. I taught African dance technique.

- 1999 to 2000
Guest Instructor
The George School
Newtown, Pennsylvania
I taught intense workshop classes in African dance. I developed original choreography for and performed in the school's Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration Day assembly.
- 1997
June
Guest Rehearsal Director
The African American Dance Ensemble
Durham, North Carolina
During a one-week residency, I trained company members in the Umfundalai technique of African dance, rehearsed Kariamu Welsh's choreography, and performed with the company in the American Dance Festival's concert series at Duke University.
- 1992 to 1996
(Summers)
Computer Instructor
The Swarthmore College TRIO Upward Bound Program
Dean's Office, Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, Pennsylvania
I taught word processing software applications to the program's students.
- 1993 to 1996
Associate/Founding Member
The Seventh Principle Performance Company, Incorporated
South Orange, New Jersey
I trained company members in the Umfundalai technique, assisted the artistic directors in organizing rehearsals, choreographed works for the company's performing and lecture/demonstration repertoire, and danced leading roles.
- 1996
Guest Teacher
Saint Joseph University's Dance Team, Saint Joseph University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
I taught a master class in "Street Funk." I choreographed a dance routine for team's half-time exhibition.
- 1996
January
Artist in Residence
Dunya African Dance Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Strath Haven Middle School
Wallingford, Pennsylvania
I assisted Jeannine Osayande in teaching dance workshops in Haitian, Brazilian, and West African culture. I performed in the school's morning assembly.
- 1994 to 1996
Artist in Residence
Seventh Principle Performance Company, Incorporated
South Orange, New Jersey
I taught workshops about African culture with special emphasis on Kwanzaa and African dance traditions in grammar schools throughout the Northern New Jersey region. Young Audiences Incorporated commissioned my work for the dance education program.

- 1995
Guest Teacher
Creative and Performing Arts High School
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Initiated by a class assignment in "Teaching Dance" seminar at Temple University, I taught master African dance classes to the school's dance majors and dance company members.
- 1994 to 1995
April
Guest Artist
Franklin & Marshall College
Lancaster, Pennsylvania
I taught master classes in African dance to Introduction to Dance students and members of the college community.
- 1993 to 1994
Graduate Teaching Assistant
Dance Department, Temple University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
I taught Dance as Art, International Dance Forms, Jazz, and African dance courses.

COMMUNITY-BASED TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2018 to 2019
 Guest Teacher
 Illinois Summer Youth Music Program
 University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
 Urbana, Illinois
I taught a movement workshop to the members of the Illinois Summer Youth Music Program who were studying African American music with Dr. Olli Watts Davis.
- 2018
 Project 500 Commemoration Processional Coordinator
 The Krannert Center for the Performing Arts
 Urbana, Illinois
In September 2018, the University of Illinois produced a gala concert to celebrate Project 500, an initiative designed to 'de-segregate' the Urbana-Champaign campus by enrolling 565 African American students in 1968. For the University's celebration, I choreographed a processional and an opening dance that featured a cast comprised of dancers from the University of Illinois, students from Parkland College, and members from the surrounding Urbana-Champaign communities.
- 2017 to 2018
 Guest Teacher
 Urbana High School
 Urbana, Illinois
I taught a series of afterschool dance classes to members of the school's dance team to prepare them for a work they were to present at the school's annual Black History assembly. The students performed Soba, a Senegalese female rites of passage dance, at the assembly and at the MLK Day Celebration at the University of Illinois. The students also performed a small part in my work, Terminal C, that was presented in the University of Illinois' February Dance Concert.
- 2015
 Guest Teacher
 YMCA Champaign
I taught an African dance workshop to a convention of African American men.
- 1996 to 2014
 Team Trainer
 Chester High School Varsity & Junior Varsity Cheerleading Teams,
 Chester High School
 Chester, Pennsylvania
I trained high school girls to perform cheerleading stunts during the summer camp. I choreographed dance routines for half-time entertainment and student/alumni competitions.
- 2001
 Guest Teacher
 Chester Eastside Ministries
 Chester, Pennsylvania
I taught an African dance class to the students of its adolescent art's program.

- 2000
Dance Instructor
F. D. Jones Community Center
Chester, Pennsylvania
I taught African dance classes to members of Saint Daniel's Methodist Church and other Chester residents.
- 1997
Dance Instructor
Chester School of the Arts
New Jerusalem Church of God in Christ, Chester, Pennsylvania
I taught children and adult classes in contemporary African dance expressively for liturgical and praise dance work.
- 1995 to 1997
Dance Instructor
New Dance Workshop
Lansdale, Pennsylvania
I taught beginning and intermediate classes in "Street Funk" to children. I choreographed dances the school's bi-annual recital.
- 1996
December
Guest Artist
Church of the Advocate
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
I taught a workshop on a Kwanzaa as part of after-school program's Harambe celebration.

RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2019
 Panelist
 Collegium of African Diasporan Dance
 Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island
I presented my current work on a dance film as an example of the ways in which my scholarship unpacks the gendered experiences of Black men in dance.
- 2018
 Moderator
 Collegium of African Diasporan Dance
 Duke University, Durham, North Carolina
I moderated a panel discussion with former members of Chuck Davis' African American Dance Ensemble to discuss strategies that could operationalize Chuck Davis' vision for African-centered movement practices in the United States.
- 2019
 Master Teacher and Choreographer
 The 21st Annual African American Dance Company Dance Workshop
 Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana
I taught master classes in the Umfundalai technique of contemporary African dance and choreographed a performance for the event's showcase.
- 2019
 Master Teacher
 University of Louisiana at Monroe, Monroe, Louisiana
I taught master classes in the Umfundalai technique of contemporary African dance.
- 2016
 Panelist
 Afro Dance Xplosion Conference
 London, United Kingdom
I participated in a panel that explored the discourse around African-based movement systems' survival in the world of dance in Europe and abroad.
- 2016
 Presenter
 First Annual Illinois Distinguished Postdoctoral Research Associate Symposium
 University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
 Urbana, Illinois
I presented my post-doctoral research to the DRIVE Committee and selected professors at the university.
- 2016
 Presenter
 Collegium of African Diasporan Dance
 Duke University, Durham, North Carolina
I presented a paper about the lived experiences of African American men who perform Kariamu Welsh's choreographic work.
- 2012
 Panelist
 The Re-Generation Conference
 London, England
I participated on a panel discussion about the evolution and sustainment of African Diasporan dance in the United States and the impact Umfundalai has had as an evolving tradition.
- 2012
 Discussion Moderator
 Sustaining the African Dance Community in Philadelphia

- Community Education Center
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
I moderated a panel discussion about the legacy of neo-traditional African dance in Philadelphia and current the cultural ethics that exists with African dance teaching.
- 2012
Presenter
International Conference of Humanities
Honolulu, Hawaii
I co- authored and presented a paper for conference proceedings and gave a presentation on the transference of masculinities in Chuck Davis's choreographic process.
- 2011
Discussion Facilitator
Fringe Concert
Conwell Dance Theater
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
I facilitated a question/answer session after a concert produced by Lela "Flyground" Jones and Daneen Richburg for the annual Philadelphia Fringe Festival.
- 2011
Presenter
National Drop- out Prevention Convention
Schaumburg, Illinois
I presented youth engagement strategies that equip youth with 21st Century workforce skills to conference attendees
- 2002
Umfundalai Dance Master
University of Ghana at Legon
Ghana, West Africa
I assisted Kariamua Welsh in evaluating and assessing doctoral work of Cheryl Stevens on Umfundalai as a cross-cultural study. I also demonstrated movement vocabulary in instructional classes.
- 2001
October
Panelist
CORD Conference
The Tisch School, New York University
Manhattan, New York
I presented a paper on Maleness and the Umfundalai Aesthetic.
- 2000
Presenter
APHERD Conference
Convention Center
Orlando, Florida
I co-presented a lecture and master class about the Umfundalai technique of African Dance with Cheryl Stevens, M. Ed.
- 1995
September
Artist in Residence
Palmdale School
Phoenix, Arizona
I talked to grammar school students about dance as a career.

1995

Dance Demonstrator
Temple University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

I demonstrated Umfundalai movement vocabulary Kariamuwelsh's lecture, "Dance as Text" at the DIOP Conference sponsored by the African American Studies Department.

1993 to 1994

Dancer
Ibeji Performing Arts Company
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Danced ensemble works in company's repertoire.

CHOREOGRAPHY AND PERFORMANCES

- 2019
February
- I Wonder...*
 “A Seed’s A Star Finale” By Stevie Wonder
 “Seems So Long” by Stevie Wonder
 “As If You Read My Mind” by Stevie Wonder
I choreographed in performed in the work that explored Stevie’s Wonder’s music as a text for revolution for Black men. The dance was selected to represent the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign at the American Colleges of Dance’s Central Region Conference at Missouri State University. Once at ACDA, the dance was chosen to close the gala concert.
 It premiered at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
- 2017
September
- Chalk Lines*
 “As Yet Untitled” by Terence Trent D’arby
 “Grooveline” by Heatwave
I co-choreographed this work with Endalyn Taylor. It represented our response to the increasing number of murders of Black men by the police across the U.S.
 It was performed at the Citigroup Theater in New York, New York for the American Dance Guild’s 50th Anniversary Celebration. I premiered at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts for the University of Illinois’ Dance Department’s ‘February Dance’ Concert in 2016.
- 2017
September
- Son Light
 “Higher” by GIT
I choreographed and performed in this work that explored the Black male form as score and choreographic content. The cast for the dance comprised of Black male dancers from both the United Kingdom and the United States.
 It premiered at the Morley College in London, UK for the Afro Dance Xplosion Performance Showcase.
- 2014
October
- Between Men*
 "Beautiful" by India Arie
This was a dance and theater production that combined movement live testimony, and song as a way to discuss the Black male discourse.
 Premiered at the Krannert Art Museum in Champaign, Illinois for the Global Africa Symposium.
- 2013
February
- Suits*
 “Master Piece” by Timmy Regisford
 “The Cause and the Cure” by Fish Go Deep and Tracey K
 15 minutes
Loosely based on my lived experience in an African American Pentecostal Church, this dance explores the ways in which African American men find spirituality, conflict resolution, and comfort in and among themselves.
 Premiered at the Conwell Dance Theater at Temple University for the Kariam & Company Traditions’ Annual Concert.
- Other Venues
 2013
- Africa Moves Concert Series
 Denison University
 Granville, Ohio

2014	Kwanzaa Fest The Armory Durham, North Carolina
2015	Dance of Ancestors Concert Lincoln Theater Columbus, Ohio
2015	Male Tales Concert Lincoln Theater Columbus, Ohio
2013 November	<i>Dewi Sant</i> “Dewi Sant” by Karl Jenkins <i>I choreographed and performed in selected movements of Karl Jenkins’ Dewi Sant performed by the Philadelphia Chorus.</i> Premiered at the Trinity Center for Urban Life at Philadelphia Chorus’ Winter Concert.
2010 October	<i>Two Brothers and a Dance</i> “Beautiful” by India Arie 10 minutes <i>This dance was an autobiographical work about friendship and male to male love.</i> Premiered at the Conwell Dance Theater at Temple University for the Ph. D. Student Concert.
2002 February	<i>Journal Entry: 9-16-01</i> “Jesus Children” by Stevie Wonder “2000 A. D.” by Erykah Badu 11 minutes <i>A danced reaction to the terrorist attack of September 11, 2001 and the impact America’s war efforts has on the African American community.</i> Premiered at the Eugene & Teresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the annual Faculty Dance Concert.
2001 December	Sing a New Song Philadelphia Chorus 20 minutes <i>I choreographed and performed dances to visually narrate the Philadelphia Choir’s rendition of Honegger’s King David.</i> Premiered at Lutheran Church of the Holy Communion in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for the Philadelphia Chorus’ Winter Concert
2001 October	<i>Dance!</i> “Dance” by John P. Kee 3 minutes <i>A celebratory liturgical dance of African and modern dance movement.</i> Premiered at Shiloh Baptist Church in Chester Pennsylvania for the church’s Youth Day celebration.

2001
July

Self Solace
“Beautiful” by India. Arie
7 minutes
This was movement study that explored a fusion of African and modern dance vocabularies and visual notions of male sensuality.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Upward Bound Program’s Final Student Performance, “Voices of Triumph: Legacies of Love.”

2001
February

Prayer
“Circle Song #7” by Bobby McFerrin
10 minutes
A choreographic work that depicted the prayer rituals of the West African men of Senegal. It was largely motivated by experiences received recent trip to Dakar, Senegal.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Annual Faculty Dance Concert.

2000
February

Is It My Turn in the Chair?
“Seasons of Love” by AfroCuba Lounge
10 minutes
This is a dance that examined the male to male social interaction in African American barbershops.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Center at Swarthmore College for the Annual Faculty Dance Concert.

Other Performance Venues

2000
February

Conwell Dance Theater, Temple University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Kariam & Company: Tradition home season concert.

2000
February

The George School
Newtown, Pennsylvania
King Day celebration

2000
April

Hilton Hotel, New Brunswick, New Jersey
Black and Gold Pageant
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated
Eastern Regional Convention

2000
July

Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center, Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, Pennsylvania
Swarthmore College Upward Bound’s Final Student Performance

- 1999
August
Kaleidoscope
“Hot Music” by Soho
7 minutes
A jazz and African dance in which the colorful costumes served as inspiration and motif.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Upward Bound Program’s Final Student Performance, “Deep Down Inside.”
- 1998
December
Massa Luba & Osifuni Mango
20 minutes
In collaboration with the Philadelphia Chamber Choir, I choreographed and performed in a contemporary African dance rendition to Massa Luba & Osifuni Mango for the choir’s home season concert at the First Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia.
- 1997
August
Tell My Feet (a joint venture with Stafford C. Berry, Jr.)
“Tell My Feet” by Vinx
4 minutes; 40 seconds
A movement exploration of the somatic relationship between two brothers.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Upward Bound Program’s Final Student Performance, “Ancestral Rhythms.”
- 1997
May
The Legacy
“Sume Sigh Say” by the House of Gypsies
15 minutes
A dance gala of African Diasporan vocabularies to celebrate the retirement of 30-year Upward Bound director, Edwin A. Collins. This intergenerational dance cast was comprised of Upward Bound’s current students and alumni.
Premiered at The Continental Ballroom in Claymont, Delaware.
- 1997
April
curtis
“They Won’t Go When I Go” By Stevie Wonder
6 minutes
As a self-titled project, this dance was an autobiographical study that dealt with empowerment obtained through the realization of self-worth.
Premiered at the Student life Center at Neumann College in Aston, Pennsylvania as part of the premier concert of the Berry & Nance Dance Project.
- 1996
November
Genesis: The Royal Dance of Kings
Live percussion by Joseph Bryant
15 minutes
A visceral response to the archetypal power of the Great Sphinx.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Annual Faculty Dance Concert.
Other Performance Venues
1996 Student Life Center, Neumann College
April Aston, Pennsylvania
Berry & Nance Dance Project Premier Concert
- 1996
Sankofa

- August* "Erotmania" by Kantana
5 minutes
A movement depiction of a physical return to one's ancestral past.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Upward Bound Program's Sophomore Poetry Night and Final Student Performance
- 1996
August *Fine Black Brothers*
"Bass Section" by DJ FX & Digital
7 minutes
This was an all-male dance work that celebrated the spiritual empowerment that stems from the camaraderie of African American men. The cast featured male students and staff from the Upward Bound Program.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Upward Bound Program's Final Student Performance, *Sankofa*.
- 1996
March *Ibeji*
8 minutes
Live percussion by Joseph Bryant
This dance was movement characterization of the Ibeji deity of Yoruba religion of African culture.
Premiered at the Student Life Center, at Albright College in reading Pennsylvania as a featured work of the seventh Principle Performance Company.
Other Performance Venue
1996 Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center
Swarthmore College
Black Alumni Weekend
- 1995
July *Walk of Life*
Live percussion by Joseph Bryant.
25 minutes
This dance used pedestrian walking as motif and symbol of African pride and integrity.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Swarthmore College Upward Bound Alumni Achievers celebration.
- 1994
November *African Looks...*
"Untitled" by Me'Shell Ndégeocello
"Gumbo" by Mint Condition
"Ritmo de Pom Pom" by the Goodmen
10 minutes
An archetypal movement exploration of visual African aesthetics at work in contemporary culture.
Premiered at the Conwell Dance Theater at Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for the Student Dance Concert.

1994
April

From Soweto to the Street...
10 minutes
A survey step piece that examined the different manifestations of stepping in the African continuum.
Premiered at Conwell Dance Theater as part of the Student Dance Concert at Temple University in Philadelphia.

1993
November

Renaissance
Viva Noir by Mari Evans
"Give It Up!" by the Goodmen
10 minutes
This dance depicted an imagined cultural revolution among African people in the United States.
Premiered at Neumann College as a part of the world premiere concert of the Seventh Principle Performance Company, Incorporated.

Other Performance Venues

1994
April

Conwell Dance Theater, Temple University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Student Dance Concert

1994

Thomlinson Theater, Temple University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Arts at Temple Festival

1995

Blooming Groove Theater
Montclair, New Jersey
Seventh Principle Performance Company
Concert Series

1996
March

Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts
Center, Swarthmore College
Black Alumni Weekend Celebration
Seventh Principle Performance Company

1996
January

Aaron Davis Hall, Columbia University
Harlem, New York
Seventh Principle Performance Company
Concert Series

1993
November

Solace
"His Eye Is on the Sparrow" by Lauryn Hill and Tanya Blount
6 minutes
A contemporary African Dance about peace and freedom as expressed "bird-like" movement.
Premiered at Neumann College as a part of the world premiere concert of the Seventh Principle Performance Company, Incorporated.

Other Performance Venues

1995

Blooming Groove Theater
Montclair, New Jersey

Seventh Principle Performance Company
Concert Series

1996
March

Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts
Center, Swarthmore College
Black Alumni Weekend Celebration
Seventh Principle Performance Company

1996

Walt Whitman Cultural Arts Center
Camden, New Jersey
Seventh Principle Performance Company
Concert Series

1996
January

Aaron Davis Hall, Columbia University
Harlem, New York
Seventh Principle Performance Company
Concert Series

CHOREOGRAPHIC EXPERIENCE

- 2019
November
- Red*
“I’m Coming Back” by Lalah Hathaway
The dance uses the color, red, as a metaphor for all the unspoken messages that people keep in daily pursuits of love and acknowledgement. The dance was performed with a combined cast of dancers from the Stella Maris Dance Ensemble and A Nance Dance Collective.
The dance was premiered at the Little Theatre in Kingston, Jamaica.
- 2019
October
- Gem of the Ocean*
Written by August Wilson
Directed by Chuck Smith
In collaboration with the Theater Department at the University of Illinois at Urbana- Champaign, I co-choreographed the ‘City of Bones’ scene in what serves as August Wilson’s last work in his famous ten-play series.
Premiered at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in Urbana, Illinois.
- 2018
September
- Wrists (Porkchop’s Song)*
“Storm” by Lalah Hathaway
“When the World Turns Blue” by Joe Sample featuring Lalah Hathaway
This dance is an excerpt from the choreography I developed for a dance film called Deez Nuts!: Black Bodies Dancing Defiance. It is biographical sketch of one of the dancers and explores hand gestures as designation of one’s maleness.
Premiered at the Morley College in London, United Kingdom for the Afro Dance Xplosion Performance Showcase.
- 2018
April
- Treat Her Like a Lady*
“Treat Her Like a Lady” by the Temptations
I developed this choreography for the male singers who were going to present the Temptations’ music in the tribute section of the University of Illinois Black Chorus concert.
Premiered at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts for the University of Illinois’ Black Chorus Spring Concert.
- 2018
February
- Terminal C*
“One Nation Under a Groove” the Funkadelics
“A New Day” by Louis Vegas
“Ye Yo” by Erykah Badu
This dance was a political response to the impact that travel bans had on marginalized American citizens.
Premiered at the Colwell Playhouse in the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts for the University of Illinois’ February Dance Concert.
- 2017
November
- Manifesto*
“Sending My Love” by Zhane
“How Dare You?” by St. Germain
“Higher” by GIT

This dance used Umfundalai and other African based forms to create messages of hope for African peoples around the world. It used texts from selected Black revolutionaries as a score for a call to arms.

Premiered at the Little Theatre in Kingston, Jamaica for the Stella Maris Dance Ensemble's 24th Season of Dance.

2017
September

Treshire Cat

"Earth Song" by Erykah Badu

The University of Illinois's Department of Dance Repertory class produces choreographies to share with elementary school children as a part of the university's outreach efforts. In the Repertory Class' rendition of literary classic, Alice in Wonderland, my choreography served as the narration of the Treshire Cat's impact on Alice's journey.

The dance toured elementary schools throughout Champaign County in Illinois.

2017
April

Johnnie B. Good

"Johnnie N. Good" by Chuck Berry

I developed this choreography for the female back-up dancers for the singer impersonated Chuck Berry in the tribute section of the University of Illinois Black Chorus concert.

Premiered at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts for the University of Illinois' Black Chorus Spring Concert.

2017
April

Home Interrupted

"Numu" by Issa Bagayogo

This dance explored notions of dislocation and re-location among refugee and immigrant communities.

Premiered at the Anderson Theater at Gustavus Adolphus College for its Spring Dance Concert.

2016
October

Dontrell Who Kissed the Sea

Written by Nathan Alan Davis

Directed by Tyrone Phillips

I choreographed the dance sequence that served as the finale for the play. It depicts the protagonist's journey to the ancestral world where he sees deceased loved ones under the ocean.

2016
July

Dreamgirls

Written by Tom Eyan

Directed by Latrell Bright

I assisted the choreographer in staging numbers for the musical featuring community performers from the Urbana-Champaign area.

The show debuted at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts in Urbana, Illinois.

2016
April

Go 'Head!

"Low" by DJ Cubique

This danced use the Umfundalai technique to comment on the impromptu improvisation that occurs in African American dance circles.

Premiered at the Student Dance concert at Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania.

- 2016
February
- hmu*
“I’m Coming Back” by Lalah Hathaway featuring Rachelle Ferrell
“Hotline Bling” by Drake
This work used contemporary African dance to explore love and loss as it is convoluted by cell phone culture.
Premiered at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts for the University of Illinois’ Dance Department’s ‘February Dance’ Concert.
- June 2016 – The dance present at City Dance at Stathmore in Bethesda, Maryland for the Umfundalai Streams Concert.
 - September 2016 – The dance performed at the Afro Dance Xplosion Performance Showcase in London, UK.
- 2015
September
- Go Down Low*
“Low” by DJ Cubique
This was a work that showcased the Umfundalai technique that was mounted local London artists.
Premiered at WAC for the Afro Dance Xplosion Conference in London, United Kingdom.
- 2015
March
- Ongle a Dawg Wan Bone (Only a Dog Wants a Bone)*
This Jamaican-Folk dance inspired work explored big, fleshy bodies as the archetype and standard for beauty.
Premiered at the North Carolina A & T University’s Spring Dance Concert.
- 2014
November
- SHADE! (The Secret Dance of Trees)*
“Everybody Loves the Sunshine” by Roy Ayers
“Feel The Same” by Groove Armada featuring Angie Stone
The dance used the imagined movement of trees as a metaphor for the gestures and idiosyncrasies of African American culture.
Premiered at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts for the University of Illinois’ Dance Department’s November Dance Concert.
- 2014
November
- Wanted*
“Punch Koko” by Bodhi Satva
This dance explored the victimization and criminalization of African American men. *Wanted* was performed by an all-male cast.
Premiered at the Little Theater in Kingston, Jamaica for the Stella Maris Dance Company’s annual home season concert.
- March 2016 – The Stella Maris Dance Ensemble performed the work at the Dallas Academy of Arts and Letters for its annual Black History Concert.
- 2014
May
- Laugh*
“Flight of the Black Byrd” by Zo
Live drumming and singing by Alex Shaw
Videography by Linton Clarke
This semi-autobiographical work explored the cathartic experiences that laughter affords.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Student Dance Concert.

- April 2016 – The dance was performed by the E. Gwynn Dancers of North Carolina A&T University for the school annual spring concert.

2013
May

Gettin' Lifted

“Thinking Bout You” By Frank Ocean;

“Running Away” by Pharcyde,

Live drumming by Alex Shaw

This dance explored the spiritual fervor that can ascend from African American social dance spaces.

Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Student Dance Concert.

2012
April

A Movement with Ancestors

Live Drumming by Alex Shaw

Loosely based on my own lived experience, this dance depicted a moment during which a dancer communes with the ancestral world.

Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Student Dance Concert.

2012
May

When Trees Dance (Reprise)

“Everybody Loves the Sunshine” by Roy Ayers

This dance is a reconstruction of a work I choreographed about the bucolic terrain of Swarthmore College’s campus.

2011
April

2019

“Running Away” by Roy Ayers

2019 is the address of my grandparents’ home in Chester, Pennsylvania. The dance is an imagined composite of my childhood memories.

Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Student Dance Concert.

2011
May

Girl Talk

“This is Me” by Deborah Bond

This is a parody of the way teenage girls communicate.

Premiered at the Penns Grove High School for the Spring Dance Recital.

2009
April

The World Look Different To Me

Live Drumming by Alex Shaw

This work was a danced recounting of the 2008 election when Barack Obama became the first African American president of the United States.

Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Student Dance Concert.

2009
February

It Was Surreal

“Sweet Lullaby” by Deborah Bond

This solo performance was a movement exploration inspired by the feeling of lost love and the self-degradation it necessitates.

Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Faculty Dance Concert.

- 2008
June
Daughters of the Sunlight
Live Drumming by Joseph Bryant
This dance was a reconstruction of one my earlier works, This is Where I Begin. The dance was adjusted for fewer dancers, an outdoor venue, and live percussion.
Premiered at Anderson Hall on Temple University's campus for Dance Mobile, a series of outdoor performances that Temple students present to the surrounding North Philadelphia urban community.
- 2008
April
This Is Where I Begin
Live drumming by Alex Shaw
This dance was a choreographed moment of self-empowerment and how social agency occupies a dancing body.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Student Dance Concert.
- 2007
April
Fine as Frog Hair
"Earth Song" by Erykah Badu
"Fearless" by Incognito
This dance explored phenomenon of aging. Dancers were required to project an imagined archetype of their older selves.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Student Dance Concert.
- 2006
February
YOUKNOWHOWBLACKFOLK BEACTIN
CRAZYANDTALKINSHITNDSTUFF
"Funk Good Time" by J. B.
This was a choreographed depiction of African American life. It explored what leisure and recreation looks like in the African American community.
Premiered at the Conwell Dance Theater at Temple University for Kariamou & Company: Traditions' home season concert.
- 2004
April
Remembering So Well...
Live drumming by R. Charles Abacus
The dance was a parody of the creation stories of ancient Kemet.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Student Dance Concert.
- 2003
April
Healing Streams
Live drumming by R. Charles Abacus
This was a contemporary African dance that used water as choreographic intention and motif.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Student Dance Concert.
- 2002
July
A Revolutionaries Recipe
"You Can Do It, Baby!" by Nyorican Soul
A futuristic look at the components of civil disobedience and the impact it has on our own community.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Upward Bound Program's Final Student Performance, "Rhythms of Freedom."

- 2002
April
- When Trees Dance...*
“Overture” by Stevie Wonder
“Everybody Loves the Sunshine by Roy Ayers
A choreographic extension of earlier Nance work, Bintu. When Trees Dance is a dance a visual art dialogue plant life and its mysteries.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Student Dance Concert.
- 2002
April
- Funga*
Live Percussion by R. Charles Abacus
This dance was reconstruction of the neo-traditional Liberian dance choreographed by Pearl Primus.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Student Dance Concert.
- 2001
July
- Jammin’*
10 minutes
“Got to Give Up” by Marvin Gaye
A contemporary look at the dances and styles of the African American community in the mid 1970’s. The dance drew on African, hip hop, and nostalgic African American social dance vocabularies.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Upward Bound Program’s Final Student Performance, “Voices of Triumph: Legacies of Love.”
- 2001
April
- In Search Of...*
Live percussion by R. Charles Abacus
8 minutes
A scenic portrayal of the commonalities of continental and Diasporan African cultural experiences. The dance pulled on popular and African dance vocabularies.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Student Dance Concert.
- 2000
April
- Lady Sekere*
Live percussion by R. Charles Abacus
10 minutes
This work was a fictional, danced story in which the Sekere is a female instrument. Using African dance vocabularies, the dance paralleled femininity and female sensuality with the sound and texture of Sekere music.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Student Dance Concert.
- 1999
August
- Ode to Anansi*
Live percussion by Mobolaji Walker
5 minutes
A culminating work which exhibited the content of an African dance course I taught for Freedom Theater’s Summer training program.
Premiered at Annenberg Center in Philadelphia Pennsylvania for Freedom Theater’s “Moment of Sharing” recital.

- 1999
April
- Karnak*
Live percussion by R. Charles Abacus
Inspired by a recent trip to Egypt, this dance was movement story of ancient Kemetic Hieroglyphics.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Student Dance Concert.
- 1998
June
- Black Rose*
“Moods” by Will Downing
“Hunter’s Dance” by Mickey Hart
10 minutes
A movement exploration of the conflicting feelings of embarrassment and resentment when one’s heart is broken.
Premiered at Montclair High School for the Five Star Dance Studio Recital in Montclair New Jersey.
- 1998
April
- Tie Dye, Red Ribbon, and Black Berets*
Live percussion by R. Charles Abacus
“You Haven’t Done Nothin’” by Stevie Wonder
15 minutes
A dance depiction of protest and community spirit involved in the active transmission of social change.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Student Dance Concert.
- 1997
August
- We Still Got It*
“Running Away” by Roy Ayers
4 minutes
A dance work that featured older women dancing and drew on vocabularies from the African American social dance forms of the 1960’s and 70’s.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Upward Bound Program’s Final Student Performance.
- 1997
April
- Samba*
Live percussion by R. Charles Abacus
10 minutes
A reconstruction of the traditional African Brazilian dance of Samba.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Student Dance Concert.

- 1997
April
- The Funeral*
Live percussion by R. Charles Abacus
10 minutes
A contemporary African dance work that experimented with the ambiguities of emotions when a close loved one dies.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Upward Bound Program's Final Student Performance.
Other Performance Venues
1997 Merriam Theater, The University of the Arts
December Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Student Dance Concert
- 1997
April
- The Miss Black and Gold Pageant
Overtures from the "Waiting to Exhale" Soundtrack
3 minutes
The opening dance number for the introduction of candidates for the Miss Black and Gold Pageant sponsored by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated.
Premiered at the West Inn Hotel in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- 1996
August
- Today Washington... Tomorrow the World*
7 minutes
A step dance depicting the "kick-off" celebration that occurred all over the United States on the eve of the Million Man March.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Upward Bound Program's Final Student Performance.
- 1996
June
- Cool Like Dat*
"Cool Like That" by Indiggable Planets
3 minutes
A conglomeration of hip hop movements which demonstrated the students' learning in a beginning "street funk" class.
Premiered at North Penn High School in Lansdale, Pennsylvania for the New Dance Workshop.
- 1996
April
- Master Blaster... the After Party*
8 minutes
Live Haitian percussion by Charles Abacus
A contemporary African dance work that retells the story of La Danza Conga.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Upward Bound Program's Final Student Performance.
- 1995
December
- Flight of the Phoenix*
Live percussion by Charles Abacus
20 minutes
A dance exploration of the archetypal and historical significance of the Egyptian Phoenix.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Student Dance Concert.

1995
July

We Shall Overcome

10 minutes

A step dance that aimed capture the power and passion of the Civil Rights Movement.

Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Upward Bound Program's Final Student Performance, "Walk of Life."

1995
November

Attitude

"Voices" by KC Flight

4 minutes

A jazz work which explored the pompous behavior of professional dancers.

Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the annual Faculty Dance Concert.

PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

- 2018
April
Ndimira Zuwa
Choreographer: Kariamuwelsh
Conwell Dance Theater, Temple University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
I danced in Kariamuwelsh's classic Umfundalai work, Ndimira Zuwa in the Gala Concert that celebrated her retirement from Temple University.
- 2017
October
Lamban
Choreographer: Stafford C. Berry, Jr.
Taft Museum of Art
Cincinnati, Ohio
I danced the neo-traditional West African dance, Lamban, for the Taft's Museum's Festival of Lights.
- 2017
February
Who I Be
Choreographer: Stafford C. Berry, Jr.
Denison University
Granville, Ohio
I danced and sang in this dance and theater project that explored gendered experiences of African American folklife.
- 2015
April
Amalgamate Arts Series
DANY Studios (Joyce Theater)
New York, New York
Choreographer: Nyama McCarthy-Brown
I danced a cameo performance in a work about a mother and son and fears associated with that enterprise.
- 2013
November
Dance Africa Philadelphia
Drexel University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Choreographer: Kariamuwelsh
In Philadelphia's first Dance Africa Concert Series, I performed Kariamuwelsh's Bokolafani.
- 2013
October
Lecture Demonstration
Drexel University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Choreographer: Kariamuwelsh
Kariamuwelsh presented a lecture about her work with Umfundalai as a contemporary African dance technique. I performed advanced movement progressions and performed Welsh's Bokolafani.
- 2012 to 2013
Africa Moves
Denison University
Granville, Ohio
Choreographers: Stafford C. Berry, Jr. and Chuck Davis
Performed two contemporary African dance works in a gala concert featuring the African American Dance Ensemble, Berry & Nance Dance Project, and the Dayton Contemporary Dance Company.

- 2012
Raaaahmonaaah!
The Painted Bride Theater
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Choreographer: Kariamu Welsh
I danced the role of John Africa in Welsh's biomythography of Ramona Africa and the West Philadelphia bombing of 1986. The work was performed in the National Performers Network's Showcase.
- 2012
Same Mother, Different Father
The Place
London, United Kingdom
I danced in Kariamu Welsh's work about the collective responsibility Americans share in the unjust murder of Trevon Martin. The work was presented at the performance showcase for the Re-Generations Conference.
- 1996 to 2013
Kariamu & Company: Traditions
Choreographer: Kariamu Welsh, D. A.
Contemporary African dance concerts which feature Kariamu Welsh Asante's work.
Conwell Dance Theater, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 2012 to 2013
Kwanzaa Fest
The Armory Building
Durham, North Carolina
Choreographer: Chuck Davis, Kariamu Welsh
I performed with Stafford C. Berry, Jr. in Durham's city-wide Kwanzaa celebration. In 2112, Berry and I performed Chuck Davis' work, Paths. In 2013, we performed Kariamu Welsh's work, Same Father, Different Mother.
- 2012
Same Father, Different Mother
"Papillion" by Michelle Ndegeocello
The Place
London, England
Choreographer: Kariamu Welsh
I performed in Kariamu Welsh's work about the death of Travon Martin. The work was premiered in the Re-Generations Conference about African Diasporan Dance in London. Later, the work was also performed in Swarthmore, PA, Durham, NC, and Granville, OH.
- 2012
BEAT
Conwell Dance Theater
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Choreographer/Director: Magira Ross
I performed in a 1970's inspired African American dance about community activism. I also staged and performed in the concert's finale.

- 2011
The Josephine Baker Story
Conwell Dance Theater
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Director: Tamika Witherspoon; Choreographer: Kariamuw Welsh
I played Paul Robeson in a theatrical rendering of the life and times of Josephine Baker.
- 2012
Paths
Choreographer: Chuck Davis
Eugene and Teresa Lang Performing Arts Center
Swarthmore College
I performed this dance with Stafford C. Berry, Jr. It was a metaphor for Chuck Davis's investment in Berry and me as conduits for African dance traditions. The dance premiered at the Swarthmore College Faculty Dance Concert and later performed at the International Association of Black in Dance Conference in Washington, DC in January 2013.
- 2010
Body and Lines
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Choreographer: Shavon Norris
I performed in a testimonial work about issues of racial, cultural, and social two other dancers. The work was premiered in a concert series featuring six emerging Philadelphia choreographers. Later, the work was performed at the Window of Work series that was funded by Swarthmore College's Swarthmore Project.
- 2009
We Said
Community Education Center
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Choreographer: Shavon Norris
I performed in a testimonial work about being male with two other male dancers, Jumatatu Poe and Les Rivera.
- 2006
His Blood's Work
Philadelphia Fringe Festival
The Drake Theater
Choreographer: Shavon Norris
I performed an autobiographical solo. The dance was the result of three month structured improvisation series.
- 2002
The American Dance Festival
Duke University
Durham, North Carolina
Choreographers: Chuck Davis and Stafford C. Berry, Jr.
I performed neo-traditional African Dance works with the African American Dance Ensemble including the world premiere of Berry's Departure.
- 1985 to 2003
(Summers)
The Swarthmore College Upward Final Student Performance
Director and Producer: De Lois M. Collins
Music: Ernest Davis, Jr., Willis Hickerson
Choreographers: Stafford C. Berry, Jr., C. Kemal Nance, Larry Wilson
2 hours

Location: Lang Music Hall, Swarthmore College (before 1991)
Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center
The program's culminating activity that features poetry, dance, and music performed by its students, alumni, and staff members.
(Role: singer, dancer, actor)

1996 to 2010

Featured Liturgical Dancer
The Swarthmore College Alumni Gospel Choir
Performed interpretative dance solos to selected songs from the choir's repertoire. Since its freshman recording in 1995, The choir has toured numerous churches and schools in Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Washington, D. C. and the United States Virgin Islands.

1998 to 2001
(February)

A History of Black Dance
Choreographer: Jeannine Osayande
Artistic Director: Melvin Pernel
I performed in the traditional African dance section this concert documentary on African American dance genres.
Premiered at the Keswick Theater in Glenside, Pennsylvania.

2001
July

Fearless
Choreographer: Stafford C. Berry, Jr.
Music: "Fearless" by Incognito
7 minutes
A work in progress that explores spirituality as manifested for natural, earthly forces.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College, Swarthmore Pennsylvania for the Upward Bound Program's Final Student Performance.

1998 & 2001
July

Philadelphia Arts in Education Showcase
Choreographer: Jeannine Osayande
Demonstrated West African dance styles as a paradigm for cultural studies to educators in the greater Philadelphia region.
Premiered at Friends Select School in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

2000
September

Funga
Live percussion by Mobolaji Walker
4 minutes
Danced this Liberian dance in the opening section of the gala concert that celebrated the United Nations' Peace Summit.
Premiered at Madison Square Garden in New York City, New York.
(Role: dancer)

2000
July

Dance of Hope
Choreographer: Stafford C. Berry, Jr.
Music: "Keep Your Head to the Sky" by Earth, Wind and Fire
7 minutes
A nostalgic, lyrical work that captures freedom and happiness as expressed through movement.

Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College, Swarthmore Pennsylvania for the Upward Bound Program's Final Student Performance.

1999
August

Lamban, Lengen, Ekon Kon

20 minutes

Performed three traditional dances from the Mail Empire for a percussion concerts at the College of New Jersey in Trenton, New Jersey. The drumming was provided by the *Spoken Hand Society*. Jeannine Osayande was the choreographer.

1999
July

Healing

Choreographer: Stafford C. Berry, Jr.

Music: "Healing" by Richard Smallwood

A dance depiction of the peace one finds in spirituality and communication with a higher power.

Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College, Swarthmore Pennsylvania for the Upward Bound Program's Final Student Performance.

1999
June

2000 Feet

Drake Theater, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Performed the Malian dance of Lamban with the Dunya Performing Arts Company. The performance was presented in conjunction with the University of the Arts millennium celebration of world dance.

1998
December

West African Dance Recital

Ballet *Shango* West African Dance and Theater

Choreographer: Vena Jefferson

Performed in the company's annual fall concert as a guest artist. The concert featured student dancing and professional performances.

1997
August

Got Myself Togetha' (Soopa Doopa Fly)

Choreographer: Stafford C. Berry, Jr.

Music: "The Bomb" by the Bucketheads

A "Retro" dance that saluted the style, fashion, and political climate of the 1960's in the African American community.

Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College, Swarthmore Pennsylvania for the Upward Bound Program's Sophomore Poetry Night and Final Student Performance.

1997

Step Show

Step Master: James Irvin

15 minutes

Performed a step exhibition with the Kappa Iota Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated during Cultural Community Day in New Jersey.

The Step Team's Premier was the Burlington Waterfront in Burlington, New Jersey.

- 1996
December
- Ndimera Zuwa*
Choreographer: Kariamuwelsh Asante, D. A.
Music: Joseph Bryant
An African dance based on the Shona legend that says that a stone in the fork in a tree can retard the sun for extended safe travel for hunter/gather people.
Performed at Tomlinson Theater at Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for the Faculty Dance Concert.
- 1996 to 1997
- The Ring Shout Suite*
Choreographer: Kariamuwelsh Asante, D. A.
A movement/theater piece that surveyed plantation dances.
Premiered at Tomlinson Theater at Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for the Faculty Dance Concert.
Other Venues
Lincoln University, Lincoln University Pennsylvania
Annual Black Lecture Series
- 1996
May
- Renaissance*
Ballet *Shango* West African Dance and Theater Company
Choreographers: Chui Hodari Banks and Vena Jefferson
1 hour 30 minutes
A dance drama about an African girl who was stolen from her people in the 1900's. The concert featured traditional West African dances of Mail Empire.
Premiered at Rutgers University in Camden, New Jersey.
(Role: dancer)
- 1995
July
- Rock of Shelter*
Choreographer: Stafford C. Berry, Jr.
5 minutes
A modern dance work which featured an all male cast. It used strength and power as its theme.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Upward Bound Program's Final Student Performance.
(Role: dancer)
- 1994
July
- Brighter Days*
Choreographer: Stafford C. Berry, Jr.
5 minutes
A contemporary dance about celebration and triumph. The dance drew on African, hip hop, and house dance vocabularies.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Upward Bound Program's Final Student Performance.
(Role: dancer)

- 1994
April
- A Journey Back to Africa*
Choreographer; Shawntae Smith
Music: Joseph Bryant
15 minutes
A survey exhibition of the Yoruba culture via the dance vocabularies of Lamban, Sunu, and Doun Doun Ba.
Premiered at the Drake Theater at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia for the Candidates for Bachelor of Fine Arts choreographic Showing.
(Role: dancer)
- 1993
October
- Secret of the Conk Shell*
Choreographer: Joylynn Houtman Windsor
A dance that explored issues of African spirituality and divine, ancestral intervention in human phenomenon.
Premiered at Conwell Dance Theater at Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for the Master of Fine art Concert.
(Role: dancer)
- 1993
October
- Doun Doun Ba*
Choreographer: Chui Hodari Banks
Ibeji African Dance Company
A modern reconstruction of the wrestler's dance of Doun Doun Ba in Guinea, West Africa.
Premiered at Cheyney University, in Cheyney, Pennsylvania for the Convocation of the university's new performing arts center.
(Role: dancer)
- 1993
August
- On Stomping Out Fear and Ignorance*
Choreographer: Stafford C. Berry, Jr.
20 minutes
A dance fable that personified fear and ignorance as human entities and set out to defeated them with education and communal spirituality.
Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Upward Bound Program's Final Student Performance. Also performed as company repertoire for the Seventh Principle Performing Arts Company, Incorporated.
Other Performance Venues
Blooming Grove Theater, Montclair, New Jersey
Haverford College, Haverford, Pennsylvania
Walt Whitman Cultural Arts Center, Camden, New Jersey
Symphony Space, Manhattan, New York
(Role: dancer)
- 1993
April
- Bobo's*
Producer: American Musical Theater Festival
Original Music by James McBride
Librettist: Ed Shockley
Director: Burton Rowser
2 hours 30 minutes
An urban musical about inner-city issues surrounding social status and survival.

Premiered at Plays and Players Theater in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for the first main stage version.
(Role: actor – “Kaheem,” “Sonny”)

1992
December

Warrior Queen

Choreographer: Joylynnne “Amma”Houtman

Music: “Oya” by Talking Drum

5 minutes

A movement description of the female deities of Yoruba culture.

Premiered at Conwell Dance Theater at Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for showing of Master of Fine Art candidates’ choreographic projects.

(Role: dancer)

1992
December

Reflection of the Golden “I”

Choreographer: Lanita Hall

Music: Joseph Bryant

A dance exploration of inner conflict as one experiences various emotions.

Premiered at the Conwell Dance Theater in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for the Bachelor of Fine Art concert.

(Role: dancer)

1992
July

Pride

Choreographer Stafford C. Berry, Jr.

Music: Clivilles & Coles

5 minutes

Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Upward Bound Program’s Final Student Performance.

1993
April

Bobo’s

Producer: American Musical Theater Festival

Original Music by James McBride

Librettist: Ed Shockley

Director: Burton Rowser

2 hours 30 minutes

An urban musical about innerCity issues surrounding social status and survival.

Premiered at the Drake Theater in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for workshop version.

(Role: actor – “Kaheem”)

1992
April

Locked in Absence

Choreographer : Miriam Bowling

Music: “The Dreamer” by Toni Childs

10 minutes

A modern dance movement depiction of two people comforting each other.

Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Student Dance Concert.

(Role: dancer)

1991
May

Hometales

Producer: TOVA

Artistic Director: Paul Sepinuck

3 hours

A dance theater project about home and homelessness.

Premiered at the Eugene & Theresa Lang Performing Arts Center at Swarthmore College for the Student Dance Concert.

Other Performance Venues

Painted Bride Theater, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Connelly Social Center, Villanova University

Student Life Center, Neumann College

(Role: actor, dancer)

1990
October

A Soldier's Tale

Choreographer: Sharon Friedler, M. F. A.

Music: "A Soldier's Tale" by Stravinsky

Musical Director: James Freeman

Musicians: Orchestra 2001

A dance/theatrical presentation of the narrated plot of "Soldiers Tale"

Premiered at the Lang Music Hall at Swarthmore College.

Other Performance Venue

Drexel University Theater in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

(Role: dancer)

DESCRIPTION OF COURSES TAUGHT (HIGHER EDUCATION)

African Dance for Experienced Learners – This is an intermediate course in contemporary African dance that used the Umfundalai technique to train students to be proficient movers of African Diasporic movement styles.
Swarthmore College (Swarthmore, Pennsylvania)

Bachelor of Arts Capstone Project – This is a seminar that was designed to support graduating seniors' completion of their thesis projects. The course offered its students methods in qualitative research to support their cumulative undergraduate work.
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (Urbana, Illinois)

Black Men and Masculinities – This is a theory course that used dance, film, and current events to unpack an African American and male discourse. The class combined theories from both masculine studies literature and African American studies.
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (Urbana, Illinois)

Break Down! Black Dances of Resistance – I designed this general education (Gen Ed) course to examine African American vernacular forms for their potential for resistance. It is an on-line course that has a required studio component in which students receive movement experiences in four different African Diasporic forms including but not limited to neo-traditional African Dance, plantation dances, hip hop, and queer dances.
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (Urbana, Illinois)

Dance as Art Dance as Art is a General Education course that is meant to expose non-dance majors to the history and cultural underpinnings that give way to the evolution of modern dance.
Temple University (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)

Dances of West Africa This technique course surveyed neo-traditional dances of the Old Malian Empire.
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (Urbana, Illinois)

Dance History Seminar The seminar aimed to 'queer' American concert dance by looking at the achievement of choreographers and performers who championed the evolution of an American African dance.
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (Urbana, Illinois)

Dance Repertory I mounted original choreography on student to be performed in the college's student dance concerts.
Swarthmore College (Swarthmore, Pennsylvania)
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (Urbana, Illinois)

Intermediate Contemporary Dance – The University of Illinois is expanding its notion of contemporary movement practice. To this end, Umfundalai has been incorporated as part of the curriculum's contemporary movement practice. I taught an intermediate level Umfundalai class to the university's dance students.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (Urbana, Illinois)

Introduction to Contemporary Dance - This is a general education (Gen Ed) course that offered students an overview of major works, figures, and trends responsible for shaping dance as an evolving contemporary art form.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (Urbana, Illinois)

Introduction to African Dance – This is a dance technique course that exposed students to the Umfundalai contemporary African dance technique. The course also introduced students to rudimentary concepts in African aesthetics.

Muhlenberg College (Muhlenberg, Pennsylvania)

Swarthmore College (Swarthmore, Pennsylvania)

Temple University (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)

PUBLICATIONS

Nance, C. Kemal. "Friction: Male Identity and Representation in Umfundalai" in *Dance and the Quality of Life*. Edited by Karen Bond. New York City: Springer Publishing Company.
Target Release in Spring 2019

Nance, C. Kemal. "Men Walk in Parallel: Dancing in Chuck Davis' Paths" in *African Dance in America: Perpetual Motion and Hot Feet*. Champaign: The University of Illinois Press
Target Release in Spring 2019

Nance, C. Kemal. "There Were Men in that Fire, Too! Masculinities in Kariamuwelsh's Raaahmonaaah!" in *African Dance in America: Perpetual Motion and Hot Feet*. Champaign: The University of Illinois Press
Target Release in Spring 2019

Nance, C. Kemal. "Umfundalai Men Dance Masculinities" in *Repertorio Teatro e Danca. Matrices Esteticas Negro-Africanas/Brasilerias e Educaao; Ano 18 N 24 – Junho de 2015*

HONORS, AWARDS, GRANTS and SPECIAL RECOGNITION

- 2018
 Campus Research Board
 University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
 Urbana, Illinois
I received a \$30,000 grant to choreograph and produce a dance film that examines how dance potentiates for Black men's resistance to gendered social scripts in three locations within the African Diaspora, Jamaica, United Kingdom, and the United States.
- 2017
 Gonfalon Carrier
 School of Fine and Applied Arts
 University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
I was selected to carry the gonfalon for the School of Fine and Applied Arts at the university's annual New Student Convocation.
- 2015
 American Colleges of Dance Association
 University of Iowa
 Ames, Iowa
My choreography on University of Illinois students was chosen to represent the university at the North Central conference. Once the dance was performed, the adjudicators chose it to be presented in the conference's Gala concert.
- 2014
 College of Fine and Applied Art
 University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
 Urbana, Illinois
I was awarded a research scholarship to support creative work that I had implemented with the Stella Maris Dance Company in Kingston, Jamaica.
- 2013
 Katherine Dunham Award for Creative Research
 Dance Department, Temple University
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
This award is given to a graduating graduate student who has excelled in creative research that resulted in outstanding performance practices, choreography, publications, and/or teaching innovations.
- 2012
 One to Watch
 Philadelphia Youth Network, Inc.
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
I received special acknowledgement for exemplary service to the young people who comprise the organization's Youth Ambassador Program.
- 2011
 Sun Life Grant
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
By nominating one of the students from the PYN Youth Ambassador program, the organization received a \$50,000 to support youth engagement work with over-aged, under credited middle school students.
- 2004
 5-County Arts Fund
 Philadelphia Cultural Alliance
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
I received a grant to produce a work with Stafford C. Berry, Jr. that explored the visceral ways in which African men communicate.

- 2003
5-County Arts Fund
Philadelphia Cultural Alliance
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
I received a grant to produce a work with Stafford C. Berry, Jr. that spoke to the unique discourse of growing African American and male.
- 2002
The Swarthmore Foundation Grant
Swarthmore College
This grant was awarded to produce a performance work that featured dancers from the Swarthmore College Upward Bound Program and members of Kariamun & Company: Traditions.
- 2002
Widener University Presidential Inaugural Ceremony
Widener University, Chester, Pennsylvania
I was selected by Swarthmore College's President's office to represent Swarthmore College as a delegate in the presidential inaugural ceremonies.
- 2003
William J. Cooper Foundation Grant
Swarthmore College
I was awarded a grant to support a collaborative concert and workshop series with the African American Dance Ensemble and Kariamun & Company: Traditions.
- 2000
Consortium of African Studies
Swarthmore College
The grant is given to Swarthmore College Faculty Member to travel abroad to do research that advance course material for work in African Studies. This grant was awarded to me to travel to Senegal West Africa.
- 1999
Outstanding Dedication and Service
The Chester High School Alumni Cheerleader Association
Chester, Pennsylvania
This award was given to me for my outstanding dedication and generosity of spirit with working the Chester with working with the Chester High School Varsity Cheerleaders. It was presented at the annual alumni/student basketball game.
- 1996
November
Certificate of Achievement and Contribution
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated
Trenton, New Jersey
The certificate was given as a gesture of appreciation for having dedicated my work, Genesis: The Royal Dance of Kings, to the Zeta Iota Lambda Chapter of the fraternity.
- 1996
Umfundalai Teaching Certificate
This certificate was awarded to me by Kariamun Welsh Asante for achieving excellence in performing and teaching the Umfundalai technique.

- 1994 Swarthmore College Upward Bound's Outstanding Alumni Achiever Award
The Swarthmore College TRIO Upward Bound Program
Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania
This award was given for my academic accomplishments and philanthropic contributions to the program after graduation.
- 1994 Future Faculty Fellowship
Dance Department, Temple University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
I was awarded this fellowship for excellence in the field of dance and my demonstrated potential to teach in the academy upon completion of graduate studies.
- 1992 Halley Jo Stein Award
Program in Dance, Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, Pennsylvania
This award is given to the graduating senior of Swarthmore College who made the most outstanding contribution in dance.
- 1991 to 1992 Friends of Music and Dance Scholarship
Swarthmore College
Swarthmore, Pennsylvania
This scholarship is awarded to committed dance student at Swarthmore College who wishes pursue dance during the summer break. I was awarded this to subsidize research on West African in Gambia with Chuck.

OTHER EXPERIENCE

- 2014 to Present University of Illinois Black Chorus
Urbana, Illinois
Tenor/Featured Dancer
- 1995 to Present Member
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated
Zeta Iota Lambda Chapter
Trenton, New Jersey
1996 to 1999 Associate Editor of *Sphinx* Magazine
2001 to Present Lifetime Member
- 2014 to 2015 Certified Zumba Instructor
- 1992 to 2013 Swarthmore College Alumni Gospel Choir
Swarthmore, Pennsylvania
Tenor/Featured Dancer