



# Dance Program



The UW Dance Program educates performers, educators, arts advocates, and cultural leaders. At its core lies the recognition of art as the confluence of theory, practice, and creativity. With a commitment to respecting the individual, the Dance Program fosters inquiry and engages the community in open-minded exchange.

#### STUDENTS (AUTUMN 2008)

45	Undergraduate majors
65	Undergraduate minors
6	Graduate students

#### DEGREES AWARDED (2007-08)

12	Bachelor of Arts degrees
3	Master of Fine Arts degrees

#### STUDENT AWARDS (SINCE 2006)

2	Mary Gates Leadership Scholars
8	Mary Gates Research Scholars
2	A&S Dean's Medalists in the Arts
3	A&S Undergraduate Research Awards
6	Undergraduate Research Travel Awards
32	Dean's List

*The differences between the dances of the past and those of the present are but differences in outer form: in period, location, temperament, education and taste, which together determine the cultural values of any age. Basically concerned with the primary issues of life, dance has been inseparably connected with the expression of the cultural development of every period, and in turn has exerted its influence on the social patterns of the past. Likewise, it can serve us today in our quest for richer living.*

Margaret H'Doubler, 1940

## Education

Whether students are considering a performing career, exploring dance related fields, or pursuing dance as a liberal arts foundation for graduate studies, they are provided a broad and stimulating educational experience in the UW Dance Program. Faculty work closely with students to guide them on the educational track that best serves their career goals. The Dance Program offers a dance major that culminates in a Bachelor of Arts degree, an OSPI (Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction)-approved dance endorsement, a dance minor, and one of the most respected and innovative Master of Fine Arts degree programs in the country, geared specifically for professional dancers in transition.

Since 2002, the Dance Program has hosted extended artist residencies with the José Limón, Trisha Brown, and Jane Comfort Dance Companies and with Hannah Kahn; the program also has offered master classes with artists from renowned dance companies including Mark Morris Dance Group, Eifman Ballet, Pilobolus, Momix, and Compañía Nacional De Danza.

More than 2,400 students enroll in dance courses each academic year. The Dance Program was awarded the UW's Brotman Award for Instructional Excellence in 2002, and boasts two UW Distinguished Teaching Award recipients among its small but outstanding faculty. The program is also a leader in implementing a system of learning goals and assessment for the dance major.

The Dance Program is staffed by six full-time and one emeritus faculty, a music director, and a production manager. The facilities include three spacious and light-filled studios and shared usage of the 238-seat Studio Theatre and the 1,200-seat Meany Theatre.

Left: Chamber Dance Company dancers. Right: Betsy Cooper, director of the Dance Program. Photos by Kozo.



## Faculty

Recent Dance Program faculty honors and grants include:

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|---|--|
| 3 NEA/Dance USA National College<br>Choreography Initiative Awards  | 1 Fulbright Foundation Senior Specialist Award                           |
| 1 Scripps/ADF Humphrey-Weidman-Limon<br>Fellowship for Choreography | 1 COD (Conference on Research in Dance)<br>Outstanding Publication Award |
| 2 National Endowment for the Arts<br>Choreographic Fellowships      | 2 UW Distinguished Teaching Awards                                       |
|   | 1 Brotman Award for Instructional Excellence                             |
|   | 1 Donald Petersen Endowed Professorship                                  |

## Outreach

The Dance Program produces four concerts annually:

- ▶ The Faculty Dance Concert: performance and choreography by UW Dance faculty.
- ▶ The MFA Concert: choreography for undergraduate dancers created by MFA candidates in dance (in collaboration with PhD candidates in DXARTS on alternate years).
- ▶ The Dance Majors Concert: choreography by and for undergraduate dance majors.
- ▶ The Chamber Dance Company (CDC): contemporary and historical modern dance works performed by the UW's resident professional dance company, founded in 1990. The annual concert is presented in Meany Theatre; CDC also presents several outreach performances each year in the Dance Program studios.

Students teach underprivileged youth in central Washington middle and high schools (funded through Two Valleys/One Vision: Gear Up). Gear Up students are brought to UW for a summer dance camp as well. Students have also worked with the UW Pipeline Project and Pacific Northwest Ballet's Outreach Program in Seattle-area public schools since 2002. Individual dance-related internships have been arranged through the Carlson Leadership and Public Service Center.

Dance Program graduate students and faculty provide pre-performance lectures for UW World Series Dance audiences.

## Research

Dance faculty research extends into the areas of choreography, performance, dance science, preservation, ethnography, cultural studies, feminist theory, and history/criticism. In recent years, faculty members have received choreographic commissions from university dance programs, the Northwest New Works Festival, as well as renowned national and international dance companies. Faculty members guest teach at prestigious summer dance festivals and conservatories each year, including the American Dance Festival and Pacific Northwest Ballet School.

Faculty have presented their research at national and international conferences, including the International Association for Dance Medicine and Science, National Dance Education Organization, Conference on Research and Dance, and the Society of Dance History Scholars. Recent faculty scholarship has been published in *Dance Research Journal*, *Theatre Research International*, *Impulse*, the *International Dictionary of Modern Dance*, and in the books *I See America Dancing* and the newly released *Glamour Addiction: Inside the American Ballroom Dance Industry*.

## Fiscal Information (fiscal year ending June 30, 2008)

State Support: \$ 650,165  
Private Funding: \$22,057

### FACULTY (AUTUMN 2008)

- 1 Professor
- 2 Associate Professors
- 2 Assistant Professors
- 1 Artist in Residence
- 2 Part-time Lecturers
- 1 Emeritus Professor

### AREAS OF SCHOLARSHIP

- Anatomy for Dance
- Experiential Anatomy in the Modern  
Dance Technique Class
- Biomechanics
- Choreography
- Teaching Methodologies for Mixed  
Ability Populations
- Interdisciplinary Performance  
Methodologies
- Dance Ethnography
- Social Dance History
- Ballroom and Latin Dance
- Dance and Politics/Censorship
- Cultural Studies
- Feminist Theory
- Art-making and Community  
Development
- Dance Preservation and  
Reconstruction
- Incorporating Writing into the  
Dance Technique Class

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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