

Fall Dance Showcase

Thursday, November 30 through
Saturday, December 2 at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, December 3 at 2 p.m.

Tickets: \$5 with Winthrop ID/
\$10 general public
Johnson Theatre | 2023



The Delights

Choreographer: Kelly Ozust

Music: "Evolution," "Technicolor" by Imogen Heap and Dan O'Neill

Dancers: Brandon Barrientos; Madalin Beam; Alena Brown; LeNyah Bryan; Shaniah Gibson; Donovan Granville; Zoey Hughes; RJ Lee; Rachel Peterson; Sunshyne Patterson; Mikayla Rainey; Anthony Rowe; Kayelyn Wilburn

This piece developed out of my desire to explore shared joy. I often watch my six-year-old son curiously explore, and delight wholeheartedly in sharing his newfound discoveries with me. I wanted to create an environment where a community of dancers can delight in sharing their explorations with one another.

Me vs Me

Choreographer: Trinity Robinson

Music: "Observable Universe" by Kid Kola, "F.E.A.R." by Kendrick Lamar, "Untitled Darkness" by Black Slash, "Gratitude" by Little Simz, "Life is What You Make It" by Moho All Stars

Dancers: LeNyah Bryan; Miracle Etheridge; Val Kempton; Sara Montreuil; Joshua Pringle; Brooke Trigg; Dakarai Vann; Molly Wilson; Jayla Jamison York

Lighting Designer: Kate Evans

"In a place that needs change, make a difference. In a time full of noise, just listen. 'Cause life is but a breeze, better live it. In a place that needs a change, make a difference" -Thomas Rhett

Yellow

Choreographer: Emily Wiley

Music: "Yellow" by Coldplay performed by Vitamin String Quartet

Dancers: Morgan Belton; Elloise Bethea; Mirah Foggie; Mikey Kesler; Czarkaveus O'Neal; Rachel Peterson; Angel Tillman

This music evoked memories of glancing at a photograph, blurry with movement but a central figure is still and clear. As if seeing a glimpse of the person that you used to be.

Hold That Pose For Me

Choreographer: Alena Brown

*Music: "Bam Bam Shawam," "This is What I Wanna See," "The Vogue Session 3," "The Vogue Session 2," "Beyoncé Ain't Stopping Me Vogue Remix" by Kevin JZ Prodigy, "Work by Unusual Magic, Thunder C*nt" (instrumental) by Sugar Shane, "Deli" (instrumental) by Ice Spice, "Alien Superstar" (Acapella) by Beyoncé*

Dancers: Rachel Fuller; Destiny Gore; Ray Gorski; Donovan Granville; Nevaeh Hodges; Ty Lamb; Liana Negron, Natalie Palmo; Mikayla Rainey; Melonda Sullivan; Angel Tillman

Lighting Designer: Vanessa Shanks

Hold That Pose for Me is an innovative work pulling from experiences within the ballroom community with an aim to bring voguing onto the (Winthrop) concert stage, bridging the gap between street dance and 'traditional' performance. This piece can be summarized by the words of the trailblazer, Barbara Ann Teer, "We dress a certain way. We walk a certain way. We talk a certain way. We paint a certain way. We make love a certain way. You know, all of these things we do in a different, unique, specific way that is personally ours."

~Intermission~

In the Spotlight

Choreographer: Rachel Peterson

Music: "Cell Block Tango" from Chicago

Dancers: Kyran Anderson; Elloise Bethea; Rachel Fuller; Ray Gorski; Val Kempton; Abby Lake; Natalie Palmo; Josh Pringle; Grayson Riley Skidmore

Lighting Designer: Ali Griffin

The reinvented rendition of a Fosse classic with new, innovative ideas and storyline development through this powerhouse musical number.

Bodies in the Closet

Choreographer: Steffan Mayrides-Jolón

Music: "Infatuation (The Abyss)," "Infatuation (The Trenches)" by SOPHIE

Dancers: Madalin Beam; Abby Lake; Sunshyne Patterson; Brooke Trigg; Molly Wilson; Jayla Jamison York

Lighting Designer: Ali Griffin

Baggage is scary and haunting and affects us in our day-to-day lives. Inspired by the Backrooms.

Mi Vida

Choreographer: Gabrielle Tull

Music: "De Plata" by Rosalia, "Tu No Sabes Querer" by Lalo Rodriguez

Dancers: Alena Brown; LeNyah Bryan; Rachel Fuller; Steffan Mayrides-Jolón; Rachel Peterson; Sunshyne Patterson; Hannah Pfenninger; Joshua Pringle; Mikayla Rainey; Melonda Sullivan; Kayelyn Wilburn

This work is a celebration of life that envelops unity, connection, and full circle moments.

By Faith, Not by Sight

Choreographer: Meg Schriffen

Music: "Water Dances: I. Dipping" by Michael Nyman, "Memories" by Alex Somers

Dancers: Madalin Beam; Donovan Granville; Abby Lake; RJ Lee; Steffan Mayrides-Jolón; Trinity Robinson; Grayson Skidmore

Costume Design: Janet Gray and Leslie Cook

*The music for the first section of this dance and the dresses were used in a previous piece that I choreographed back in the fall of 2010. I was inspired by visits to Italy and beautiful colors of Tuscan sunsets. I recreated the first section based off of photos (No video of the work could be found) of the original work titled, *Cosi si Comincia* (And so, it begins....) This piece was created towards the beginning of my career at Winthrop and represented much of my own personal and professional beginnings as a professor of dance and finding love in the man that would become my husband. As I now close this chapter of my life at Winthrop, the piece really represents my past, present, and looking toward my future, as I step out in faith to follow my new calling.*

Choreographers



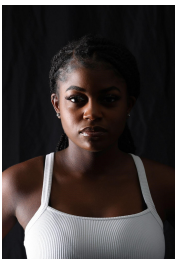
Kelly Ozust, associate professor is an educator, choreographer, and performer with a focus on narrative storytelling and community engagement. In the Department of Theatre and Dance she teaches modern, jazz, tap, and musical theatre techniques, as well as courses in choreography, dance education, and dance theory. She works closely with the musical theatre concentration by choreographing for the annual musicals, choreographing for the musical theatre workshop course, and teaching musical theatre history. She choreographs for the faculty concerts annually and directs the Winthrop Christmasville RockHettes each fall. She has taught master classes and shown work at Piedmont University (Demorest, Georgia) Colorado State University (Fort Collins, Colorado), Lindenwood University (Saint Charles, Missouri), and Greensboro Fringe Festival (Greensboro, North Carolina). She is also on faculty at the DanceWV festival (Weston, West Virginia). She has performed throughout the Southeast and danced with Van Dyke Dance Group and Sarah Council Dance Projects. Kelly is an award-winning filmmaker with projects that have been shown at the Georgia Museum of Art and the ACDA Screendance Gala. She is interested in the narrative possibilities of the body and uses her training in dance and theatre to create unique works that often explore historical people, events, and places.



Trinity Robynson '24 Trinity Robynson is a senior earning her B.A. with a double minor in educational studies and psychology at Winthrop University. She has found herself dancing, teaching, and choreographing many places such as North Carolina Governors School, Center Stage Academy, American Dance Festival and the annual fall and spring dance showcases here at Winthrop. She has trained in styles such as modern, ballet, and jazz since the age of 15 but thoroughly enjoys hip-hop. After graduation, she plans to join an agency or company in hopes of performing, go back to school to receive her M.F.A. and certification in DMT, and later down the road create her dance facility to serve artists. She wants to thank her friends and family for their unconditional love and support allowing her to evolve and seize opportunities to achieve her dreams!



Emily Wiley was born and raised in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania where she received her early dance training at Pennsylvania Regional Ballet. After her family relocated to South Carolina she continued pre-professional training at the School of North Carolina Dance Theatre. Later, Emily attended the Houston Ballet Academy on a full scholarship. After one year, Emily was invited to join Houston Ballet II, where she became the first representative of Houston Ballet to compete in the prestigious ballet competition, Prix De Lausanne in Lausanne, Switzerland. During her 10-year career as a soloist with Houston Ballet, she was featured in many works by world renowned choreographers including: George Balanchine, Sir Kenneth McMillan, Anthony Tudor, William Forsythe, Stanton Welch, Wayne McGregor, Jiri Kylian and Nacho Duato. In midst of international company tours, she juggled principal roles and received a Princess Grace Award nomination. In 2013, she was one of the featured dancers in Jordan Matter's print work, "Dancers Among Us" photographed in New York City. After retiring from a full-time performance career, Emily began to cultivate her teaching skills and discovered her natural ability to choreograph and coach for all skill sets.



Alena Brown '24 is a senior dance major with a community-based learning minor here at Winthrop University. She is from Columbia, South Carolina, and has performed in many shows in high school and around her hometown. Tonight she will present her final work for her senior thesis as well as share her last and final moments on the Johnson stage as this is her final performance here at Winthrop. Although this is a bittersweet moment for her, she is excited to continue her newly found passion for choreography after graduation!



Rachel Peterson '24 is thrilled to present her senior choreographic work, "In the Spotlight" for the fall showcase. She is a professional choreographer and performer in the East Central area where she has trained for more than 15 years. Her works include "South Pacific," "Hunchback of Notre Dame," "Wizard of Oz," and companies/studios across the state. Currently she is a performer for Winterfest at Carowinds where she sings and dances in Tinkers Toy Factory. You can see her next choreographic work in "Cinderella" this spring with the Dilworth Players. She wants to thank her family and her friends for always supporting her and being the reminder to continue to follow her dreams.



Steffan Mayrides-Jolón '24 is a senior dance education major from Lexington, South Carolina. He began dancing 13 years ago, starting his training with hip hop and growing into other genres like tap, modern, musical theater, and ballet. Steffan is enthralled with furthering his education at Winthrop and has been named the president for Winthrop's chapter of the National Dance Education Organization. He has performed in countless showcases at Winthrop, with this being his second time choreographing for the Johnson stage, after last year's Junior Showcase (2023). After graduation, Steffan plans to shape the future of dance at a public high school and then continue to further his education by pursuing an M.F.A. in dance. He wants to thank his parents, family, and friends for the endless love, support, and encouragement to follow his dreams and have the opportunity to make an afterschool hobby into a career.



Gabrielle A. Tull is an assistant professor of dance and program coordinator for dance education at Winthrop University. She is a 2020 M.F.A. dance graduate from UNC Greensboro. As a previous high school dance director, she received a M.Ed. in Divergent Learning at Columbia College. Artistically, she has performed and collaborated with professional companies and artists including BJ Sullivan, Janet Lilly, Brian Sanders, City Modern Ensemble, The Power Company, Argentine Tango Troupe, and Terrance Henderson. Her recent scholarship in the Afro Diaspora foundations in jazz was awarded the Artist Express Grant, funded by the VCA and the NEA. Additionally, she was a lead presenter for the 2022 Collegium for African Diaspora at Duke University. Additionally in 2022-2023, Gabrielle was a lead presenter at the ACDA southeastern regional, NDEO national, and SCDA state conferences.

CREW

Director	Meg Schriffen
Stage Manager	Ali Griffin
Lighting Designer	John P. Woodey (unless noted)
Assistant Lighting Designer	Will Elliott
Costume Designer	Leslie Cook
Technical Director	John P. Woodey
Scene Shop Supervisor	Erica Meece
Costume Shop Supervisor	Cheralyn Lambeth
Box Office Supervisor	Brandon Dawson
Scene Shop TAs	Cooper Beck*, Emily Dennison, Ami Hughey*
Costume Shop TAs	Mary Horn Garber*, Chloe Morgan*
Box Office TAs	Danielle Banks, Cooper Beck*, Jada Brown, Emily Dennison, Megan Cipolla*, Mackenzie Joy, Noah Nappier
Costume Construction Crew	Mary Horn Garber*, Mirrel Sharpe
Scenic Construction/Lighting Crew	Kameron Gwin, Kiernan Hedlund, Chloe Morgan*, Noah Nappier, Brandi Zandi
Running Crew	Emily Camp; Donovan Green; Wyatt Matlock; Harlie Murray; Jean Roberts; Thomas Suber
Poster Designer	Prema Van Deren

*Denotes members of Alpha Psi Omega National Theatre Honor Society

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Marvin McAllister, Ph.D.	Associate Professor of Theatre
Sandra Neels	Associate Professor of Dance
Kelly Ozust, M.F.A.	Associate Professor of Dance
Meg Schriffen, M.F.A.	Associate Professor of Dance and Dance Program Director
Gabrielle Tull, M.F.A., M.Ed.	Assistant Professor of Dance
John P. Woodey, M.F.A.	Visiting Assistant Professor of Theatre and Dance

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***Thank you for your over 20 years of service to Winthrop
as a faculty member and student.***



Meg Schriffen '00, has been the dance program director at Winthrop since 2013, and a faculty member since 2007. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in dance with K-12 certification from Winthrop in 2000, and earned her Master of Fine Arts in performance and choreography from Florida State University in 2007. Before beginning her career at Winthrop, Meg taught dance at Camden Elementary of the Arts, in Camden, South Carolina, and then at Thomas Sumter Academy, in Dalzell, South Carolina. Meg has taught 45 different courses at Winthrop including teaching for the theatre and dance department, the College of Education, and University College in ACAD and HMXP. In that time, Meg has choreographed for every Winthrop Dance Theatre, Fall Dance Showcase, and for several Spring Dance Showcases. She also has directed all faculty and guest artist dance concerts since 2013. She choreographed works for the Winthrop Dance Repertory Theatre Traveling ensemble and the Christmasville Rockettes, and directed many junior and senior dance productions through the years. Her choreography has been selected to be performed at the prestigious American College Dance Association multiple times, and has been performed throughout the Southeast and in Italy. Schriffen has been a performing member of several dance companies including, The Power Company, Caroline Calouche and Company, and Bodiography Contemporary Ballet Charlotte. She has been commissioned to set work on other college programs and professional dance companies including Coker College, La Roche College, and Bodiography Contemporary Ballet. She has also served and chaired numerous committees in her department, college, and for the university. She has also served on the board of the American College Dance Association. Meg was on faculty for the Staibdance Summer Dance Intensive in Sorrento, Italy, teaching, choreographing and performing with the Staibdance Company. She is also certified in Bodiography Fitness and Strength Training system designed for dancers, and has completed her 200-hour yoga teacher certification. In late December, Meg will be leaving Winthrop and stepping into a new role as the Children and Family Ministry Director at All Saints Anglican church in Weddington, North Carolina. She will miss her Winthrop family, but looks forward to seeing how the dance program continues to grow and flourish through the years, as well as coming back to visit.