



UtahPresents



# HUBBARD STREET DANCE CHICAGO

**FEBRUARY 27, 2025**



# HUBBARD STREET DANCE CHICAGO

*Echoes of Our Ancestors* by Maria Torres

*Show Pony* by Kyle Abraham

*Prelude to a Kiss* by Lar Lubovitch

*A Duo* by Aszure Barton

*return to patience* by Aszure Barton

LINDA-DENISE FISHER-HARRELL, Artistic Director

DAVID McDERMOTT, Executive Director

LOU CONTE, Founder

## *The Company*

Alexandria Best\*  
Dominick Brown  
Jacqueline Burnett\*  
Aaron Choate  
Morgan Clune

Michele Dooley  
Elliot Hammans  
Jack Henderson  
Bianca Melidor  
Shota Miyoshi

Andrew Murdock  
David Schultz\*  
Simone Stevens  
Cyrie Topete

## *Seasonal Guest Artists*

Jemoni Powe  
Sydney Revenaugh

## *Company Swings*

Kyle Anders  
Joan Dwiartanto

**February 27, 2025 • 7:30PM**

**Kingsbury Hall**

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\* Denotes Princess Grace Award Recipient

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Photo by Kristie Kahns

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**HUBBARD STREET DANCE CHICAGO****ECHOES OF OUR ANCESTORS (2024)**

Maria Torres, *Choreography*

Philip Hamilton, *Music*

Luis Razo, *Costume Design*

Aja M. Jackson\*, *Lighting Design*

*"Echoes of Our Ancestors is a captivating exploration of Caribbean Latin heritage, brought to life by Hubbard Street Dance Chicago. This narrative choreography blends traditional rhythms with modern influences. Performed by the company, each Dancer embodies the spirit of exploration and celebration, breathing life into ancestral stories. The ensemble delivers a powerful performance that resonates with audiences, transcending time and space to remind us of our enduring connection to our roots. Thank you to my collaborators: Music Composer Philip Hamilton, Costume Designer Luis Razo, Lighting Designer Aja Jackson, and Jojo and Craig." —Maria Torres*

Dancers: The Company

Music: By Philip Hamilton.

**INTERMISSION****SHOW PONY (2018)**

COMPANY PREMIERE: 2023

Kyle Abraham, *Choreography*

Jlin, *Music*

Fritz Masten\*, *Costume Design*

Dan Scully\*, *Lighting Design*

Dancer: Shota Miyoshi

Music: *Hatshepsut* written and performed by Jlin.

**PAUSE**

***PRELUDE TO A KISS (2005)***

COMPANY PREMIERE: 2023

Lar Lubovitch, *Choreography*Kurt Elling, Duke Ellington, Irving Gordon, Irving Mills, *Music*L. Isaac, *Costume Design*Jack Mehler\*, *Lighting Design*

Dancers: Morgan Clune and Jack Henderson

Music: *Prelude to a Kiss* performed by Kurt Elling. Written by Duke Ellington, Irving Gordon, Irving Mills. Produced by Kurt Elling, Paul Wertico, Laurence Hobgood.

**PAUSE*****A DUO (2024)***Aszure Barton, *Choreography*Marina Herlop, *Music*Rémi van Bochove, *Costume Design*Nicole Pearce\*, *Lighting Design*

Dancers: Shota Miyoshi and Cyrie Topete

Music: *Miu* and *Shaolin Mantis* composed, produced, and recorded by Marina Herlop. Electric bass, Òscar Garrobé. Mix, James Ginzburg & Marina Herlop. Courtesy of PAN.

**INTERMISSION*****return to patience (2015)***

COMPANY PREMIERE: 2023

Aszure Barton, *Choreography*Jonathan E. Alsberry, *Stager*Caroline Shaw, *Music*Fritz Masten\*, *Costume Design*Nicole Pearce\*, *Lighting Design*



Dancers: Alexandria Best, Dominick Brown, Aaron Choate, Morgan Clune, Michele Dooley, Elliot Hammans, Jack Henderson, Bianca Melidor, Shota Miyoshi, Andrew Murdock, Sydney Revennaugh, David Schultz, Simone Stevens, Cyrie Topete

Music: *Gustave Le Grey* by Caroline Shaw, performing by Ruogu Wen.  
The costumes for *return to patience* were created by The Juilliard School, New York, NY.

\* *United Scenic Artists, Local USA 829 of the IATSE is the union representing Scenic, Costume, Lighting, Sound, and Projection designers in Live Performance*



Photo by Michelle Reid

# INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The University of Utah has both historical and contemporary relationships with Indigenous Peoples. Given that the Salt Lake Valley has always been a gathering place for Indigenous Peoples, we acknowledge that this land, which is named for the Ute Tribe, is the traditional and ancestral homelands of the Shoshone, Paiute, Goshute, and Ute Tribes and is a crossroad for Indigenous Peoples.

The University of Utah recognizes the enduring relationships between many Indigenous Peoples and their traditional homelands. We are grateful for the territory upon which we gather today; we respect Utah's Indigenous Peoples, the original stewards of this land; and we value the sovereign relationships that exist between tribal governments, state governments, and the federal government.

Today, approximately 60,000 American Indian and Alaska Native peoples live in Utah. As a state institution, the University of Utah is committed to serving Native communities throughout Utah in partnership with Native Nations and our Urban Indian communities through research, education, and community outreach activities.

## ABOUT HUBBARD STREET DANCE CHICAGO

The Mission of Hubbard Street Dance Chicago is to awaken the human spirit through contemporary dance, envisioning a dance landscape that is relevant and accessible to all. We fulfill our mission by nurturing diverse voices in contemporary dance, opening new pathways to growth, learning, and discovery in Chicago and throughout the world. We are guided by our Values of Artistry, Belonging, and Curiosity.

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago grew out of the Lou Conte Dance Studio at LaSalle and Hubbard Streets in 1977, when Lou Conte gathered an ensemble of four dancers to perform in senior centers across Chicago. Barbara G. Cohen soon joined the company as its first Executive Director. Conte continued to direct the company for 23 years, during which he initiated and grew relationships with both emerging and established artists including Nacho Duato, Daniel Ezralow, Jiří Kylián, Ohad Naharin, Lynne Taylor-Corbett and Twyla Tharp.

Conte's successor Jim Vincent widened Hubbard Street's international focus, began Hubbard Street's collaboration with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and cultivated growth from within, launching the Inside/Out Choreographic Workshop and inviting Resident Choreographer Alejandro Cerrudo to make his first work. Gail Kalver's 23 years of executive leadership provided continuity from 1984 through the 2006–07 season, when Executive Director Jason Palmquist joined the organization. Glenn Edgerton became Artistic Director in 2009 and, together with Palmquist, moved this legacy forward on multiple fronts.

In 2021, former company dancer Linda-Denise Fisher-Harrell was named the fourth Artistic Director of Hubbard Street Dance Chicago. Season 44: RE/CHARGE marked her debut season as the artistic leader of the organization, with the goal of continuing to diversify the company's repertoire and ensemble while building on the incredible legacy and reputation that HSDC has already established. Along with David McDermott, Executive Director since 2017, the company is looking forward to expanding its audience reach and increasing the local, national, and global reputation of Hubbard Street.

For 47 years, Hubbard Street has been one of the most original forces in contemporary dance – bringing top choreographers and works to Chicago and beyond. Hubbard Street's ever-evolving repertory, created by today's leading choreographic voices, makes them a company that dancers aspire to join and performance venues all over the world are eager to host. To date, the main company has performed globally in 19 countries and 44 U.S. states. At home in Chicago, Hubbard Street performs 20 times a year and delivers renowned education programs in 50 classrooms across 17 Chicagoland schools. HSDC Education utilizes the choreographic process to teach essential problem-solving skills, creativity, and collaboration - expanding our reach beyond traditional concert dance audiences, ensuring that everyone has access to world-class dance and instruction.



Photo by KT Miller

## ARTISTIC LEADERSHIP PROFILES



**Linda-Denise Fisher-Harrell** (Artistic Director, she/her) ascended to this role in 2021, after an extraordinary career as a professional dance artist and educator. She was born in Baltimore, Maryland, and began her dance training at the Baltimore School for the Arts under the guidance of Sylvester Campbell and Stephanie Powell. She was an apprentice with the Capitol Ballet in Washington D.C. and a full fellowship student at The Ailey School. While a student at The Juilliard School, she was invited by Hubbard Street founder Lou Conte to join the main company at the age of 19, thus beginning her professional dance career. After three seasons with Hubbard Street, she became a Principal Dancer with the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, under the direction of Judith Jamison. During her 13-year tenure with the company, she performed all over the world and was featured in the works of Alvin Ailey, Robert Battle, Talley Beatty, Ron K. Brown, John Butler, Donald Byrd, Ulysses Dove, George Faison, Rennie Harris, Geoffrey Holder, Judith Jamison, Louis Johnson, Alonzo King, Lar Lubovitch, Donald McKayle, Elisa Monte, Jennifer Muller, David Parsons, and Dwight Rhoden. She was invited to give a number of special performances throughout her career, including the White House State Dinner in honor of the President of Kenya, Mwai Kibaki, and the 12th Annual Kennedy Center Gala with Nancy Wilson and Liza Minelli. She has led a distinguished career as a dance educator in her hometown of Baltimore where, since 2005, she has been a Professor of Dance at Towson University and has served on the faculty of the Baltimore School for the Arts. Her research and scholarship in continuing the Ailey legacy within the Towson University and Greater Baltimore community has resulted in the Ailey II residencies from 2011-2019 hosted by Towson University and the establishment of AileyCamp Baltimore at Towson University in 2014 where she served as Director. She holds a Master of Fine Arts Degree in dance from Hollins University and is an ABT® Certified Teacher. As a scholar, her entry "Alvin Ailey" has been published by the Routledge Encyclopedia of Modernism. She and her husband have three children.



**David McDermott** (Executive Director, he/him) manages organization-wide strategy and administrative functions including oversight of Hubbard Street's finances, operations, marketing, and development departments. Most recently, he led Hubbard Street through a post-COVID-19 restructuring, guided its new access-first digital strategy, and directed the company's recent move to Water Tower Place. Prior to joining Hubbard Street he served as the First Deputy Commissioner at the City of Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events. In this role, he managed the day-to-day operations of the department and played instrumental roles in major initiatives such as creating the Chicago Cultural Plan, revitalizing the Taste of Chicago, and ensured the success of the Chicago Architecture Biennial. Prior to his employment with the City, he led the Senator Durbin's Department of Community Outreach, served as the Senator's Political Director, and has managed political campaigns at the congressional, county, and municipal levels. He recently completed a fellowship at the University of Chicago's Civic Leadership Academy and holds a degree in Public Policy from Trinity College at the University of Dublin.



**Lou Conte** (Founding Artistic Director, he/him) after a performing career that included roles in Broadway musicals such as *Cabaret*, *Mame* and *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, established the Lou Conte Dance Studio in 1974. Three years later, he founded what is now Hubbard Street Dance Chicago. Originally the company's sole choreographer, he developed relationships with emerging and world-renowned dancemakers Lynne

Taylor-Corbett, Margo Sappington and Daniel Ezralow as the company grew. He continued to build Hubbard Street's repertoire by forging a key relationship with Twyla Tharp in the 1990s, acquiring seven of her works as well as original choreography. It then became an international enterprise with the inclusion of works by Jiří Kylián, Nacho Duato and Ohad Naharin. Throughout his 23 years as the company's artistic director, he received numerous awards including the first Ruth Page Artistic Achievements Award in 1986, the Sidney R. Yates Arts Advocacy Award in 1995, and a Chicagoan of the Year award from Chicago magazine in 1999. In 2003, he was inducted as

a laureate into the Lincoln Academy of Illinois, the state's highest honor, and in 2014, was named one of five inaugural recipients of the City of Chicago's Fifth Star Award. He has been credited by many for helping raise Chicago's international cultural profile and for creating a welcoming climate for dance in the city, where the art form now thrives.



**Jonathan E. Alsberry** (Senior Rehearsal Director & Director of Summer Intensives, he/him) from Normal, IL is a dance educator, creator and coach focused on inspiring excellence and joy in the study of Ballet, Jazz, and Modern techniques with a constant dedication to the exploration of artistry and the creative process. Currently the Senior Rehearsal Director & Director of Summer Intensives with Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, he began dancing with his mother Lyndetta and went on to graduate from The Chicago Academy for the Arts where he has since been a guest faculty member. In 2006, he received his BFA from The Juilliard School where he met Aszure Barton. Jonathan a.k.a "Jojo" is now dancer, rehearsal director, and creative collaborator with Aszure Barton & Artists and has assisted Mrs. Barton in over a dozen creations including Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Bayerische Staatsballett and Hubbard Street Dance Chicago. In 2007 he also joined the Lar Lubovitch Dance Company and is currently a performer, rehearsal director and teaching artist with the company. He has shared two tours with Mikhail Baryshnikov's *Hell's Kitchen Dance* as well as *Evolution* with Alessandra Ferri and Herman Cornejo. Other credits include The Chase Brock Experience, Daniel Gwirtzman Dance Company, Luna Negra Dance Theater, Nilas Martins Dance Company, and Eisenhower Dance Ensemble. Since 2007, he has been teaching, coaching and creating work at various educational institutions including Arts Umbrella, Harvard University, University of California at Irvine, Springboard Danse Montreal, Ballet Hispánico and University of Southern California.



**Craig D. Black Jr.** (Rehearsal Director, he/they) from San Jose, CA is a dancer, educator, stager, and the Rehearsal Director of Hubbard Street Dance Chicago. He was appointed to this role in 2022 for the company's 45th Anniversary: *Sapphire Season*. At the age of ten, Craig began dancing at South Bay Dance Center and continued his dance training at Abraham Lincoln High School for the Performing and Visual Arts. In 2011, Craig received his BFA

from The Juilliard School. He obtained additional training at Springboard Danse Montréal, Nederlands Dans Theater, and the School at Jacob's Pillow. Craig is a recipient of the 2010 Princess Grace Award in Dance as well as the 2011 Lorna Strassler Award for Student Excellence from the School at Jacob's Pillow. For six seasons Craig performed and toured with Aspen Santa Fe Ballet under the direction of Tom Mossbrucker and Jean-Philippe Malaty. In 2017, Craig joined Hubbard Street Dance Chicago where he danced for five seasons before transitioning into the HSDC Rehearsal Director position. Now in his third season as rehearsal director, Craig has been a guest artist with HSDC, a guest rehearsal director for FLOCK, and a stager for Alejandro Cerrudo. He has had the privilege of dancing works by Kyle Abraham, Aszure Barton, Cherice Barton, Rena Butler, Alejandro Cerrudo, Peter Chu, Nacho Duato, Jorma Elo, William Forsythe, Rennie Harris, Johan Inger, Jiri Kylián, Fernando Melo, Robyn Mineko-Williams, Ohad Naharin, Crystal Pite, and Cayetano Soto Ramirez among many others. Craig has had the pleasure of co-choreographing and rehearsal directing Cardi B and Offset's 2019 BET Awards performance as well as assisting Robyn Mineko-Williams with the official music video for Sen Morimoto's *Pressure on the Pulse*. Craig is a passionate teacher and mentor. He is certified in IMAGE TECH for Dancers™ introductory through advanced level. He has been a guest company class instructor for DanceAspen, Giordano Dance Chicago, and South Chicago Dance Theatre. Additionally, Craig is on faculty for Dupree Dance and has served as guest faculty for the Hubbard Street Professional Program, The Joffrey Academy, New York City Dance Alliance, Peridance Center, and Steps on Broadway.



The University of Utah Tanner Dance Program  
Children's Dance Theatre presents

# The Journey

Friday, March 21, 2025 at 7:30 pm

Saturday March 22, 2025 at 2:00 pm

Janet Quinney Lawson Capitol Theatre

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Tanner Dance  
THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH



## CHOREOGRAPHER PROFILES



**Kyle Abraham** is a 2013 MacArthur Fellow who began his dance training at the Civic Light Opera Academy and the Creative and Performing Arts High School in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He continued his dance studies in New York, receiving a BFA from SUNY Purchase and an MFA from NYU Tisch School of the Arts, an honorary Doctorate in Fine Arts from Washington Jefferson College, and is currently serving as a visiting professor in residence at

UCLA. In November 2012, Abraham was named the newly appointed New York Live Arts Resident Commissioned Artist for 2012–2014. Just one month later, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater premiered Abraham's newest work, *Another Night*, at New York's City Center to rave reviews. That same year, Abraham was named the 2012 Jacob's Pillow Dance Award recipient and 2012 USA Ford Fellow, before serving as a choreographic contributor for Beyoncé's 2013 British Vogue cover shoot. Abraham received a prestigious Bessie Award for Outstanding Performance in Dance for his work in *The Radio Show*, and a Princess Grace Award for Choreography in 2010. The previous year, he was selected as one of Dance Magazine's 25 To Watch for 2009, and received a Jerome Travel and Study Grant in 2008. His choreography has been presented throughout the United States and abroad, most recently at Fall for Dance Festival at New York's City Center, Lincoln Center, Brooklyn Academy of Music, The Joyce Theater, The Los Angeles Music Center, Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Théâtre de la Ville, Maison de la Danse, Tanz Im August, On The Boards, Danspace Project, Dance Theater Workshop, Bates Dance Festival, Harlem Stage, Montreal, Italy, Germany, Sweden, France, Jordan, Ecuador, Dublin's Project Arts Center, The Okinawa Prefectural Museum & Art Museum located in Okinawa Japan, The Andy Warhol Museum, The Byham and The Kelly-Strayhorn Theater in his hometown of Pittsburgh, PA. In addition to performing and developing new works for his company, A.I.M., Abraham recently premiered *Untitled America*, a 3-part commissioned work for the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and finished touring *The Serpent and The Smoke*, a new pas de deux for himself and acclaimed Bessie Award-winning and former New York City Ballet Principal Dancer Wendy Whelan as part of *Restless Creature* and choreographed for the feature-length film, *The Book of*

Henry with acclaimed director, Colin Trevorrow. Abraham recently premiered a solo work for American Ballet Theater principle, Misty Copeland in October 2019.



Canadian-American **Aszure Barton** is a choreographer, director, and innovator who started tap dancing at the age of three and has been creating dances since her days as a student at Canada's National Ballet School. Since then, her works have been performed on stages throughout the world, including the Palais Garnier, Mariinsky Theater, The Kennedy Center, The Alicia Alonso Grand Theater, Studio 54, Lincoln Center, and Sadler's Wells, as well as in

museums and exhibits. She has choreographed for theater, film, and opera, including Broadway, notably for the production of *The Threepenny Opera*, with Cyndi Lauper and Alan Cumming. In the early 2000s, she founded Aszure Barton & Artists in order to create an autonomous, interdisciplinary, and collaborative platform for process-centered creation, resulting in choreography that the US National Endowment for the Arts has equated to "watching the physical unfurling of the human psyche." Over 30+ years of making dances, Aszure Barton has worked with celebrated artists and companies including Mikhail Baryshnikov, Jessica Chastain, Volker Bertelmann (aka Hauschka), Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, American Ballet Theatre, Bayerisches Staatsballett, English National Ballet, Teatro alla Scala, Nederlands Dans Theater, Sydney Dance Company, National Ballet of Canada, Martha Graham Dance Company, Grand Théâtre de Genève, and Limon Dance Company, among many others. She recently premiered a new work (*Mere Mortals*) at San Francisco Ballet in collaboration with British electronic music producer/DJ Floating Points and mixed media artists Hamill Industries — the first evening-length work created by a female choreographer in SFB's history, curated by Artistic Director Tamara Rojo. Having just completed her first of three years, she is delighted to be the current Resident Artist at Hubbard Street Dance Chicago. Her latest artistic venture is a creative partnership with acclaimed composer and trumpeter Ambrose Akinmusire; the two premiered their first new work titled *A a | a B : B E N D* at Kampnagel's International Summer Festival in 2023. Meant to challenge what we think we know about the meeting of dance and music, *Tanz Magazine's* Falk Schraiber

sensed it's "refusal of categorization" and called it "a collaborative work that also draws its appeal from the fact that two artists who are completely secure in their field playfully unsettle each other." Aszure Barton continues to be an innovator of form, having contributed to an evolution of highly specialized dance and theater companies worldwide. Over the years, she has received accolades including a Bessie Award for her work *BUSK*. She was the first Martha Duffy Resident Artist at the Baryshnikov Arts Center and is a grateful recipient of the prestigious Canadian Arts & Letters Award, joining the likes of Oscar Peterson, Karen Kain, and Margaret Atwood. She is also an official ambassador of contemporary dance in Canada.



**Lar Lubovitch** is one of America's most versatile and widely seen choreographers. He founded the Lar Lubovitch Dance Company in 1968. Over the course of 53 years, it has gained an international reputation as one of America's top dance companies, produced more than 120 dances and performed before millions across the U.S. and over 40 countries. Many other major companies throughout the world have performed the company's dances, including

American Ballet Theatre, New York City Ballet, San Francisco Ballet, Paris Opera Ballet, Royal Danish Ballet, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, the Joffrey Ballet, Martha Graham Dance Company, and more. Lubovitch has created ice-dancing works for Olympians John Curry, Peggy Fleming, Dorothy Hamill, Brian Orser, JoJo Starbuck, and Paul Wylie, and he has created feature-length ice-dance specials for TV: *The Planets* for A&E (nominated for an International Emmy Award, a Cable AceAward, and a Grammy Award) and *The Sleeping Beauty* for PBS and Anglia TV, Great Britain. His theater and film work includes Sondheim/ Lapine's *Into the Woods* (Tony Award nomination), *The Red Shoes* (Astaire Award), the Tony Award-winning revival of *The King and I* (on Broadway and in London's West End), Disney's *Hunchback of Notre Dame* in Berlin, and Robert Altman's movie *The Company* (American Choreography Award). In 2016, he premiered *The Bronze Horseman*, based on the Pushkin poem, for the Mikhailovsky Ballet in Russia. In 1987, he conceived *Dancing for Life*, which took place at Lincoln Center. It was the first response by the dance community to the AIDS crisis, raising over one million dollars. Together with Jay Franke, in 2007 Lubovitch created the Chicago Dancing

Festival, in collaboration with the City of Chicago and the Museum of Contemporary Art. It presented 10 seasons entirely free to the public. Recent awards: 2007 named Chicagoan of the Year by the Chicago Tribune; 2008 named similarly by Chicago Magazine; 2011 designated a Ford Fellow by United States Artists and received the Dance/USA Honors Award; 2012 his dance *Crisis Variations* awarded the Prix Benois de la Danse for outstanding choreography at the Bolshoi Theatre; 2013 honored for lifetime achievement by the American Dance Guild; 2014 awarded an honorary doctorate by The Juilliard School; 2016 received the Scripps/American Dance Festival Award for lifetime achievement and the Dance Magazine Award, named one of America's Irreplaceable Dance Treasures by the Dance Heritage Coalition and appointed a Distinguished Professor at UC/Irvine. In honor of his company's 50th anniversary, in 2018 he was presented with the Martha Graham Award for lifetime achievement.



**Maria Torres** is a world-renowned Choreographer, Director, Producer, and Performer whose contributions have led Latinos in the arts. Credits include Bway & National Tour of *Swing!* (Tony/Drama Desk/Lucille Lortel/TheaterWorld nominations); *Seagrams DJ Live Show* (Clio Award); Latin Billboard Awards (Telemundo). Off-Bway: *Latin Heat*, *Four Guys Named Jose* (Carbonelle nom), *The Donkey Show* Off B'way (A.R.T.), *Mambo Kings*, *Celia: The Life & Times of Celia Cruz*; *Don Omar "King of Kings"* (US Tour), Disney's *Golden Mickey's* (International Tour). Regional: *Man of La Mancha* (5th Avenue Theater), *Zoot Suit* (Mark Taper Theatre). Film: *Dance With Me* (Alma nom), Disney's *Enchanted* (Critics Choice), *El Cantante* (Jennifer Lopez & Marc Anthony), *Fugly* (John Leguizamo), *Physical Attraction* (Dir. Guy Guido). She is an active member of SDC and the League of Professional Theater Women. Current projects include *Lovin' Brooklyn* (film), *Pasion* (theatre), and *Havana Music Hall* (development). Torres is also a philanthropist with a strong desire to encourage aspiring artists and create connections between supporting organizations that will essentially give back to youth and her own Latina roots. In establishing the Maria Torres Emerging Artists Foundation (MTEAF), she has created unique opportunities for both students in underprivileged communities and determined professional youth to experience the performing arts at the highest of levels. Many of her

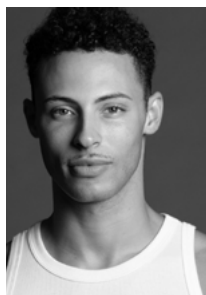
latest projects, including the dynamic new podcast “Hourglass: Time To Talk,” offer insight into the professional performing arts industry while focusing on personal connections to humanity and life. Torres is actively engaged in the community, focusing on building a reliable network that will uplift, inspire and “pay it forward.” After years of teaching, mentoring, and advocating, she founded the Maria Torres Emerging Artists Foundation (MTEAF), which also stands for Motivation, Teaching, Education, Action, and Fellowship. MTEAF is a rigorous, interdisciplinary educational and mentorship program in the performing arts empowering pre-teens and young adults from multiethnic and underserved communities to achieve their goals as professionals in the entertainment industry.

## DANCER PROFILES



**Alexandria Best** (she/her, Raleigh, NC) is a native of Raleigh, North Carolina where she began her pre-professional dance training. During this time, she acquired knowledge from instructors across programs such as American Ballet Theatre, Arts Umbrella, Carolina Ballet, DamianiDance, French Academie of Ballet, and Hubbard Street Dance Chicago. She is a 2021 graduate of Pace University where she earned her BFA in dance, with a concentration in performance and pedagogy, and a minor in business. Immediately following post-grad, Alexandria joined Hubbard Street Dance Chicago as a Company Artist under the direction of Linda-Denise Fisher-Harrell. Now going into her fourth season, she has had the opportunity to perform many great works by many great-minded artists alike. She is thrilled to be announced as a 2023 Princess Grace Foundation Award winner in Dance and to be joining its community of artists. Alexandria is elated to continue her time growing her artistry and community with Hubbard Street Dance Chicago in its upcoming season.



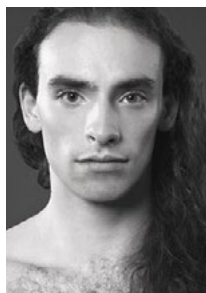


**Dominick Brown** (he/they, Oklahoma City, OK) is a professional dance artist originally from Oklahoma City. Brown began training under the direction of CeCe Farha. While training, he attended summer intensives with The Washington School of Ballet and Complexions Contemporary Ballet. He received a BFA from the University of The Arts in Philadelphia under the direction of Donna Faye Burchfeild as a Directors Scholar in 2021. While at the university, Brown worked with Ballet Preljocaj in Aix en Provence, France. He also attended The American Dance Festival in Durham, North Carolina. Brown has previously danced as a company artist with Kun Yang Lin Dancers and SALT Contemporary Dance. He has performed works by Merce Cunningham, Ihsan Rustem, Andrea Miller, Lauren Edson, Kun Yang Lin, Joni McDonald and Peter Chu. Dominick is thrilled to join Hubbard Street for the 2024/25 Season.



**Jacqueline Burnett** (she/her, Pocatello, ID) received her formative classical ballet training in her hometown of Pocatello, Idaho, from Romanian Ballet Master Marius Zirra. She moved to New York City in 2005 to pursue the Ailey School/Fordham University joint BFA degree, graduating magna cum laude with departmental honors in 2009. She joined Hubbard Street Dance Chicago in January 2008 as a Center Apprentice while completing her degree and became a member of the main company

in August 2009. She received a 2011 Princess Grace Honorarium for Dance and was a member of the HSDC contingent for DanceMotion USA 2013, a U.S. State Department/Brooklyn Academy of Music cultural diplomacy tour in Algeria, Morocco, and Spain. In addition to dancing with HSDC, she has served as an Artistic Lead and teacher for Hubbard Street Summer Intensives, a repetitor for choreographies by Penny Saunders (Ballet Idaho, Seattle Dance Collective, Royal New Zealand Ballet), and a freelance dancer with Robyn Mineko Williams and Artists and Seattle Dance Collective. She recently choreographed for Milwaukee Repertory Theater's production of *Murder on the Orient Express* under the direction of Annika Boras and premiered a new work, co-choreographed with David Schultz, for Danza Visual in Mexico City.



**Aaron Choate** (they/them, Lexington, KY) is a graduate of The Juilliard School class of 2022. After studying at Diana Evans School of Dance in Kentucky, they were named a 2018 Presidential Scholar in the Arts. They have performed the works of renowned choreographers, such as Aszure Barton, Ohad Naharin, Justin Peck, Jamar Roberts, Bobbi Jene Smith, Rennie Harris, Spencer Theberge, Lar Lubovitch, and Ted Shawn. They are also an avid choreographer and leader. In 2024, they were a choreographer and Artistic Lead for the Hubbard Street Teen CREATE Summer Intensive. Summer of 2023 they had a process at Gibney Dance called the Moving Towards Justice Fellowship created by Scott Autry, and in 2022, they presented a work at 92nd Street Y as a part of the Future Dance Festival. In 2021, they received the George J. Jakab Grant Award from Juilliard to create a dance film, and upon graduation they were awarded the Juilliard Career Advancement Fellowship.



**Morgan Clune** (she/her, Barrington, IL) graduated from The Chicago Academy for the Arts in 2018. She was recognized as a National YoungArts Winner in New York for Contemporary dance in 2018 where she performed solo at Baryshnikov Arts Center. Upon graduation from Juilliard, Morgan was awarded the Martha Hill Prize for her achievement and leadership in Dance as well as a Juilliard Career Advancement Fellowship for her promise as an entrepreneur and engagement in the arts. She is an emerging choreographer, choreographing at Hubbard Street Dance Chicago's CREATE summer intensive (2023 & 2024) and The Juilliard School in 2023. Morgan is currently entering her third season with Hubbard Street Dance Chicago under the direction of Linda-Denise Fisher-Harrell.





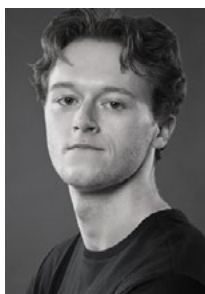
**Michele Dooley** (she/he/they, Philadelphia, PA) is a dance artist and teacher from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Michele began training at The Institute of the Arts, continued studying at The Philadelphia High School for Creative and Performing Arts, and later earned a BFA in Dance from The University of the Arts. Michele has completed programs with Bates Summer intensive, BalletX Summer Program, and DCNS Summer Dance Intensive and has worked with

choreographers Gary Jeter, Tommie-Waheed Evans, Aszure Barton, Jermaine Spivey, Milton Myers, Spenser Theberge, and Nora Gibson, amongst others. Michele has had the privilege of working with Eleone Dance Theatre and Spectrum Dance Theater. Michele is beyond excited for their fourth season with Hubbard Street!



**Elliot Hammans** (he/him, Santa Fe, NM) began his formal dance training in 2008 with Robert Sher-Machherndl and continued his ballet and modern dance education with Moving People Dance in Santa Fe, NM, under the direction of Curtis Uhlemann. He joined Moving People Dance Company as an apprentice in 2010, trained on full scholarship at the Alonzo King LINES Dance Center in San Francisco, and attended Hubbard Street Dance Chicago's 2011 and

2012 Summer Intensives. Following studies abroad at Austria's Tanzzentrum SEAD (Salzburg Experimental Academy of Dance), he earned his BFA in Dance in 2014 from Tisch School of the Arts at NYU. He joined Hubbard Street 2 as a full company member in August 2014 and was promoted to Hubbard Street's main company in August 2016.



**Jack Henderson** (he/him, Livermore, CA) grew up in Livermore, California where he began dancing at his local dance studio, Tiffany's Dance Academy. He attended summer intensives and workshops during this time, including San Francisco Ballet, Dutch National Ballet, and Hubbard Street intensives. In 2017, he moved to Vancouver, BC, to attend Arts Umbrella's pre-graduate program under the direction of Artemis Gordon. In 2018, he joined the graduate

program at Arts Umbrella, performing repertoire and new creations by Crystal Pite, Lukas Timulak, Amos Bental, Ihsan Rustem, and Jonathan E. Alsberry, to name a few.



**Bianca Melidor** (she/her, Dacula, GA) comes from Atlanta where she received her dance training at the Gwinnett Ballet Theater under the artistic direction of Lisa Sheppard Robson and Wade Walthall. Melidor then furthered her training in jazz at Point Park University under the direction of Ruben Graciani and Garfield Lemonius. In addition, she has spent many of her summers training at intensives with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Mark Morris Dance Group, Ballet West, Atlanta Ballet and Dallas Black Dance Theatre. In 2018, she graduated from Point Park University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance, Magna Cum Laude and soon after joined Dallas Black Dance Theatre's DBDT: Encore! with the artistic direction of Nycole Ray. In 2021, she joined Dallas Black Dance Theatre with Melissa Young as artistic director and performed in countless programs by Matthew Rushing, Christopher Huggins, Darrell Grand Moultrie and many more.



**Shota Miyoshi** (he/him, Kanagawa, Japan) a native of Japan, started his training in jazz and ballet at Nakura Jazz Dance Studio. He moved to the U.S. when he was 19 years old. He received his BFA in dance from SUNY Purchase College in 2022 where he studied ballet, modern techniques such as Graham and Cunningham, improvisation, and choreography in addition to several different styles in dance. He is a recipient of Adopt-a-Dancer Scholarship from SUNY Purchase College in 2021-22. He has performed works by Aszure Barton, Lar Lubovitch, Rena Butler, Rennie Harris, Maria Torres, FLOCK, Alice Klock and Florian Lochner, Johan Inger, and more.



**Andrew Murdock** (he/him, St. Alberta, AB, Canada) is a Canadian dancer, stager, teaching artist, and rehearsal director based out of Chicago, IL, USA. He has spent the majority of his dancing career at Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, Aszure Barton & Artists, Ballets Jazz Montréal, and Robyn Mineko Williams & Artists. He is a former Rehearsal Director for Ballets Jazz Montréal, guest Rehearsal Director for Para.Mar Dance Theatre, and he

provides company classes and pre-professional training in the Chicagoland area. He has also staged work and assisted creations for Springboard Danse Montréal, AB&A, Ballet Jazz Montréal, RMW&A, Para.Mar Dance Theatre, Moonwater Dance Project, Arts Umbrella, American Ballet Theatre, National Ballet School of Canada, Ballet BC, Oklahoma City Ballet, Orlando Ballet, STEPS Repertory Ensemble, New York University, and is a former Artistic Lead for Hubbard Street Summer Intensives and *Inside/Out* choreographic workshop.



**David Schultz** (he/him, Grand Rapids, MI) began his training in Michigan with the School of the Grand Rapids Ballet, where he then performed for four seasons with its company, the Grand Rapids Ballet. He joined Hubbard Street 2 in 2009 and was promoted to the main company, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, in 2011 where he has worked with many of the world's leading contemporary choreographers. He is a recipient of a 2012 Princess

Grace Award. As a choreographer he has had the honor of creating works for DanceWorks Chicago, Chambered Squared, Boston University, and a Co-choreographed piece with Jacqueline Burnett for Danza Visual in Mexico City. When he is not dancing, or choreographing, he has spent many years studying music and has performed and scored many pieces for Hubbard Street Dance Chicago as well as for his own works.



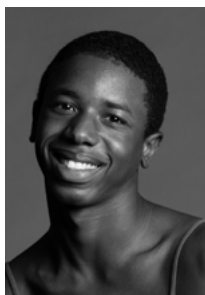
**Simone Stevens** (she/her, Atlanta, GA) received her dance training in her hometown of Stone Mountain, GA at En Pointe School of Dance before graduating from Kennesaw State University in 2017 with a Bachelor of Arts in Dance and Minor in Anthropology. Upon moving to Chicago in 2018, Simone studied on scholarship at the Lou Conte Dance Studio while simultaneously performing as a freelance artist throughout the city. Since joining the company in

2021, Simone has been recognized as one of *Dance Magazine's* 25 To Watch. Simone has also actively sought to further expand her community as an instructor, both regionally at The Rooted Space and Chicago Movement Collective, as well as familiarly at her alma mater. Simone is forever grateful for the spaces that continue to welcome her and the communities that continue to uplift.



**Cyrie Topete** (she/they, Peoria, AZ) is from Peoria, Arizona, where she trained in competitive dance starting at the age of 13. She then moved to New York City and received her BFA at The Juilliard School, class of 2022. During her time at Juilliard, she was given Juilliard's FENDI Vanguard Award and attended programs including Springboard Danse Montreal, Jacob's Pillow Contemporary Program, B12 in Berlin, Germany, Youngarts LA, Hubbard Street

Dance Chicago, and more. She was also recognized for choreographic opportunities including Juilliard's Choreography and Composers in 2021, National Sawdust's Blueprint Fellowship in 2019, and Juilliard's Choreographic Honors in 2019. Cyrie has had the opportunity to perform works by Crystal Pite, Ohad Naharin, Alan Lucien Øyen, Kyle Abraham, Bobbi Jene Smith, Rennie Harris, Peter Chu, Justin Peck, Azure Barton, Rena Butler, Jenn Freeman, and Jamar Roberts. During her first season with HSDC, she was featured in *Dance Magazine's* "On the Rise".



**Jemoni Powe** (he/him, Las Vegas, NV) is an upcoming dancer, choreographer, and pedagogue from Las Vegas, Nevada. Beginning his training at the School of Nevada Ballet, he was soon chosen as a Merit winner in Dance and Choreography for the National YoungArts Foundation. He debuted in a music video by Grammy award-winning Jazz artist Gregory Porter entitled "Revival." He is highlighted in the November 2020 issue of *Dance Spirit Magazine*

as one of five dancers to follow. He is a 2024 graduate from the New York University Tisch School of the Arts. He was a Gallim Company artist and an artist with NVA and Guests, recently performing the works *From* and *Sama* by Andrea Miller and *Mont Blanc* by Nicole Von Arx. Jemoni is overjoyed to be joining Hubbard Street Dance Chicago this season as a Seasonal Guest Artist.



**Sydney Revenaugh** (she/her, Marion, IN) is from Marion, Indiana and began her training with Dancers Edge under direction of Brandy Revenaugh and Brooke Napier, as well as Indiana Ballet Conservatory under direction of Alyona Yakovleva-Randall. She is a 2024 Juilliard School graduate where she earned a BFA in dance. During her four years at Juilliard, she attended summer programs with Nederlands Dans Theater, Ballet BC and Arts Umbrella.

She was a YoungArts Finalist in 2020 and received a silver medal for modern/contemporary dance. At the Juilliard School, she performed works by Tiler Peck, Ohad Naharin, Rena Butler, Aszure Barton, Jamar Roberts, Camille A. Brown, Omar Román De Jesús and Kyle Abraham among others. She often performed in Student Choreographic Workshops.



**Kyle Anders** (he/him, Sykesville, MD) is from Sykesville, Maryland where he began his training at Savage Dance Company under the direction of Nichole Savage and Brandy Fry for thirteen years. He is a 2024 graduate of The University of Arizona, where he received his BFA in Dance and BSBA in Business Management. Within his four years studying at Arizona, Kyle received numerous performance opportunities, such as being a featured soloist in Thang

Dao's *Nevermore*, performing in Duane Cyrus' *Bolero* at The Joyce Theater, alongside roles in works by Martha Graham, Frank Chavez, Paul Taylor, Jason Hortin, and more. He is additionally an alumni of The School at Jacob's Pillow Contemporary Program, directed by Milton Myers, and attended Orsolina28, focusing on Marco Goecke repertoire. Kyle is extremely grateful and overjoyed to be joining HSDC this season as a Company Swing.



**Joan Dwiartanto** (she/her, Singapore) is a multifaceted artist working as a dancer and filmmaker. She graduated from The Juilliard School in 2022, where she worked with choreographers such as Aszure Barton, Ohad Naharin, Justin Peck, Or Schraiber and Bobbi Jene Smith. In 2020, Joan co-directed a collaborative film for The Park Avenue Armory's 100 Years | 100 Women event in New York City and worked with principal dancer of American Ballet Theatre, James Whiteside, as the creative videographer in his own Ballet film *Marilyn's Funeral*. She then went on to direct her own dance film, *Crying On The Island They Own* which premiered in early 2022, and has since won multiple film festival awards. Joan went on to join YYDC, a dance company founded by Yue Yin, where she performed in Yue Yin's evening-length pieces *NOWHERE* (2023) and most recently, *SOMEWHERE* (2024) in NYC.



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