



The University of Akron Dance Program Presents

# Spring *into* dance

*featuring works by Terpsichore, The Dance Institute,  
and The University of Akron Dance Company*

**April 10, 2021 at 2 & 7 pm**

**virtual concert** via YouTube livestream

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[uakron.edu/dtaa](http://uakron.edu/dtaa) | [facebook.com/UADanceTheatre](https://facebook.com/UADanceTheatre)

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**Choreographers** | Hailey Lewis, Lexi Hartung, Faith Coleman, Lauren Ferster, Zakiah Davis,  
Abbey Boenig-Dombek, Sarah Neiswander, Dominic Moore-Dunson, Jennifer Lehaney

# PRODUCTION STAFF

Director.....Rachael K. Palermo  
Student Terpsichore Director.....Abbey Boenig-Dombek  
Terpsichore Advisor.....Kara Cea  
Lighting Designer.....Dennis Dugan  
Stage Manager.....Christopher Ha  
Technical Crew.....Abbey Boenig-Dombek,  
Maggie Grizer, Lisa Horton, Sarah Neiswander  
Videography.....Steve Allen  
Production Manager / Documentation.....Alexander Morris  
Athletic Trainers.....Kristine Clites & Jamie Harley  
Graphic Design.....Greta Conley & Amanda Ebert

## **Graduate Assistants in the Arts Administration M.A Program**

Graduate Assistant Office Manager.....Alana Weber  
Dance Coordinator.....Spring Healy  
Theatre Coordinator.....Anna-Jeannine Kemper  
Arts Connections Series.....Amy Mellinger  
Social Media Manager.....Madeleine Parks

*Special thanks to University Tees and Campus Manager  
Danielle Colacarro for their work on Terpsichore show apparel,  
John Aylward for production photography, and Chill Ice Cream for  
partnering to create an ice cream flavor—Lemon Elderflower!*



## BUCHTEL COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Joseph Urgo, Ph.D., Interim Dean

Ann Usher, Ph.D., Associate Dean, Division of Arts

## SCHOOL OF DANCE, THEATRE, & ARTS ADMINISTRATION

Marc Reed, D.M.A., School Director

### FACULTY & STAFF

Denise Astorino, Alice Blumenfeld, Christine Bolingbroke,  
Kara Cea, Holly Christensen, Brenda Cummins, Dennis Dugan,  
Michael Gatto, Lisa Henderson, Christine Howe, Dane Leasure,  
Jennifer Lehaney, Katherine Logsdon, Alec Lytton,  
Rachael K. Palermo, Scott Piepho, Ling Qian, Deborah Pinter,  
Pauline Reilly-Howe, Julie Schullo, Brian Schultis, Arnold Tunstall

## DANCE INSTITUTE

Kara Cea, Manager

### FACULTY & STAFF

Zakiah Davis, Leslie DelPrince, Kay Eichman,  
Mary Kay Finn, Frank Kosik, Alec Lytton,  
Pauline Reilly-Howe, Tyler Ring, Julie Schullo,  
Robert Wesner

# TERPSICHORE DANCE CLUB

Terpsichore (turp-sik-ur-ee) facilitates communication between students of dance and non-dance majors with the School of Dance, Theatre, and Arts Administration. We connect members through various activities and an annual spring performance. Terpsichore promotes arts awareness and the support of the fine arts community.

## *Officers:*

President.....Abbey Boenig-Dombek  
Vice President.....Sarah Neiswander  
Secretary.....Lexi Hartung

*This performance honors Kate Lieberth Lytton*



THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON  
DANCE PROGRAM, DANCE INSTITUTE &  
TERPSICHORE PRESENT

# SPRING INTO DANCE

APRIL 10, 2021 | 2 & 7 PM

YOUTUBE LIVESTREAM

## So Don't Change

Choreography: Hailey Lewis

Music: Tourist, Quinn XCII, Olafur Arnalds

Zakiah Davis, Meredith Red, Julia Rieser,  
Brittany Wick, Zoe Williams

*Choreographer's note: This piece is about embracing your individuality and being proud of who you are.*

## Burlesque

Choreography: Lexi Hartung

Music: Christina Aguilera

Abbey Boenig-Dombek, Hannah Bloomquist, Rachel  
Carpenter, Lauren Ferster, Maggie Grizer, Lisa Horton,  
Hailey Lewis, Sarah Neiswander

*Choreographer's note: After a crazy year, I wanted to do something fun and upbeat.*

# To The Last

Choreography: Faith Coleman  
Music: James Blake

Rhapsody Howell, Sarah Kennedy

*Choreographer's note: I couldn't have asked for better dancers. Rhapsody and Kennedy took my vision and turned it into a reality. This piece can mean many things depending on the mindset of the viewer, however, for me this dance reflects a hard time in my life. A time when I struggled with balancing the good and bad thoughts. It represents the mind of depression and how working with yourself can truly help better yourself.*

# It Takes Two to Tango

Choreography: Lauren Ferster  
Music: Original Broadway Cast of *Fosse*

Hannah Bloomquist, Rachel Carpenter, Lauren Ferster,  
Meloney George, Rhapsody Howell

*Choreographer's note: This time we're reversing the roles...*

# Triple Threat

Choreography: Zakiah Davis  
Music: Rihanna, Ariana Grande, Beyoncé

Rachel Carpenter, Hailey Lewis, Jessica Zawada

*Choreographer's note: This piece was inspired by my future. I want to be able to make the audience have fun and want to dance.*

# At Last

Choreography: Abbey Boenig-Dombek  
Music: Etta James

Lexi Hartung, Lisa Horton, Sarah Neiswander, Sara Welden,  
Makenna Zelenak

*Choreographer's note: I wanted to create a feel-good dance that was fun for everyone to perform after the long year behind us.*

# A Duet Between the Head and the Heart

Choreography: Sarah Neiswander  
Music: Mayra Andrade, Ben Platt,  
Clarence "Frogman" Henry, Randy Newman

Molly Bagatto, Abbey Boenig-Dombek, Lauren Ferster,  
Maggie Grizer, Lexi Hartung, Maddie Large, Carolyn Lott,  
Marina Tsirambidis, Jessica Zawada, Makenna Zelenak

*Choreographer's note: This piece has been floating in my head for well over a year now, and I can't express how exciting it has been to see it come to life this semester! My cast has been so willing to work under these extraordinary circumstances, and I couldn't be more proud of the final product. It definitely has not been easy, but to have this work to look back on makes everything worth it.*

# Bitter Earth

Choreography: Dominic Moore-Dunson  
in collaboration with the cast  
Music: Max Richter and Dinah Washington

Kennedy Gordon, Maggie Mahaney, Olivia May, Noria Nuru

*Choreographer's note: Created in collaboration with the performers, Bitter Earth responds to our world's recent experiences due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, the balancing themes of isolation and resiliency we are living in between daily. The work is driven by a phrase we've been continually using as we've built the work: "It's okay not to be okay."*

## Vibes

Choreography: Jennifer Lehaney  
Music: Sarah Vaughan and the Gotan Project,  
NF, James Brown, Emmitt Fenn

### *I. Red*

Lauren Ferster, Lisa Horton, Maggie Grizer

### *II. Green*

Molly Bagatto, Sara Weldon, Jessica Zawada

### *III. Blue*

Lexi Hartung

### *IV. Purple*

Molly Bagatto, Emilyann Dustman,  
Maggie Grizer, Lisa Horton, Sarah Neiswander

*Choreographer's note: This piece is a fusion of styles of Jazz and Tap. Because this is not a live performance, it was important to concentrate on how color patterns, movement aesthetics, and music can unify to create a tone. Each of the four movements depict a different vibe or tone. The piece is made to take the audience on a journey through different styles of movement, color schemes, music, and vibes!*



# CHOREOGRAPHER BIOGRAPHIES

**Abbey Boenig-Dombek** (*Terpsichore*) is a fourth-year student at The University of Akron pursuing a double major in Dance and Exercise Science. She comes from her hometown of Olmsted Falls, Ohio where she has been training in dance since the age of 2 1/2. Since starting her undergraduate career at The University of Akron, Abbey has been involved in performances of The University of Akron Dance Company, Choreographers' Workshop, and Spring into Dance. This is also her fourth year as a member of the University of Akron Dance Team. She is the current president of Terpsichore Dance Club. Abbey



has a passion for performing and helping others. In her future she hopes to be able to perform as a professional dancer and one day finish her degree to become a physical therapist for other dancers.



**Faith Coleman** (*Terpsichore*) began her dance training with Studio 136 Dance Center at 12 years old. She has competed in tap, lyrical, jazz, and hip-hop. She has an Associate of Arts degree from Stark State University and is currently working towards her B.A. in Dance with a Business Cognate and a minor in Psychology at The University of Akron. Her goal is to become a dance therapist and open a community center that focuses on dance. She loves dance as an art form and particularly enjoys using improv dance to push boundaries. By connecting mind, body, and soul, Faith sees

dance as a form of therapy. She has taught K-3rd grade recreational dance through an after-school program at Arts Academy. She has also taught children ages 2-12 at Studio 136. Faith loves teaching, especially younger children. As a performer, Faith has won many 1st Place awards, performance awards, and a National Championship!

# BIOGRAPHIES CONT.

**Zakiah Davis** (*Terpsichore*) was born in Silver Springs, Maryland, but moved to Columbus, Ohio at the young age of three. She was intrigued by the arts as a young child and would frequently watch videos of performers. She began dancing at a studio at age fourteen, starting with hip-hop classes and then expanding to both hip-hop and jazz at J.A.Z. Dance and More. During high school Kiah was accepted into Eastland Performing Arts Academy where she focused mainly on dance, also studying music and acting. This program prepared her for college—she currently studies Dance at The University of Akron.



**Lauren Ferster** (*Terpsichore*) is a dance major at The University of Akron. She has been dancing since the age of three. She has trained in many different styles but enjoys choreographing in the styles of ballet and contemporary the most. Lauren currently teaches at her hometown studio in North Canton. This is her second semester choreographing at the collegiate level and she is thankful for the opportunity to share her work.

**Lexi Hartung** (*Terpsichore*) has been dancing since the age of five and has trained all over Ohio and California in various styles of dance. During her time at The University of Akron she has performed in various UADC, Choreographers' Workshop, and Spring into Dance shows. Lexi is a current candidate for both a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance degree as well as a Bachelor of Arts in Dance with a Business Cognate degree. She also recently completed a grant writing internship with The National Center for Choreography at The University of Akron. Lexi teaches dance at multiple studios and has taught for a dance enrichment program at a local elementary school. She is grateful for all the opportunities in Akron and is excited to be able to continue to share dance with others during these times.



## BIOGRAPHIES CONT.



**Jennifer Lehane** (*UADC*) grew up dancing and performing in Northeast Ohio, and has been teaching and choreographing for over twenty-five years. She received a B.A. in Dance Studies with a Business Cognate from The University of Akron, along with a B.S. in Business from Kent State University. She has performed with The University of Akron Dance Company (UADC) and has worked with talent agencies in New York

City and beyond. Jennifer has also trained with the Broadway Dance Center Teacher Education Workshops. Her current focus is educating students in various styles such as jazz, tap, modern, contemporary, ballet, pointe, musical theater, as well as designing dance conditioning programs to increase strength and flexibility for different age groups. She was a guest faculty instructor at Weathervane Playhouse and teaching artist for OhioDance, bringing dance into Canton City Schools to use as a tool for teaching Geography. She has served as an adjudicator at auditions and competitions and creates dance curriculum for elementary schools and dance studios. Most recently, Jennifer has choreographed for UADC and for the UA School of Music's production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella*. She directed UA's Choreographers' Workshop during the Fall 2020 season and helped to produce the livestream production. Her choreography has won numerous awards. She recently completed her certification in the Youth Protective Advocates in Dance Organization which promotes healthy instruction for developing up-and-coming dancers in the industry. In addition to her faculty position at UA, she also teaches at Hudson Conservatory of Ballet and Yoga Lounge and Barre. She is very excited to be working with the students and presenting a piece for "Spring into Dance"!

**Hailey Lewis** (*Terpsichore*) studies dance at The University of Akron. She is very passionate about bringing positivity to the dance world and plans to move to the west coast post-graduation to pursue a dance career as a performer. She is excited to share her love of dance through her choreography in Spring into Dance.



## BIOGRAPHIES CONT.



**Dominic Moore-Dunson** (*The Dance Institute*) performed eight seasons with Inlet Dance Theatre as a company member, and has also served as the assistant to the artistic director. As a choreographer, Dominic has received numerous recognitions, including the Cleveland Arts Prize 2019 Emerging Artist Award for Theatre & Dance and Akron's 2019 Arts Alive! Award for Outstanding Artists in Dance. He was a 2019 moCa Cleveland New Agent, a 2019 fellow of The Ann &

Weston Hicks Choreography Program at Jacob's Pillow, and is a 2021 associate artist at the Atlantic Center for the Arts #180 with Doug Varone. Currently, Moore-Dunson is a Research Resident Artist at the National Choreography Center at The University of Akron (NCCAkron) and helped launch the Black Artist Guild in Akron, OH.

**Sarah Neiswander** (*Terpsichore*) is currently finishing her fifth and final year at The University of Akron where she is pursuing both a Bachelor of Arts in Dance and a Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing. She started her dance training in 2007 with The Beat Dance Company in Bowling Green, Ohio, and has explored various styles of dance. During her time at UA, she has had the opportunity to perform works by artists such as Stephanie Martinez, Leslie Dworkin, Tom Smith, Jennifer Lehaney, Kaleb Reilly, and many others. She has also had the privilege of performing in two selected pieces at the American College Dance Association and considers this experience one of her favorite memories of her college career. She is extremely grateful for the time spent with her cast and is thankful for the experiences they have gone through together.

