

GONZAGA DANCE SPRING 2022



Photo Credit: Scott Martinez

Happy New Year friends of Gonzaga Dance. We hope you are staying well during these challenging times. Gonzaga Dance is continuing to thrive due to our enthusiastic students and creatively dedicated faculty/staff.

Fall semester we were delighted that we no longer had to dance in taped boxes and were happily masked to keep everyone safe (except for the few seconds of taking these photos). As you will read in the following pages, fall was fruitful with 15+ classes, 4 concerts, ZagDance and Dance for Parkinson's back in modified forms.

This spring semester Suzanne is on sabbatical, but you can be sure she plans to return for our big events during Dance as Cura Personalis Week, Seattle Dance Trek and the 20th Anniversary of the Spring Dance Concert!! Yes, 20 years producing that glorious concert. We are making plans for wonderful ways to celebrate this Anniversary including an Alumni/Donor dinner in Magnuson between the two Saturday performances. We will have some exciting news to share, and you will not want to miss out! Onwards.

GONZAGA DANCE FACULTY & STAFF

Suzanne Ostersmith, MFA
Associate Professor; Dance Director

Pamela Erickson
Lecturer, Summer Dance Intensive Director

CarliAnn Forthun-Bruner, MFA
Adjunct Dance Faculty

Sarah Glesk
Adjunct Dance Faculty

Jospeh Lyons, MA
Adjunct Dance Faculty

Karla Parbon, MA
Adjunct Dance Faculty

Halle Goodwin, MSOL
Assistant Director of Dance

Darci Bierman, MPA
Program Assistant

Anshuman Bhatia, MFA
Visiting Professor, Production Manager

Leslie Stamoolis, MFA
Associate Professor, Theatre Director

Kim Heide
Costume Shop Manager

CLASS OF 2022-2025 DANCE MAJORS

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Not pictured: Lily Sager,
Kate Millet, Camille Sepulveda,
and 30+ minors!!!



Photo Credit: Scott Martinez

FALL RECAP



After our **Season Showcase** in September, we celebrated Fall Family Weekend with the Dance Club's annual **60x60** production, an hour-long performance of 60 one-minute dances. This year the student coordinators and whole program were very proud that each of the songs were composed by Gonzaga Music Students.

In November, we welcomed Spectrum Dance Theatre from Seattle for **Dance Presents!** Members of the company visited classes to share technique, choreography, and experiences from life as professional dancers. Artistic Director, Donald Byrd, led us in challenging discussions about art, life, and dance. Thank you to the donors to the Dance Endowment for making this kind of professional programming possible.

We concluded the semester with the **Snowflake Showcase**. Under Dance Club's leadership, this year featured performances from Boundless, Academic Dance Classes, and preview performances of two of our touring Repertory Companies (more info on that page 5).

All of our fall productions are supported behind the scenes by dance majors enrolled in our Advanced Dance Production class.

*The Suzanne Ostersmith Dance Endowment supports world class experiences for our students. Thanks to our donors for your contribution. **Please consider giving** to the endowment or talking to Suzanne about how you can make an impact. Email dance@gonzaga.edu for information on making a donation or visit us online at gonzaga.edu/dance.*



Gonzaga Dance was featured on the front page of the Spokesman Review newspaper when Suzanne Ostersmith was honored among the Inland Northwest Women of the Year. The article shared about her various experiences and dedication to her students and the community. The story was broadcast further by Gonzaga through social media. To see Suzanne and Gonzaga Dance recognized so publicly in the region and greater Gonzaga Community was a highlight of her career and our year.

ALUMNI STORIES



Ryan Hayes '22

Ryan Hayes, '22 Dance Major was cast with three other dance students in Orpheus and Eurydice by the Inland Northwest Opera which performed on the Fox Theatre stage and was choreographed by Suzanne. Ryan has been very involved in the Dance Program over the years, and we are excited to see him pursue new opportunities this Spring as he has been accepted to the Steps Conservatory at Steps on Broadway. He will complete his Gonzaga degree online in the spring, while he lives in New York preparing for a professional career in the concert and commercial dance worlds. The two-year program is designed to strengthen students' technique and artistry through study and performance. Students graduate with a Certificate, have a network of professional contacts, and are well-trained, versatile, multi-disciplinary artists. Ryan will be our second Dance Alum pursuing dance dreams in New York as he joins **Andrea Bracamonte, '20** Physics Major and Dance Minor. Andrea has been working at the non-profit, STEM From Dance as a Program Operations Associate since graduating this past Spring. STEM From Dance gives girls of color access to a STEM education by using dance to empower, educate, and encourage them as our next generation of engineers, scientists, and techies. STEM From Dance has reached hundreds of girls through customized school and community programs, and a summer camp program called Girls Rise Up.



Kaylee Bosse '20



Andrea Bracamonte '21

Kaylee Bosse, '20 English Writing and Dance Pedagogy graduate has returned to her home town of San Diego to serve as the Marketing Coordinator for an organization with ZagDance vibes called A Step Beyond. A Step Beyond is a nonprofit providing opportunities to underserved youth that greatly expand their expectations and ambitions through dance education, academic support, and family services. ASB makes a ten year commitment to students and their families from the time they enter the program in third grade through their high school graduation. Kaylee works closely with the Director of Development to raise funds. She oversees external communications of the organization, managing social media, crafting email campaigns, communicating with the press, and documenting the events ASB hosts or attends. She even gets to put her ZagDance skills to work by teaching and choreographing for the students!

"Without my experiences in the English and Dance programs at GU, I would not be here at my dream job today."--Kaylee Bosse, '20

SAVE THE DATE

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20TH ANNIVERSARY

SPRING DANCE CONCERT

APRIL 22 & 23, 2022

Photo Credit: Scott Martinez



Gonzaga Dance presents the 20th Annual Spring Dance Concert and we're doing it bigger than ever before. We hope you will join us as we look back and reflect on the past 20 years and make some exciting announcements about the future of Gonzaga Dance.

We'll have a full schedule for Gonzaga Dance Alumni and donors to take advantage of, including classes, behind the scenes tours, and a special Saturday night celebration. Please reach out to dance@gonzaga.edu to get more information on our 20th Anniversary plans.

Gonzaga University Repertory Dance Companies

As Gonzaga Dance continues to grow we realized that this was a year to have multiple Gonzaga University Repertory Dance Companies. Blue, White, and Red Repertory (Rep) Companies have been rehearsing through the fall.

Blue Rep, led by Sarah Glesk and Pam Erickson, with a contemporary/Ballet focus will be touring a performance with student composed music to Dance Studios in Spokane this spring, including Spokane Ballet Studio, Company Ballet, Academy of Dance, and Inland Northwest Ballet.

White Rep, led by Karla Parbon, has completed filming a ScreenDance that will be premiered during Dance as Cura Personalis week at our 2nd annual ScreenDance Film festival and will also be submitted to the American College Dance Association Regional Conference.

Red Rep, led by CarliAnn Forthun-Bruner, has a contemporary modern focus exploring Indigenous Contemporary themes and will take an interactive program to elementary students at our ZagDance partner schools and local indigenous communities.

Red and Blue rep debuted sections of their work at Snowflake Showcase. They will also be performing during Dance as Cura Personalis week at the Rep Showcase and during our 20th Annual Spring Dance Concert.



Maria Scott '25, Brooke Geffrey-Bowler '22, Katherine Mellander '25



Dance Trek Seattle 2017

LOOKING AHEAD

Lauren Adkisson '25, Mia Person '23



SEATTLE Dance Trek March 2022

Students will be meeting in Seattle at the end of Spring Break to connect with Alumni, tour arts organizations and see dance performances. We are excited to connect with our friends and colleagues in Seattle while inspiring our students to pursue careers in the arts. Let us know if you or someone you know might want to support us or be involved.



GONZAGA DANCE SPRING 2022 SEASON

[GONZAGA.EDU/TICKETCENTER](https://gonzaga.edu/ticketcenter)

  @GONZAGADANCE

DANCE@GONZAGA.EDU



February 14 - 17, Donations accepted

Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center

Join in celebrating our bodies with a week of caring for the whole person through dance. Presented by Dance Club and benefitting Dance for Parkinson's.

Monday | 12-1 Panel and 6:30-8:00 Recovery Workshop (GU Only)

Tuesday | GURDC Showcase

Wednesday | Annual ScreenDance Film Festival

Thursday | Pilates Workshop (GU Community Only)



April 8 & 9 at 7:30 - \$8

Magnuson Theatre

Enjoy the variety of work presented by the Student Choreography class of 2022. This concert is sure to impress as students showcase creativity, vision, and leadership through completed dance works performed by students.



April 22 @ 7:30 and April 23 @ 2:00 and 7:30 - \$15

Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center

Enjoy a fully produced concert with works by our Jazz III, Modern III, Ballet III, Musical Theatre Dance and GURDC. This audience favorite will be particularly special as we reflect on the past 20 years and celebrate the future of Gonzaga Dance.