

Appalachian State University's Office of Arts and Cultural Programs
presents

APPlause!

K-12 Performing Arts Series

November 16, 2017

Appalachian Dance Ensemble



As an integral part of the Performing Arts Series, APPlause! matinées offer a variety of performances at venues across the Appalachian State University campus that feature university-based artists as well as local, regional and world-renowned professional artists. These affordable performances offer access to a wide variety of art disciplines for K-12 students. The series also offers the opportunity for students from the Reich College of Education to view a field trip in action without having to leave campus. Among the 2017-2018 series performers, you will find those who will also be featured in the Performing Arts Series along with professional artists chosen specifically for our student audience as well as performances by campus groups.

Before the performance...

Familiarize your students with what it means to be a great audience member by introducing these theatre etiquette basics:

- Arrive early enough to find your seats and settle in before the show begins (20-30 minutes).
- Remember to turn your electronic devices OFF so they do not disturb the performers or other audience members.
- Remember to sit appropriately and to stay quiet so that the audience members around you can enjoy the show too.

PLEASE NOTE:

***THIS EVENT IS SCHEDULED TO LAST APPROX 60 MINUTES.**

10:00am – 11:00am

- Audience members arriving by car should plan to park in the Rivers Street Parking Deck. There is a small charge for parking. Buses should plan to park along Rivers Street – Please indicate to the Parking and Traffic Officer when you plan to move your bus (i.e. right after the show, or after lunch) so that they can help keep everyone safe.
- Adults meeting a school group at the show will be asked to sign in at the lobby and wait to be escorted to their group by a security guard.

THANK YOU!

Appalachian State University Department of Theatre and Dance

The following study guide was provided by the Department of Theatre and Dance. For more information please visit theatreanddance.appstate.edu



Department of Theatre and Dance

APPALACHIAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Fall Appalachian Dance Ensemble APPlause! Concert
Thursday, November 15, 2017
10:00 am, Valborg Theatre, Appalachian State University

WHAT TO EXPECT

You will see both faculty and student choreography for this performance. All of the dancers are Appalachian State University students who study in the Department of Theatre and Dance. There will be brief information given at the time of the performances regarding the specific inspiration/ideas for each choreographer and a short question and answer time period as well. Please be sure to ask questions!

While ballet is a dance form that is generally familiar to the public, most of what you see today falls into the genre of “modern dance.” Modern Dance is essentially an American art form that spans the 20th and 21st Century. Although the roots of Modern Dance are primarily associated with the United States it now exists all around the world. This dance form originally came about as a rebellion against the status quo. At the turn of the 20th Century, early modern dancers were primarily rebelling against the art form of ballet.

Modern dance can be an expression of inner feelings for both the dancer and choreographer. It can reflect current cultural and social change while serving as a vehicle for reflecting the personal opinions/ideas of the choreographer. It is often done in bare feet, presenting an abstraction of a story or mood, and uses a variety of movements that move beyond ballet vocabulary. Today Modern dance also can exist as a fusion dance form with other dance or movement practices including but not limited to: hip hop, social dance forms, martial arts, butoh, jazz, ballet, etc. This fusion of dance forms sometimes makes it challenging to categorize much current modern dance work.



2017 Spring Appalachian Dance Ensemble. Photo: Lynn Willis

PROGRAM

Those Left Behind

Choreographer: Alison Bird

Music: Silent Shimmer by Sublime Harmonics

Lighting Designer: John Marty

Costume Designer: Sue Williams

Dancers: Tori Caudill, Catie Irwin, Zoë Reddig, Sarah Quinn, Katie Woodruff

This piece was inspired by the painting "States of Mind III: Those Who Stay," (1911) by Umberto Boccioni.

Bio: Alison is a senior dance and journalism double major. I am also the caption head of the color guard for the marching band. After graduation, she hopes to pursue a masters degree in dance anthropology or research.

Hiccup

Choreographer: Brooke Arrowood

Music: Barbapapa's Groove by Barbatuques and Baião Destemperado by Barbatuques

Lighting Designer: Tim Travis

Costume Designer: Sue Williams

Dancers: Victoria Buwick, Denae Eason, Amanda Mason, Olivia Ridenhour, and Hailey Spencer

This modern piece was inspired by the concept of hiccups (yes, the involuntary spasms of your diaphragm which can be oh so bothersome). We have all experienced hiccups in some way or another whether literally or figuratively, and this dance is about just that.

Bio: Although dance was just a hobby when I was younger, my passion for it has grown tremendously. Since arriving at Appalachian State University I have performed in shows including the Appalachian Dance Ensembles and choreographed dance pieces including, "Drowning Repetition," for the Momentum Dance Club Showcase. Expressing myself through dance means the world to me, and that will never change.

Flux

Choreographer: Elijah Lee Grady

Music: Dearly Beloved (Rendition by Kyle Landry)

Lighting Designer: Lizzy Vasquez

Costume Designer: Sue Williams

Dancers: Rachel Fuller, Amber Worley, Katie Woodruff, Anna Simi, Abby Buhler, Amanda Proffitt

The purpose of this piece is to shine light on the internal struggles that we go through as Humans. No one is alone when they go through life's ups and downs, but we tend to isolate ourselves because we don't want to be a burden to anyone. It's okay to struggle and it's certainly okay to not be okay.

Bio: Elijah Lee Grady is a Junior Dance Studies Major with a minor in Entrepreneurial Studies minor. He knows that one day he will own his own dance studio and company, but is ready for everything in-between. He enjoys exploring how modern dance and Hip-Hop can complement each other.

Shook

Choreographer: Makayleigh Smith

Music: Boogie Wonderland by Earth Wind and Fire

Lighting Designer: Lizzy Vasquez

Costume Designer: Sue Williams

Dancers: Stephanie Edwards, Rachel Fuller, Roberto Bell, Phillip McCrorie, Lynton Martin, Ashley Holliday, Erin Braithwaite, Tori Caudil, and Jason Smith

Makayleigh wanted to showcase how everyone needs a little joy and fun sometimes, that we should not take life too seriously, and that dance and joy can bring people and communities together.

Bio: Makayleigh Smith is a senior from Tazewell, VA. She started dancing at the age of three in a studio and continued until she graduated from high school and decided to pursue dance at Appalachian State. Makayleigh hopes to dance professionally and really dance to make a difference in the arts community.

Respect Before Peace

Choreographer: Sherone Price

Music: Vernacular by Lagbaja! and Bisade Ologunde and Mawa, Africa Unplugged

Lighting Designer: Tim Travis

Costume Designer: Sue Williams

Dancers: Jason Dawkins, Makayleigh Smith, Eliana Rodriguez, Danielle Neibaur

Respect Before Peace is about finding peace in this world that we live in today, recognizing that in order to arrive at peace that we must first respect others that live also in our own culture, cities and towns.

Sherone Price is an Associate Professor and African dance specialist in the Department of Theatre and Dance.

- Question and Answer Period -

Fowl Play (2011)

Choreographer: Kevin S. Warner

Rehearsal Assistant: Danielle Neibaur

Music: The Kaiser Chiefs

Lighting Designer: John Marty

Costumes: School uniforms courtesy of Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Arts, with additional costumes by Sue Williams

Dancers: Darby Adams, Roberto Bell, Erin Brathwaite, Denae Eason, Ashley Holliday, Karla Katibah, Phillip McCrorie, Danielle Neibaur, Amber Worley

Fowl Play, originally choreographed in 2011, is a fun, playful look at the ritual of "flirtation" between in the age of adolescence. Set to popular music, the piece has been re-staged and expanded to include seven women and two men.

Kevin Warner, the chair of the Department of Theatre and Dance, has performed, choreographed and directed for theatre and dance companies up and down the East Coast. His creative work explores intersections among theatrical and dance forms, with a particular interest in how we tell stories through dance. His research interests include the role of the arts as a tool for teaching and learning in K-5 public education.

THE ELEMENTS OF DANCE

The elements of dance are combined and used in a variety of ways by choreographers, people who make dances. It can be helpful to think about the elements of dance as you watch a performance.

Space: The directions or points in space that the dancer indicates with their body through movement. The area of space occupied by the dancer's body, includes personal and general space, direction, size, pathways, levels, and shapes.

Time: The relationship of one movement or part of a movement to another. Includes pulse, speed (or tempo), duration, rhythm, and phrases.

Energy: The degree of muscular tension and use of force applied by a dancer while moving.

HOW TO APPROACH THE VIEWING EXPERIENCE

Experiencing live dance is very special because it is an ephemeral art form, meaning that it lives for a very short time. It is possible to record the moment of dance by videotaping, but you can watch a video of a dance, but will never be quite the same as seeing the dance live.

Watching live dance is a very personal viewing experience. Your opinion or experience watching a dance might be quite different from a friend or classmate. This is partly what makes dance so much fun to observe. The choreographer may have a specific message or idea that he/she is trying to express, but as an audience member you have the freedom to make your own meaning out of what you see on stage. Usually modern dance will not follow a specific storyline. Modern dance can be serious, funny, sad, emotional, absent of emotion, happy, and the list could go on and on. You may have a memory triggered by something you observe on stage or you might feel the desire to move and dance in your seat. Pay attention to how your body responds to the movement you see and the music you hear.



2017 Spring Appalachian Dance Ensemble. Photos: Lynn Willis

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The performances are part of the APPlause! Series, presented by Appalachian State University's Office of Arts and Cultural Programs. Featuring local, regional and world-renowned professional artists, the mission of the program is to share university arts resources with the public, private and home school network across our region. Study guide materials connect every performance to the classroom curriculum. With the help of the university's College Access Partnership, school groups can enjoy lunch in an on-campus dining facility, take a campus tour, or observe a demonstration by an Appalachian State professor.

For more information, contact:

Christy Chenausky

Director of Arts Education and Outreach, Cultural Affairs

828-262-6084, ext. 109

chenauskyc@appstate.edu



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