Welcome to the FORGE Summer Dance Intensive!

We are excited to have you as part of the inaugural year of the Professional Training Workshop! We understand when it comes to summer dance programs, you have lots of options; we hope you find your time at FORGE to be rewarding and bountiful. This program has been crafted especially for the serious dance student who has their sights set on a career in dance. Our faculty is top notch and ready to share their passion and expertise with you.

We invite you to fully immerse yourself into this program and take advantage of the many networking opportunities we have to offer. Keep your eyes peeled for pop-up events throughout your two week stay. We've got lots of fun surprises coming your way.

Be sure to mark your calendars for the final showing, held Friday July 22 at 2pm in the West Gym. Friends, family and guests are more than welcome to attend. We will also be documenting the performance and it will be available for purchase!

We will be sure to contact you as the program approaches to keep you informed of any changes or exciting additions. Until then, stay focused, train hard and get ready for FORGE!

Warmly,

Lindsay Fisher & Ursula Payne
Co-founders and Co-directors of FORGE
LINDSAY FISHER spent the bulk of her career in New York City dancing with Helen Simoneau Danse (rehearsal director), Nathan Trice/RITUALS, Carolyn Dorfman Dance Company, Collective Body/ Dance Lab, Ellen Cornfield, Daniel Charon, Camille A. Brown, Ayo Jackson, Brenda Daniels, Sean Sullivan, Steve Rooks, Sidra Bell and VIA Dance Collaborative (founding member). She has also had the pleasure of performing works by Twyla Tharp, Jiri Kylian, Ton Simons, Esther Baker-Tarpaga, Tatiana Baganova, Jennifer Kayle, Charlotte Adams, Simoné Ferro and Miguel Gutierrez among others. She has performed in Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera’s West Side Story and North Shore Music Theater’s Victor/Victoria. Film credits include Lead Arabian in The Nutcracker (PBS/UNC-TV), feature film Across the Universe, and music video Pieces of You by The Hot Seconds. Her choreography has been presented at the Alley Citigroup Theater (nyc), St. Mark's Church (nyc) and University Settlement (nyc) as well as commissioned for SUNY Fredonia, VIA Dance Collaborative and Slippery Rock University. She received her BFA from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts in 2002 where she was the recipient of the prestigious Sarah Graham Kenan Endowed Fellowship of Excellence. She also received her MFA in Choreography from the University of Iowa in 2014 as a Graduate Teaching Assistant and as the first recipient of the Strategic Initiative Fellowship (recognizing excellence in her field).

URSULA PAYNE, Chairperson and Professor at Slippery Rock University of PA, received her M.F.A. in Dance from The Ohio State University and is a Certified Movement Analyst. Her teaching and creative scholarship integrates the application of LMA, Dance notation, African-American history, women's issues, and performance techniques within the creative process. From 2002 to 2012, Ursula was on faculty at the American Dance Festival teaching Motif notation, Repertory and Modern Technique. She also directed the Dance Professionals Workshop (2007-2010) and Co-Directed the Young Dancer’s School with Pam Pietro (2010-2012) at ADF.

Ms. Payne’s choreography has been awarded four prestigious Pennsylvania Council of the Arts Choreographic Fellowships from 2000-2006. Her creative research has resulted in over 150 performances produced in recognized professional public as well as academic theaters and festivals. Ms. Payne has taught, performed and/or been commissioned to create choreography as a guest artist at numerous educational institutions such as Loyola Marymount University, Duke University’s Nasher Museum, National Taiwan University of the Arts, The University of Memphis, Temple University, Frostburg State University, The Ohio State University, Kent State University, Youngstown State University, Howard University, Trinity College, Ohio University, Middle Tennessee State University, Alfred University, California State University at Sacramento, Texas Women’s University, Spelman College, and the University of Oregon.