

# DANCE

## COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS



### MAJORS

- Dance (BA)
- Dance (BFA): Dance Entrepreneurship
- Dance (BFA): Performance and Choreography

### MINORS AND CREDENTIALS

- Creative Movement Endorsement Credential through the PA Department of Education
- Minor in Dance Performance
- Minor in Dance Pedagogy

### ACCELERATED PROGRAMS AND AFFILIATIONS

- Dance (BA) 3-year accelerated track
- Dance (BA or BFA) 4+1 Master's in Lifelong Wellness through Innovative Leadership with a concentration in Adapted Physical Activity.

SlipperyRock  
University

A member of Pennsylvania's State System  
of Higher Education

EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

[www.sru.edu](http://www.sru.edu)

### WHAT CAN I DO WITH A DANCE DEGREE?

There are many career options open to dance majors with the most common being concert/commercial dancer, choreographer, dance studio instructor, adapted dance instructor, adjunct professor, K-12 dance teacher, manager, dance studio owner, production manager, videographer, costume designer, arts administrator or talent agent. A dance degree can also prepare for professional studies or in graduate school, leading to degrees in physical therapy/ health professions, arts administration, dance therapy, creative arts, dance science, and business administration.

The professional environment of dance and the performing arts in the 21st century is continuously evolving. Students pursuing a career in dance increase their employability by understanding how teaching, performance, choreography, creativity, technology, and entrepreneurial skills function together. All of these topics are included in the robust and well-rounded dance curriculum at Slippery Rock University.

### DANCE AT SRU

The Department of Dance at SRU promotes dance as an art form through the creative, technical, expressive, and intellectual development of each student in a personalized environment. Superior education in performance, choreography, and teaching, with additional components of wellness for dance, dance technology, and inter-cultural experience, prepares students for their chosen profession and entrepreneurial role in society.

Our dance curriculum is designed for students seeking multi-layered careers as dance professionals. It provides the advanced training needed to pursue performance, choreography, technology, administrative, and teaching careers in dance and related fields. Students study contemporary dance practices in genres including modern, jazz, ballet, improvisation, partnering, Afro-Colombian and classical Indian dance. Dance majors develop advanced choreographic, leadership, pedagogy and research skills.

### WHY CHOOSE SRU DANCE?

- 1. International and nationally recognized dance faculty:** Dance majors have many opportunities to collaborate with acclaimed dance faculty in undergraduate research and creative projects. Each student is assigned a faculty member as their adviser who mentors and guides them through their program of study.
- 2. Nationally ranked program and excellent curriculum:** SRU is an accredited member of the Association of Schools of Dance.
- 3. Excellent co-curricular programming:** Dance majors have the opportunity to participate in up to two resident dance companies that support student performance, leadership and choreography.
- 4. Networking with dance professionals:** Dance majors have many opportunities to work with guest artists throughout the academic year to refine their performance skills and expand their professional networks. These experiences are high-impact practices.
- 5. Cultural programming and study abroad experiences:** Dance majors have traveled to India, England, Ireland, France, Colombia, Malaysia, and Italy to gain international research and dance training experiences.

## INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SRU Dance students have completed internships at various locations including:

- American Dance Festival, Durham, North Carolina
- Attack Theatre Company, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- Bates Summer Dance Festival, Maine
- Dance technology internship, Department of Dance
- Diavolo Dance Theater, Los Angeles, California
- Gibney Dance Center, New York City
- Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Becket, Massachusetts
- The Dance Place, Washington, D.C.
- The Disney College Program, Florida and California
- The Kelly Strayhorn Theater, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
- Wellness internship, Department of Dance

## CAREER OUTCOMES

In addition to attaining Master of Fine Arts Degrees in dance, graduates of the department have secured careers as:

- Senior Manager of Education, Gibney Dance Center, New York
- Follow Spot Operator, Sasha Velour National Tour "Smoke and Mirrors"
- Lighting designer, Greenspace, Long Island City, New York
- Operations manager and financial assistant, Dance Place, Washington, D.C.
- Professional dancer, H.T. Chen and Dancers in New York City
- Professional dancer, Abby Z and the New Utility Dance Company
- Youth dance instructor, Hubbard Street Dance, Chicago
- Professional dancer/performer, Sesame Street Live
- Professional dancer, Diavolo Architecture in Motion, International Touring, Los Angeles, California
- Director of dance and dance teacher, Lincoln Park Performing Arts Charter School, Midland, Pennsylvania

## RESIDENT DANCE COMPANIES, CLUBS, AND ORGANIZATIONS

- Slippery Rock University Dance Theatre
- Palenque: Colombian Dance Ensemble
- National Honor Society for Dance Arts
- Dance Express



## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

### Austin Shaffer, '23

*Company Member, Whirlwind Dance*

### Cameron Waters, '21

*Company Dancer,  
Staycee Pearl Dance Project and Soy Sos*

### Maddison Manolis, '18

*Entrepreneur, Stretch Lab franchise owner*

### Alicia Garrity '11

*Three year member of Diavolo Dance Theatre,  
ACE certified personal trainer and nutrition specialist*

### Teena Marie Custer, '04

*Street dance theater artist; professional dancer with  
Ephrat Asherie Dance*

### Rebecca Conway Reese, '02

*Owner of Blair Dance Academy, Altoona, PA*

## ACADEMIC CONTACT: FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Stoner Instructional Complex  
Jennifer Keller, chairperson  
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[www.sru.edu/majors](http://www.sru.edu/majors)

## ADMISSIONS OFFICE:

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