

Los Angeles County High School for the Arts
DANCE DEPARTMENT PRESENTS

TRIBUTE



2018 SPRING DANCE CONCERT

FEATURING WORKS BY JOSÉ LIMÓN, JIŘÍ KYLIÁN,
CHRISTOPHER HUGGINS, EDUARDO VILARO
& LACHSA DANCE FACULTY

LOUISE K. TAYLOR
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
845 W. Colorado Blvd., Monrovia

Friday April 13 at 7.30pm
Saturday April 14 at 2pm & 7.30pm

LACHSA DANCE DEPARTMENT

FACULTY

Cynthia Morales, *Chair*
Hai Cohen
Asha Di Ningrat
Yuka Fukuda
Robyn Gardenhire
Alexa Kershner
Wendy Lawson
Fiona Lummis
Anindo Marshall
Loic Noisette
Cindy Ricalde

CLASS OF 2018

Savoy Bailey, Isabelle Basha, Megan Brusseau, Sydney Chow, Natalie Cox, Stefanie Goodenberger, Emilia Haddad, Michela Heartwell, Emma Howard, Cassidy Jasso, Melissande Le Brun, Lauren Marquis, Jakai Merilus, Jade Moreno, Sydney Neill, Adrian Ochoa, Lillian Papet, November Ward, Xuly Williams, Naoki Yogi

CLASS OF 2019

Taylor Agbonkolor, Alexandria Avila, Queena Chu, Lauren Duran, Alexia Espinosa, Candice Espitia, Delilah Farrell, Connor Freeman, Khaleya Graham, Sydney Grigsby, Julian Grubman, Zyan Ha, Jazz Hayes, Jackson Haywood, Ishaun Jackson-Moaney, Nora Jones, Zachary Medina, Jamie Meyer, Mikaela Meyer, Sage Ousley, Lauren Perez, Niya Sheppard, Eva Silverton, Karsen Tengan

CLASS OF 2020

Natalie Aronno, Bianca Brown, Arianna Carson, Ava Easter, Karina Gabriel Santana, Sydney Guine, Serah Israel-Everett, Savea Kagan, Altahir Kozelchik, Nia Lazar Vlastic, Madeleine Lee, Samantha Lee, Frances Mandeville, Nathan Navarrete, Kennedy Perez, Kiley Price, Megan Prout, Victoria Renteria, Mayumi Rhone, Glenndale Taylor, Brianna Urena, Jordan Wandick, Audrey Wilkins

CLASS OF 2021

Tara Aghaian, Erin Anuakpado, Marlee Becker, Holland De Klerk, Fei Yue Duan, Robert Farr-Jones, DaJuan Foley, Christa Ford, Milan Furtado, Assata Gaines, Gianna Garcia, Natalie Garcia, Hunter Ha, Stella Lansill, Hannah Laski, Sofia Marie Lusitana, Abiola Neff, Maya Pacheco, Ethan Richardson, Skylar Rule, Sydney Shepherd, Skylynn Stokes, Asia Umali, Maegan Ung, Alyssa Zavala



It is with a heavy heart that I write this opening statement for our LACHSA Spring Dance Concert 2018. Tribute is to honor the presence of deep artistry through the work and lives of great creators that we acknowledge through the works presented tonight. I dedicate this concert to a great dance maker, beloved dance artist and dear friend, Donald McKayle, who passed away today.

Our LACHSA concert reflects a collection of dance experiences throughout this school year with a strong focus on building community and recognizing classic works and creative artists. We began with a newly formed partnership with the Ballet Hispánico Company from New York City, through a choreographic gift to LACHSA, "Suite from Danzón". This collaboration gave our students the opportunity to work with the choreographer and perform with the company. The piece, "Echoes of Ailey", is a tribute to Alvin Ailey by Christopher Huggins who shares his deep connection to Mr. Ailey with our dancers. We shared the gift of this choreography through our performance at the International Blacks in Dance 30th Anniversary Festival in Los Angeles.

This year we extended our community outreach to the National High School Dance Festival 2018 at Point Park University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where twenty-one junior and senior dancers performed four works including student choreographies and the closing piece in the GALA Concert. This was a hugely successful undertaking that reflected the deep dedication of our stellar dance faculty, guest artists and amazing parent volunteers.

In the theme of Tribute, we dedicate our West Side Story Suite to the musical artistry of Leonard Bernstein on the celebration of his 100th anniversary. As a tribute to great artists, LACHSA Dance continues its tradition to present masterpieces by Jiri Kylián and José Limón. We are dedicated to deepening our young dancers' connection to history and their dreams of a better future by building community through sharing art that inspires. As Donald McKayle simply proclaimed to his dancers - "Don't be dutiful, be magical!"

Cynthia Morales
LACHSA Dance Department Chair

LACHSA SPRING DANCE CONCERT 2018

ACT 1

“euphoric space in those circles we travel in”

Choreography & Performance by the Senior Class of 2018
LACHSA Rehearsal Director - Alexa Kershner
Music by Benedict Cumberbatch, Zoe Keating, Xuly Williams.
Arranged by Xuly Williams and Sydney Neill

Cast

Savoy Bailey, Isabelle Basha, Megan Brusseau, Sydney Chow, Natalie Cox,
Stefanie Goodenberger Emilia Haddad, Michela Heartwell, Emma Howard, Cassidy Jasso,
Melissande Le Brun, Lauren Marquis, Jade Moreno, Sydney Neill, Adrian Ochoa,
Lillian Papet, November Ward, Xuly Williams, Naoki Yogi, Jakai Merilus

“ECHOES OF AILEY”

A Tribute to Alvin Ailey

Choreography by Christopher Huggins
Music by Victor Y. See Yuen, William Catanzaro. Remixed by Sean Clements
Rehearsal Assistant: Yuka Fukuda

Cast

Lauren Duran, Eva Silverton, Alexandria Avila, Alexia Espinosa, Sydney Grigsby,
Candice Espitia, Taylor Agbonkpolor, Nora Jones, Niya Sheppard, Savoy Bailey, Queena Chu,
Karsen Tengan, November Ward, Ishaun Jackson-Moaney, Connor Freeman,
Jackson Haywood, Zachary Medina, Lauren Perez

‘HUNGARIAN DANSE’ from Swan Lake

Choreography by Hai Cohen
Music by Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky
LACHSA Rehearsal Director - Cindy Ricalde & Wendy Lawson
Danced by the Freshman and Sophomore Class

Czardas Cast -Lead Couples

Friday Evening

Nathan Navarrete with Kiley Price
Hunter Ha with Natalie Garcia and Maya Pacheco
Ethan Richardson with Milan Furtado & Assata Gaines
Dajuan Foley Jr. with Skylar Rule & Alyssa Zavala
Robert Farr-Jones with Hannah Laski & Stella Lansill

Saturday Matinee

Nathan Navarrete with Natalie Aronno
Glenn Dale Taylor with Serah Israel-Everett & Audrey Wilkins
Ethan Richardson with Mayumi Rhone & Assata Gaines
Dajuan Foley Jr. with Asia Umali & Alyssa Zavala
Robert Farr-Jones with Jordan Wandick & Victoria Renteria

Saturday Evening

Nathan Navarrete with Natalie Aronno
Glenn Dale Taylor with Serah Israel-Everett & Audrey Wilkins
Ethan Richardson with Mayumi Rhone & Assata Gaines
Dajuan Foley Jr. with Skyler Rule & Alyssa Zavala
Robert Farr-Jones with Jordan Wandick & Victoria Renteria

Understudies

Sydney Shepherd, Holland De Klerk, Christa Ford

Mazurka from the ballet “PAQUITA”

Music by Ludwig Minkus
Original choreography by Marius Petipa
Staged by Wendy Lawson

Cast B

Friday Evening

Arianna Carson, Ava Easter, Sydney Guine, Savea Kagen, Sofia Marie Lusitana,
Frances Mandeville, Maegan Ung, Brianna Urena
Duet #1 - Bianca Brown, Nia Lazar-Vlasic
Duet #2 - Tara Aghaian, Madeleine Lee
Duet #3 - Megan Prout, Samantha Lee
Duet #4 - Altahir Kozelchik, Kennedy Perez

Cast A

Saturday Matinee & Saturday Evening

Tara Aghaian, Bianca Brown, Samantha Lee, Madeleine Lee, Sofia Marie Lusitana
Maegan Ung, Brianna Urena, Nia Lazar-Vlasic
Duet #1 - Savea Kagen, Frances Mandeville
Duet #2 - Sydney Guine, Arianna Carson
Duet #3 - Megan Prout, Ava Easter
Duet #4 - Altahir Kozelchik, Kennedy Perez

“SUITE FROM DANZÓN”

Ballet Hispánico Repertory
Choreography by Eduardo Vilaro
Restaged by Rebecca Lemme
LACHSA Rehearsal Assistant: Cindy Ricalde
Music: “Danzon” composed and performed by Paquito D’Rivera.
“A Night in Tunisia”, composed by Dizzy Gillespie, performed by Paquito D’Rivera

Cast

Friday Evening

Lauren Duran, Candice Espitia, Connor Freeman, Stefanie Goodenberger, Jackson Haywood, Jamie Meyer, Mikaela Meyer, Nathan Navarrete, Adrian Ochoa, Sage Ousley, Lauren Perez

Duet

Lauren Perez with Adrian Ochoa

Soloist

Connor Freeman

Couples

Adrian Ochoa with Lauren Duran
Nathan Navarrete with Candice Espitia
Connor Freeman with Jamie Meyer

Saturday Matinee & Saturday Evening

Sydney Chow, Connor Freeman, Stefanie Goodenberger, Jackson Haywood, Jamie Meyer, Mikela Meyer, Nathan Navarrete, Adrian Ochoa, Sage Ousley, Lillian Papet, Lauren Perez,

Duet

Jackson Haywood with Stefanie Goodenberger

Soloist - Saturday Matinee

Lauren Perez

Soloist - Saturday Evening

Sage Ousley

Couples - Saturday Matinee

Adrian Ochoa with Lauren Duran,
Nathan Navarrete with Lillian Papet
Connor Freeman with Jamie Meyer

Couples Saturday Evening

Adrian Ochoa with Sydney Chow
Nathan Navarrete with Lillian Papet
Connor Freeman with Jamie Meyer

Understudies

Alexandria Avila, Alexia Espinosa
Cassidy Jasso & Connor Freeman (Duet)

“A GENTLE REMINDER”

Choreography: Megan Brusseau
Music: Frédéric Chopin
Pianist: Arvin Gantumur

Soloist

Megan Brusseau

EXCERPTS FROM “*THE DEVIL COMES ON HORSEBACK*”

Choreography by Anindo Marshall

Costume - Anindo Marshall

The Attack

Music - Alaguana Me Molo by The Beating Heart

A Woman’s Sorrow

Music - Song of Solomon by Ban Tankard

The World Watches

Music - Needles by So Percussion & Matmos

Cast

Natalie Aronno, Bianca Brown, Arianna Carson, Ava Easter, Karina Gabriel Santana, Sydney Guine, Serah Israel-Everett, Savea Kagan, Altahir Kozelchik, Nia Lazar Vlastic, Madeleine Lee, Samantha Lee, Frances Mandeville Nathan Navarrete, Kennedy Perez, Kiley Price, Megan Prout, Victoria Renteria, Mayumi Rhone, Brianna Urena, Jordan Wandick, Audrey Wilkins

Tara Aghaian, Erin Anuakpado, Marlee Becker, Holland De Klerk, Fei Yue Duan, Robert Farr-Jones, DaJuan Foley, Christa Ford, Milan Furtado, Assata Gaines, Gianna Garcia, Natalie Garcia, Hunter Ha, Stella Lansill, Hannah Laski, Sofia Marie Lusitana, Abiola Neff, Maya Pacheco, Ethan Richardson, Skylar Rule, Sydney Shepherd, Skylynn Stokes, Glendale Taylor, Asia Umali, Maegan Ung, Alyssa Zavala

The Janjaweed, riding horses and driving cars through the desert, wearing their signature khaki military uniforms with head wraps heading for the village of Hangala in Darfur. In the middle of the night, a family is in their home asleep, father, mother and three children are awakened by the sound of horse hoofs, cars screeching...they are frightened, and clutch to each other, as they are attacked by the Janjaweed. Mother is violently raped, houses burnt down....Finally father is shot dead,...Mother weeping, asks the Universe “Why Me and my Family, why this village?” Genocide is still going on - there have been 4000,000 men, women and children killed and there are over two million people that escaped and are now living in refugee camps - when will the killing stop - when will the governments of the world step in to stop the Sudanese government from atrociousness? What can you do?

“I THINK”

Choreography by Christopher Huggins

LACHSA Rehearsal Assistant: Ellia Asha di Ningrat

Music: “ComingTogether” (1972) composed and performed by Frederic Rzewski

Cast

Taylor Agbonkolor, Savoy Bailey, Megan Brusseau, Candice Espitia, Connor Freeman, Stefanie Goodenberger, Sydney Grigsby, Julian Grubman, Jackson Haywood, Emma Howard, Zachary Medina, Jamie Meyer, Mikaela Meyer, Sage Ousley, Lillian Papet, Niya Sheppard

INTERMISSION

ACT II

“OVERGROWN PATH” (Excerpt)

Choreography by Jiří Kylián

Music by Leoš Janáček

Reconstructed by Fiona Lummis

LACHSA Rehearsal Director - Fiona Lummis

With Kind permission from the Kylián Foundation

Pianists - Elizabeth Chow, Christian Douglas, Dylan Ever, Arvin Gantumur

April Lee, Megan Ezra

Cast

Friday Evening

Isabella Basha, Natlie Cox, Michela Heartwell, Emma Howard, Cassidy Jasso,
Melissande Le Brun, Lauren Marquis, Connor Freeman, Julian Grubman, Jackson Haywood,
Zach Medina, Jackai Merilus, Adrian Ochoa, Xuly Williams

Saturday Matinee

Savoy Bailey, Sydney Chow, Stefanie Goodenberger, Lillian Pappet, November Ward,
Naoki Yogi, Connor Freeman, Julian Grubman, Jackson Haywood, Zach Medina,
Jackai Merilus, Adrian Ochoa, Xuly Williams

Saturday Evening

Megan Brusseau, Emilia Haddad, Cassidy Jasso, Lauren Marquis, Jade Moreno, Lillian Pappet,
Naoki Yogi, Connor Freeman, Julian Grubman, Jackson Haywood, Zach Medina,
Jackai Merilus, Adrian Ochoa, Xuly Williams

“WEST SIDE STORY SUITE”

A Tribute to Leonard Bernstein

“COOL”

Choreography by Asha di Ningrat and her dancers

Music: Studio takes from the 1985 documentary “Leonard Bernstein Conducts West Side Story”

Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim. Based on a conception by Jerome Robbins

Orchestration by Leonard Bernstein with Sid Ramin and Irwin Kostal

Deconstructed by Asha di Ningrat

Cast

Taylor Agbonkolor, Alexandria Avila, Queena Chu, Lauren Duran, Alexia Espinosa,
Candice Espitia, Delilah Farrell, Khaleya Graham, Sydney Grigsby, Zyan Ha,
Jazz Hayes, Ishaun Jackson-Moaney, Nora Jones, Jamie Meyer,
Mikaela Meyer, Sage Ousley, Lauren Perez, Niya Sheppard, Eva Silverton, Karsen Tengan

“DANCE AT THE GYM”

Choreography by Yuka Fukuda

Music: Leonard Bernstein

Broadway Cast Recording 2009

Cast

Tara Aghaian, Marlee Becker, Holland De Klerk, Fei Yue Duan, Robert Farr-Jones,
DaJuan Foley, Christa Ford, Milan Furtado, Assata Gaines, Gianna Garcia,
Natalie Garcia, Hunter Ha, Stella Lansill, Hannah Laski, Sofia Marie Lusitana, Abiola Neff,
Maya Pacheco, Ethan Richardson, Skylar Rule, Sydney Shepherd,
Skylynn Stokes, Asia Umali, Maegan Ung, Alyssa Zavala

“SOMEWHERE”

Choreography by Hai Cohen

Music: Leonard Bernstein and performed by Barbra Streisand

Cast

Natalie Aronno, Bianca Brown, Arianna Carson, Ava Easter, Karina Gabriel Santana,
Sydney Guine, Serah Israel-Everett, Connor Freeman, Jackson Haywood, Savea Kagan,
Altahir Kozelchik, Nia Lazar Vlastic, Madeleine Lee, Samantha Lee,
Frances Mandeville, Nathan Navarrete, Kennedy Perez

“YAMA”

Choreography: Lillian Papet

Music: Ran Bagno

Soloist

Lillian Papet

“WHEN IN DOUBT”

Choreography: Sydney Chow

Music: Alfred Schnittke

Soloist

Sydney Chow

“THE WINGED SUITE”

First performed August 20, 1966
By the José Limón Dance Company
at the Connecticut College American Dance Festival
Choreography: José Limón
Music composed by: Jon Magnussen
Direction and Reconstruction: Pablo Francisco Ruvalcaba
LACHSA Rehearsal Assistant - Cynthia Morales

Cast

Taylor Agbonkolor, Isabella Basha, Megan Brusseau, Natalie Cox, Queena Chu,
Lauren Duran, Candice Espitia, Connor Freeman, Stefanie Goodenberger,
Julian Grubman, Zyan Ha, Jazz Hayes, Jackson Haywood, Ishaun Jackson, Nora Jones,
Zachary Medina, Sage Ousley, Lauren Perez, Karsen Tengan

“Wings seen and unseen bear us aloft”

Dawn Chorus

Ensemble

Duel

Julian Grubman and Zachary Medina

Feast of Harpies

Megan Brusseau, Natalie Cox, Queena Chu, Candice Espitia, Zyan Ha (Leader),
Lauren Perez, Karsen Tengan

Circular Flight

Ensemble

MASTER CHOREOGRAPHER - JOSÉ LIMÓN

José Limón: (1908-1972) was a crucial figure in the development of modern dance: his powerful dancing shifted perceptions of the male dancer, while his choreography continues to bring a dramatic vision of dance to audiences around the world.

Limón was born in Culiacan, Mexico. His family escaped the violence of the Mexican revolution to settle in Los Angeles, California. He was accepted to UCLA as an art major then moved to New York City where he discovered the power of dance. In 1946, after studying and performing for ten years with mentors Doris Humphrey and Charles Weidman, Limón established his own company. He choreographed many pieces with the artistic guidance of Humphrey, including his signature dance, *The Moor's Pavane* (1949). Much of Limón's choreography was developed from natural gesture and expressed human grandeur, dignity and nobility through themes drawn from history, literature and religion.

Limón's choreographic works were quickly recognized as masterpieces and the Limón Dance Company became a landmark of American Dance. Many of his dances - *There is a Time*, *Psalm*, *The Winged* - are considered classics of modern dance. Limón was a consistently productive choreographer until his death. He choreographed at least one new piece each year and was also an influential teacher and advocate for modern dance. He was in residence each summer at the American Dance Festival, a key faculty member in The Julliard School's Dance Division and the Director of Lincoln Center's American Dance Theatre. Limón received honorary doctorates from four universities and his company was the first to be sponsored by the U.S. Department's International Cultural Exchange Program, performing in South America in 1954; then the company went on tour to Europe, Central America, and the Far East. The Jose Limón Dance Company continues to perform and share Limón's work throughout the world. Limón's autobiography, *'An Unfinished Memoir'*; the award-winning feature documentary, *"A Life Beyond Words"* and numerous written theses on his life and work offer great insight into the legacy of Jose Limón's profound contribution to humanity.

Limón's Technique places emphasis on the body's natural rhythms of fall and recovery and the interplay between weight and weightlessness. The technique is noted for its range of expression and humanism, the immediacy with which a Limón dancer conveys the universality of experience, and the dynamism and the physicality of dance. A Limón-trained dancer has an organic way of moving that is adaptable to a wide range of choreographic styles and prepares the dancer to perform in both classical and contemporary dance forms.



Limón teaching at Julliard
in 1959



Jose Limón rehearsing with
Pauline Koner



Pablo Francisco
Ruvalcaba

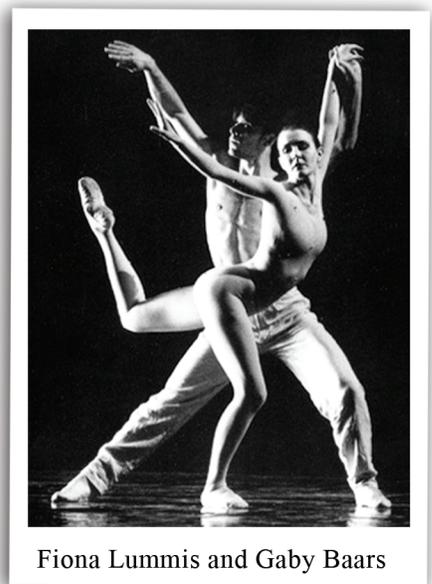
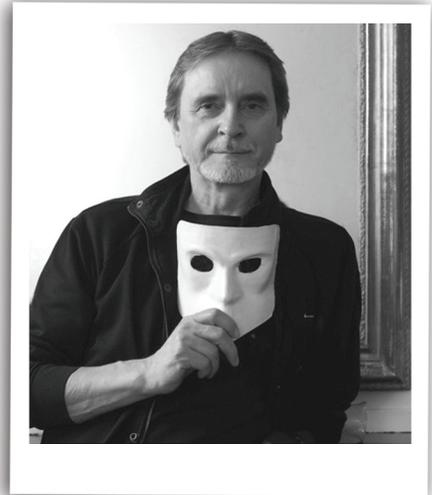
LACHSA was honored to have guest artist, Pablo Francisco Ruvalcaba return to set a suite from the Limón classic, *"The Winged"*, on our students. Mr. Ruvalcaba, a native of California and graduate of The Julliard School, first joined the Limón Dance Company in 1996, and during his 20 years with the company, Ruvalcaba had many original roles made on him by prominent guest artists, as well as dancing principal roles in the revivals of numerous Limón classics. He has also lectured on the themes and choreographic works of José Limón; has been an invited artist at Jacob's Pillow and has recently guested as the Moor for American Ballet Theater's production of *"The Moor's Pavane"*. He is also Co-Founding Director of The Higher Ground Festival of collaborative arts in the Washington Heights/Inwood neighborhoods of New York City. Mr Ruvalcaba teaches the Limón technique and it's repertory extensively nationally and internationally.

MASTER DANCER & CHOREOGAPHER - JIŘÍ KYLIÁN

Jiří Kylián (1947-) Born in Prague, Czechoslovakia, in 1947. Jiří Kylián started his dance training when he was nine years old at the “School of the National Ballet Prague”, and in 1962 he was accepted to the Prague Conservatory. In 1967 Kylián received a scholarship to study at the “Royal Ballet School” in London. John Cranko, a major choreographer of this period and director of the Stuttgart Ballet, offered him a dancer’s contract and encouraged Kylián’s ambition to create his own dance works. In 1973, following a choreography for Netherlands Dance Theater, an artistic relationship between Kylián and the well-known Dutch company began which has brought about the creation of 74 ballet productions for this group. Kylián was the artistic director of Netherlands Dance Theater from 1975-1999.

Kylián’s reputation grew and he has become known as one of the most ingenious choreographers of today with dance works such as Symphony of Psalms, Overgrown Path, Sinfonietta, Stamping Ground, Petit Mort and Falling Angels to name only a few. His work is danced by more than one hundred companies and schools worldwide including American Ballet Theater and Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. He is recipient of many international awards including an Honorary Doctorate from The Julliard School; three Nijinsky Awards, Benoit de la Danse - Moscow and Berlin, Honorary Medal of the President of the Czech Republic, Commander of the Legion D’Honneur - France, and many others. His entire body of work counts ninety eight creations to date.

“Overgrown Path” was created in 1980 on the dancers of Netherlands Dance Theater and Kylián dedicated the ballet to Antony Tudor, a respected choreographer with ABT during the 40’s and 50’s, who was seen as one of the transformers of ballet into a modern art form. Kylián and Tudor shared a love for the music of Czech composer Leos Janáček. “On an Overgrown Path” was composed by Janáček during a difficult time in his life, his daughter was dying. She is represented by the female dancers. The men represent, in different sections of the piece, love, death and the father figure.



Fiona Lummis and Gaby Baars



Fiona Lummis

These highly regarded and copyrighted Kylian works are able to be staged by our dancers courtesy of Fiona Lummis who teaches Ballet and Contemporary Repertory here at LACHSA. Ms Lummis is a graduate of the Elmhurst School of Dance, England, and the Rambert School and was a principal dancer for two decades with the Netherlands Dance Theatre, and was featured in over thirty premieres by Jiri Kylian, Hans Van Manen, Nacho Duato, Ohad Naharin and Mats Ek among others.

She has received the Gouden Theaterdans Prijs for her performances in William Forsythe’s “Steptext” and was awarded the “Oeuvre Prize” in recognition of her career in The Netherlands. Lummis is considered to be one of choreographer Hans Van Manen’s muses. She works closely with the Kylian and Van Manen Foundations, teaching their repertoire across the globe. Excerpts of Overgrown Path can be performed by LACHSA students with kind permission of Jiri Kylian and the Kylian Foundation.

DANCER & CHOREOGRAPHER - CHRISTOPHER L. HUGGINS



Christopher L. Huggins

Christopher L. Huggins, choreographer, teacher and former member of the renowned Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre. A native of Boston, Massachusetts, trained under Andrea Herbert Major, Danny Sloan and Martha Gray. After attending SUNY Purchase, The Julliard School, and fellowship at The Ailey School, Huggins appeared as a guest artist in several dance companies in the United States, Oslo Dance Ensemble in Oslo, Norway and Aterballetto of Reggio Emilia, Italy.

Christopher has had the distinct honor as a master teacher and choreographer to work in South Africa, Europe, Japan, Korea as well as throughout the United States in high schools and major Universities like Howard University, Spellman College, University of Arts, Eastern and Western Michigan and Wayne State University. It has been said that Huggins is a much sought after Choreographer and has created ballets for Dallas Black Dance Theatre, Ailey II, Philadanco, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre, Louisiana Dance Theatre, Lulu Washington Dance Theatre, Dance Theatre of Harlem, Cleo Parker Robinson Dance, Broadway Dance of Tokyo and Oslo Dance Ensemble in Oslo, Norway. Additionally, he was esteemed the honor of serving as sole choreographer for the 50th Anniversary Opening Night Gala for the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre in 2008.

In 2002 and 2008 Huggins was recognized for his work and became the recipient of the Alvin Ailey Award for Best Choreography, The Black Alliance Award in Chicago for “*Enemy Behind the Gates*” and “*Pyrokinesis*” as well as recognized as a silver medalist from the 4th Annual Seoul International Contemporary Dance Competition, in Seoul, Korea. Another highlight was winning the “Critics Choice Award” for his choreography of the Musical “*The Wiz*” with Dallas Theatre Center in Dallas, Texas and Service to IABD in the Field of Dance Award from the International Association of Blacks in Dance.

Huggins is currently serving as resident choreographer at Duke Ellington High School of the Arts in Washington, D.C. and choreographer in Cape Town, South Africa, where he recently set his ballet “*Bolero*” on Cape Dance Company.



Christopher L. Huggins with LACHSA Dance Students

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR & CEO BALLET HISPÁNICO-



Eduardo Vilaro

EDUARDO VILARO

Eduardo Vilaro, a first generation Cuban-American, began as artistic director of Ballet Hispánico in August of 2009, becoming only the second person to head the company since it was founded in 1970. Mr. Vilaro has been part of the Ballet Hispánico family since 1985. As a dancer with the Ballet Hispánico Company, he performed throughout the U.S., Latin America and Europe and assisted founder Tina Ramirez with the development of dance education residencies.

Mr. Vilaro's passion for dance and Latino cultures began in the Southwest Bronx, where a role in a school musical ignited his journey. After training throughout New York City in dance institutions such as the Alvin Ailey American Dance Center and the Martha Graham School, Mr. Vilaro received a BFA in dance at Adelphi University, under the direction of Norman Walker. In 1999, he received an M.A. in Interdisciplinary Arts from Columbia College, Chicago, and was a recipient of their Albert P. Weissman Award.

Upon his graduation from Columbia College, Mr. Vilaro founded Luna Negra Dance Theater in Chicago, a company which served as a spingboard for Latino dance throughout the Midwest. Under his ten-year artistic direction, Luna Negra amassed a distinguished repertory of works by Latino choreographers such as Ron De Jesus, Vincente Nebrada, and Gustavo Ramirez Sansano.

Mr. Vilaro's own choreography is devoted to capturing the spiritual, sensual and historical essence of the Latino cultures. He created over 20 ballets for Luna Negra and has received commissions from the Ravinia Festival, the Chicago Sinfonietta, the Grant Park Festival, the Lexington Ballet and the Chicago Symphony. He has collaborated with major dance and design artists as well as musicians such as Paquito D'Rivera, Susana Baca, Luciana Souza, and Tiempo Libre. In 2001, he was a recipient of a Ruth Page Award for choreography, and in 2003, he was honored for his choreographic work at Panama's II International Festival of Ballet. In 2011, Mr. Vilaro premiered Asuka, his first work for Ballet Hispánico, "an unexpected interpretation of [Celia] Cruz's music.....high energy and colorful" (Chicago Dance Digest).

Mr. Vilaro was an associate professor at the Dance Center of Columbia College and has served on the board of Columbia College and has served on the board of directors of Dance/USA. He has also served on panels for the National Endowment for the Arts. He was a guest speaker at the Salzburg Global Forum for Young Cultural Leaders and the National Association for Latino Arts and Culture, and continues to speak to the growing need for cultural diversity and dance education.



REBECCA LEMME

Rebecca Lemme is a choreographer, performer, educator and visual artist. Founded in 2014, she is also Artistic Director of the performance group Acts of Matter. Her choreographic work has been commissioned for numerous universities and professional companies.

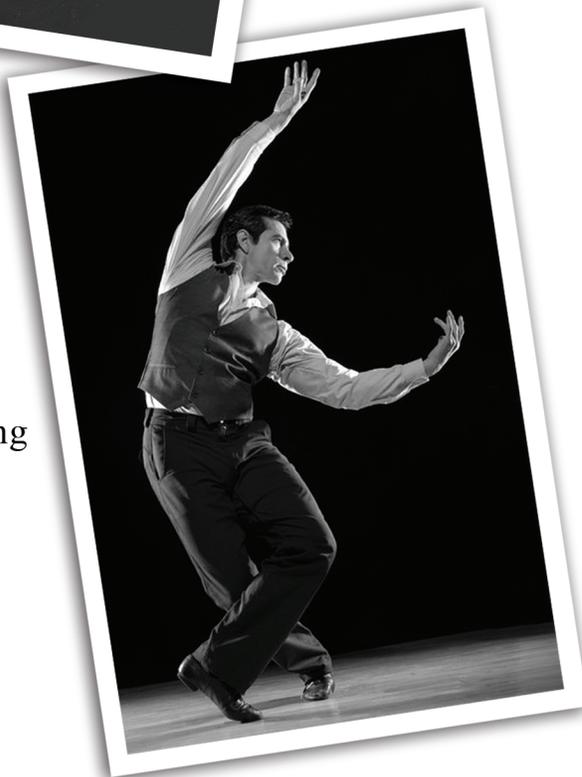
Rebecca Lemme working with LACHSA dancers in setting "Suite from Danzon" choreographed for Ballet Hispánico.

*Thank you for bringing Master Works and these wonderful opportunities
for our dancers at LACHSA to live dance history
through the process and performance of classis choreographies!*



FIONA LUMMIS-EDDY
beloved LACHSA teacher,
Thank you for giving our
dancers the unique gift of
Jiří Kylián's masterful
choreographies!

**PABLO FRANCISCO
RUVALCABA**
esteemed guest artist,
Thank you for returning to bring
another classic work by
legendary choreographer,
José Limón,
to our LACHSA community.



TRIBUTE TO DONALD MCKAYLE

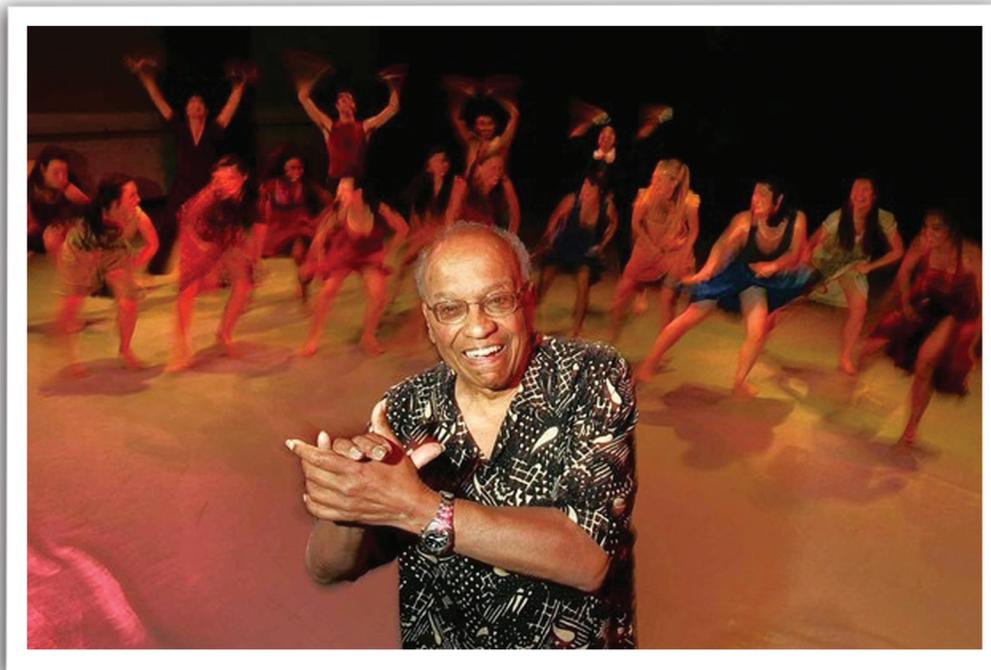
BIOGRAPHY |

INTERVIEW DATE: 12/17/2013 |and| 7/28/2014

Choreographer, director and educator Donald Cohen McKayle was born on July 6, 1930 in New York City, New York to Eva Wilhelmina Cohen McKayle and Philip Augustus McKayle. Inspired by a Pearl Primus performance, he began dancing his senior year in high school, and won a scholarship to the New Dance Group in 1947.



In 1948, McKayle choreographed his first piece of work with the New Dance Group, and premiered his solo piece, *Saturday's Child*. From 1951 to 1969, McKayle founded and directed his own dance company, Donald McKayle and Company, which premiered his first major work entitled *Games* in 1951. McKayle then went on to choreograph master-works *Rainbow 'Round My Shoulder*, *District Storyville* and *Songs of the Disinherited*. *Golden Boy* (1964) was his first Broadway production, followed by *I'm Solomon* (1969) and *Dr. Jazz* (1975). McKayle directed and choreographed *Raisin* (1974), which was awarded a Tony for best musical. He was responsible for the entire concept, staging and choreography of the award-winning *Sophisticated Ladies* (1981). McKayle has also choreographed for films, including *Bedknobs and Broomsticks* (1970), *The Great White Hope* (1972), and *The Minstrel Man* (1976). McKayle has also choreographed stage acts for singers such as Harry Belafonte and Rita Moreno. In 2001, he choreographed the monumental ten-hour production of *Tantalus*.

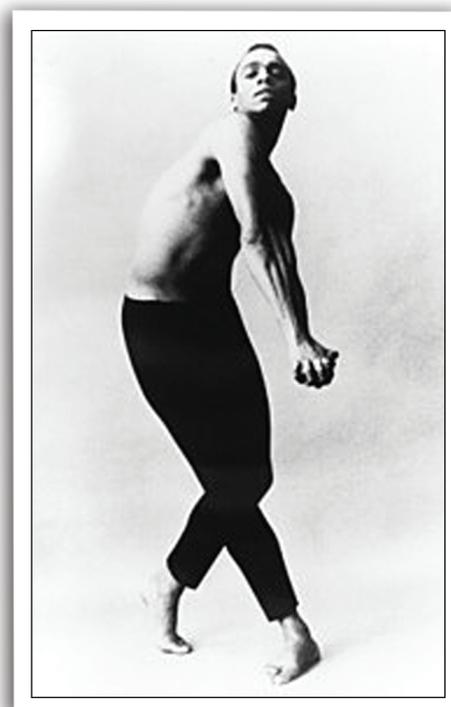
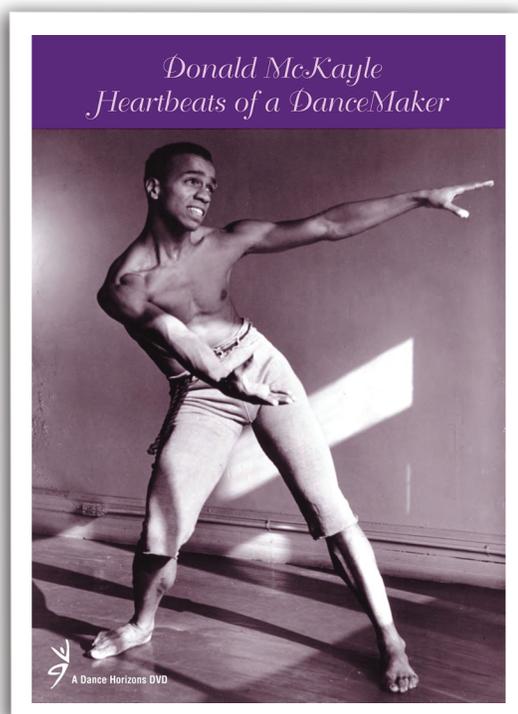


The repositories for McKayle's work include the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre, the Cleveland San Jose Ballet, and the Los Angeles Contemporary Dance Theatre. He served as head of the Inner City Repertory Dance Company from 1970 to 1974, and then as choreographer for the Limon Dance Company since 1995. In all, McKayle choreographed over ninety performances for dance companies in the U.S., Canada, Israel, Europe and South America. He has taught at Bennington College, the Juilliard School, the American Dance Festival, and in Europe. McKayle served as dean of the School of Dance at the California Institute of the Arts, and as professor of dance and the artistic director for the University of California, Irvine Dance.

McKayle has received numerous honors and awards, including an Outer Critics Circle Award, a NAACP Image Award, the Capezio Award, the Samuel H. Scripps/American Dance Festival Award, the American Dance Guild Award, a Living Legend Award from the National Black Arts Festival, two Choreographer's Fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Dance/USA Honors, the Martha Hill Lifetime Achievement Award, the Annual Award from the Dance Masters of America, the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Dance Under the Stars Choreography Festival, the Black College Dance Exchange Honors, the Dance Magazine Award, and the American Dance Legacy Institute's Distinguished and Innovative Leadership Award, among others. In 2005, McKayle was honored at the John F. Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. and presented with a medal as a Master of African American Choreography. He has been named by the Dance Heritage Coalition as "one of America's Irreplaceable Dance Treasures: the first 100."

McKayle is the author of the 2002 autobiography, *Transcending Boundaries: My Dancing Life*.

Donald McKayle was interviewed by *The HistoryMakers* on December 17, 2013.



SENIOR CLASS 2018

What was your most meaningful and empowering moment at LACHSA?

What is your favorite Wendy Lawson quote?



SAVOY BAILEY

My empowering moment was when our class danced together on stage in Gina's piece, Freshman year for the first time.

Wendy quote: "'November! get the hell out of December!'"

ISABELLE BASHA



MEGAN BRUSSEAU

Improvising for an audience in collaboration with LACHSA's Jazz department.

Wendy quote: "Listen to the music"

SYDNEY CHOW

Most empowering moment: I don't have one specific moment that I favor the most, but I consider every time I get to perform with my LACHSA family a cherished moment for me!

Wendy quote: "How do you spell Talent? W, O, R, K."



NATALIE COX

Most empowering moment: My most meaningful moment at LACHSA would probably be the first time I ever participated in "smack it down". It was then that I truly realized the uniqueness of this incredible community we acknowledge as the dance department.

Wendy quote: "It's not the Danish, it's not the Swedish, it's the finish."



STEFANIE GOODENBERGER

My most cherished memory will forever be dancing at the Luckman Theater with amazing Ballet Hispanico Dance Company.

Wendy Quote: "If you drive like you dance, remind me to stay home...
Could be dangerous!"

EMILIA HADDAD

My most meaningful moment through all my years at LACHSA has been my experience with my classmates, as all of my experiences could not have been the same without them.

Wendy quote: "What was that?"



MICHELA HEARTWELL

My most meaningful/empowering moment at LACHSA was hearing the reaction of the audience the second my junior dance piece performed. A day prior to the junior composition concert, my dance was about to be cut out of the program and my self esteem dropped, making me feel useless. However, after watching my dancers perform on stage and hearing the shouts, whistles and applause coming from the audience, all self doubt that I previously felt vanished into thin air and I felt something beautiful: pride.

The important lesson I learned from this experience is that no matter how many obstacles come in the way of getting what you want, push through, try your best, and never give up on yourself.

Wendy quote: "Ciao Bella!"

EMMA HOWARD

A moment that I will never forget from my LACHSA dance experience was the feeling that my class felt after performing our junior composition pieces for an audience. We had all poured our hearts into each piece and performing them as a collective was the best feeling I have ever experienced. It's the moments like that that truly remind you of why you do what you do.



CASSIDY JASSO

As a freshman through senior year I was given the opportunity to learn Jiří Kylián Repertoire and for three of those years I had the most amazing duet partner, Logan Risser. Our partnership will always be in my heart.

Wendy quote: "What the hell are you doing?"

MELISSANDE LE BRUN

Wendy quote: "Dance at least once"

LAUREN MARQUIS

My most powerful moment at LACHSA would be the day that I found out that I was accepted into the dance department of my dream school, NYU, and the moment I realized that all of my training and support at LACHSA had gotten me there.

Wendy quote: "know what you know"



JAKAI MERILUS

JADE MORENO



SYDNEY NEILL

ADRIAN OCHOA

My most memorable moment since I've been at LACHSA was realizing how far along I've come with the guidance of all of the faculty and my peers. Overall senior year has been one big memorable moment.

Wendy quote: "Wrong-o!!"



LILLIAN PAPET

My favorite LACHSA moment was definitely the Junior Composition performance. Seeing everyone come together and perform for each other was just so crazy and inspiring. Of course, I've always thought the world of my class, but I realized how much I love the seniors during that performance.

Wendy quote: "Life is hard. Ballet is harder."



NOVEMBER WARD

I would have to say the most meaningful and empowering moment of my time spent at LACHSA has to be Junior composition. We were tested in many ways within the last few months as juniors to come together and create beautiful pieces on one another that opened everyone's eyes on what the next generation has in store.

Wendy quote: "If you keep doing it like that, you'll end up like me"





NAOKI YOGI

My most meaningful experience at LACHSA was doing “Smack It Down”, with all the dancers.

Wendy quote: “There is only two ways to do dance..... right or wrong”

ZULY WILLIAMS

Most empowering moment at LACHSA was the day I found out I got into NYU, confirming my impending absence from LACHSA.

Wendy quote: “lengthen and squeeze”



Wendy Lawson

Each year the graduating seniors list their favorite quotes from one of their dance faculty. This year we chose to honor Wendy Lawson.

Thank you, Wendy, for your grace under pressure, your ability to smile when life throws you curve balls and your tough love when we deserved it.

We will always appreciate all you have done for each and every one of us.

With Love and Gratitude

The Class of 2018

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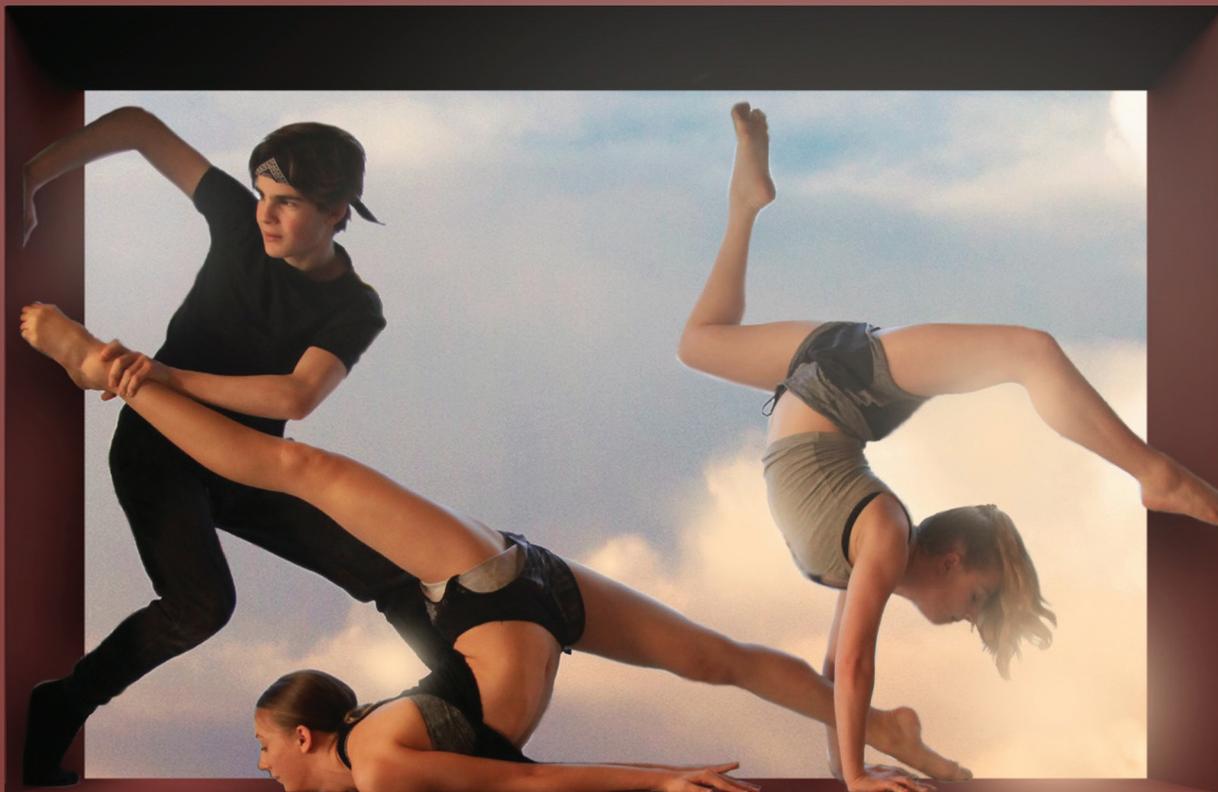
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Your hard work, focus & commitment is
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CLASS OF 2019



“You have to love dancing to stick to it.
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Merce Cunningham

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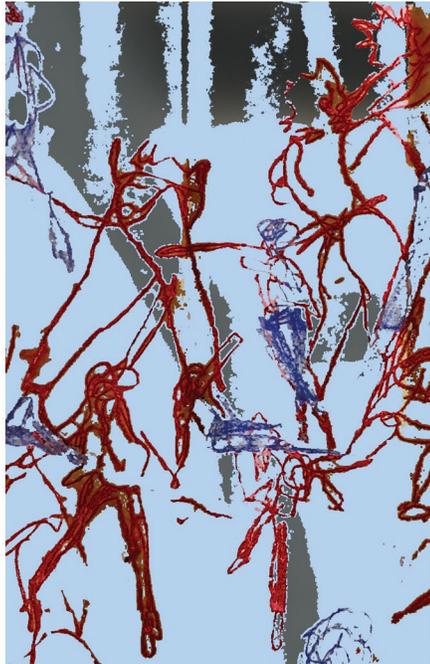
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