



## News From DI00

The department of dance celebrated five dance majors who received their Associate Arts Dance Degree at this year's commencement ceremony held on Friday, May 24<sup>th</sup> 2019! They were:

- + Latoya Cater
- + Skylar Cork
- + Ashley Hunter
- + Elizabeth Jolivet
- + Delece Jones

**Congratulations!**

**Dancers strut their stuff onstage while participating in the energized Fall 2018 concert - And Still We Dance... "Always & Forever"**

**DANCING ON FALLON!**

Laney College does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, religion, color, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ancestry, citizenship, national origin, military or veteran status, disability, marital status, pregnancy, medical condition, and immigration status.

## Through the Lens of Dance...

Throughout its history, the Department of Dance has been steadfast in providing students with access to an education of the highest caliber. The dance program prides itself on its commitment to high pedagogy standards, diversity, inclusivity and academic excellence. It is our charge to encourage student creativity, artistic development, choreographic exploration and personal growth by cultivating lifelong dance experiences. We are perpetuated to student success at Laney College by rigorously implementing, accessing and expanding the quality of our Student Learning and Program Outcomes.

## In Their Own Words...

*Dancers work and live from the inside. They drive themselves constantly, producing a glow that light not only themselves, but audience after audience. They personify life itself.*

*Murray Louis*

*You have to be obsessed with dance to do dance; it's not something you play with.*

*The commitment must be there, and the involvement total.*

*Alvin Ailey*

*It is not enough to want to be a dancer in order to be able to become one.*

*Here the body has the first and final word.*

*Eugene Gilson*

*Dancing expresses in a different language, different from nature, the beauty of the body;  
and the body grows more beautiful with dancing.*

*Isadora Duncan*

*Dance appears glamorous, easy, and delightful. But the path to the paradise of that achievement is not easier than any other. There is fatigue so great that the body cries, even in its sleep.*

*There are times of complete frustration; there are daily small deaths.*

*Martha Graham*

*When we put on leotards and tights; enter the dance studio... it becomes business!*

*Jacqueline Burgess*

# ***About Our Study Abroad Program...***



## **Dance Study Abroad**



**Ghana, West Africa 2019**

**July 26<sup>th</sup> - August 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Accra, Cape Coast, Elmina, Assin Mansu, Kumasi, Kakum, Paga; other destination TBA**

The department of dance sponsored its seventh annual trip to the motherland! Laney students will experience and witness first hand global education at its best. They will be immersed in Ghana's rich culture & time honored customs, visit historical landmarks, monuments, museums and regional parks. They will savor the traditional foods of the people on a daily basis. The students will also learn respectful bartering skills practiced in the market place, the vendor filled streets, as well as securing a taxi fare. In summary, it should be noted that the department's study abroad program has not only enlightened and transformed students, but has been a proven asset to their success. It's on record through many student testimonies that traveling abroad had opened their minds; providing an appreciation of insights to learning about themselves and accepting the diversity of others. The trip was a once in a life-time experience... absolutely priceless!



***Scenes from the Motherland***

## ***About Our High School Dance Day...***

The department of dance once again kicked off the first day of Bay Area Dance Week 2019 by sponsoring its 6th annual **FREE** All Day High School Dance Workshop on Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. It was an excellent opportunity for high school students interested in dance to meet, study, and exchange creative ideas with other students in the greater Bay Area. This year the department offered four fantastic dance classes which were taught by incredible instructors! The workshop concluded with a presentation of informal showings of works in progress for upcoming school performances. The following high schools participated: El Cerrito, Skyline, Kennedy, Oakland Tech, and Berkeley High.

### **High School Dance Workshop Class Schedule**

Hula	9:00AM - 9:55AM
Tap	10:00AM - 10:55AM
Modern Jazz Dance	11:00AM - 11:55AM
Nutritional Break	12:00PM - 12:25PM
Beg. Breakdance & Hip-Hop	12:30PM - 1:45PM
School Presentations	2:00PM - 2:45PM



## ***And Still We Dance...***

It is because of the community and its continued support that drives us to keep Laney's rich and diverse culture of dance on the cutting edge of innovation. Understanding that the arts are essential to our humanity, the Department of Dance has been constant in encouraging inspired students to seek out their artist freedom and delve into self-expression using their original choreographic voice. Even with a small faculty, declining enrollment, minimal administrative support and no budget; we remain a guiding phoenix of an irrevocable force. It is our charge to ignite student creativity, artistic development, choreographic exploration and personal growth by cultivating new ways of thinking. The dance program prides itself on its commitment to high pedagogy standards, diversity, inclusivity and academic excellence.

***Dancing is a way of life. From daily class to the heady pursuit of artistic perfection, dancers exist in a perpetual state of learning.***

***Linda H. Hamilton, Ph.D.***

## ***About Special Guest Artist... Tanya Amos!***

As a special sneak preview for 2019 **Bay Area Dance Week**, the department of dance hosted two special Master dance classes; Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> taught by the renowned **Tanya**



**Amos**; dancer, educator, author, entrapuneure and owner of Aspire Pilates Center, for which she was awarded Pleasant Hill Chamber of Commerce's "100 Women of Influence. Tonya received a BA in Cultural Anthropology from U.C. Berkeley & trained four years on full scholarship at **Alvin Ailey American Dance Center**. A member of Actors Equity Association, she has appeared with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater & Donald Byrd, was a member of Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Ensemble, Footprints & Amy Pivar Dances, performed in the International Tour of "West Side Story", the National Tour of "Sesame St. Live", Sacramento Music Circus' "The King & I", and has been featured in numerous print ads & TV commercials.

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## ***About Our Program...***

The Department of Dance offers an Associate Arts Degree in dance that provides an extensive curriculum in dance theory and practice which meets most CSU/UC transfer requirements. The A.A. program gives an interdisciplinary concentration to students through dance in the context of a broader education within the Liberal Arts. Students have opportunities in dance composition; performance; production; historical and cultural perspectives; global exchange; multimedia forms of expression and other integrating technologies. Completion of the A.A. program prepares students to pursue various careers in the performing arts and, with additional courses, transfer into higher education. For the Associate Arts Dance Degree, students must complete the General Education pattern and the degree major course work for a total of 60 units. Students wishing to continue to transfer to the CSU or UC system should meet with a counselor to develop a transfer plan which addresses all general education and lower-division transfer requirements.

### ***Course Offerings***

The department offers many courses, including: Ballet, Modern, Jazz, Tap, West African, Haitian, Salsa, Dance Composition & Choreography, and Dance Production & Performance. Dance 7, our Dance Study Abroad course advocates global education and cultural integrity. The department continues to raise funds and seek donations to provide scholarships to deserving students. As part of our student recruitment and community outreach, we are continuously refining our enrollment process, accessibility, and development of collaborating partnerships.

### ***Career Opportunities***

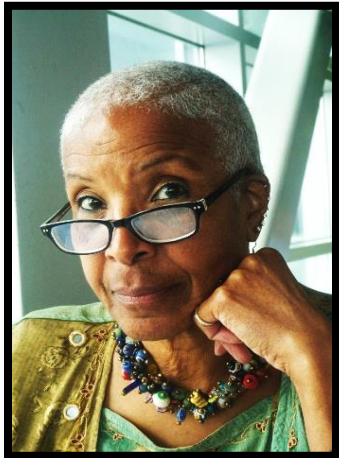
Transfer to Post-secondary Performing Arts Programs, Colleges and Universities. Dance Educator, Dance/Fitness Instructor opportunities (private and public dance studios, after school programs, seasonal long and short-term arts programs, gyms, academic arts settings). Choreography and Performance opportunities (dance companies, media/video, performing arts programs, etc.)

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***Dance is, above all, a form of theatre. And like theatre, it's unpredictable!***

*Norman Lloyd*

## *About the Laney Faculty...*



**Jacqueline Burgess**, has been actively involved with dance for over forty-five years as a performer, choreographer, instructor, administrator and scholar. She completed her undergraduate studies at San Francisco State University, received her Master's Degree from Mills College in Oakland, CA. Ms. Burgess developed the current dance program for the West Contra Costa Unified School District and taught dance at El Cerrito High School for thirty-seven years. She has been an instructor at Laney College since 2007. During her part-time tenure at Laney College, she has served as co-chair for the Department of Dance, continues to serve on several standing committees, and has served on the Faculty Senate as a senator since 2014. She has updated the Associate Dance Degree Program, written curriculum for several new dance courses, and continues to work closely with the shared governances to ensure quality service and greater student successes. Ms. Burgess is a former principal dancer with Dimension Dance Theatre, Nuba Dance Theatre, has appeared as a special guest artist with numerous Bay Area

Dance Companies, and has performed nationally and internationally. In addition to teaching, Ms. Burgess still finds time to choreograph. You can see her latest works on YouTube: P-SPAN #599, P-SPAN #513, P-SPAN #514, P-SPAN #658, and P-SPAN #403. For more information contact, [jburgess@peralta.edu](mailto:jburgess@peralta.edu) or call (510) 464-3480.

**Dr. Zakarya Diouf**, born in the African Nation of Senegal, performed with and directed the Senegalese National Ballet before coming to the United States where he earned his first Ph.D. in Biochemistry, from the University of Chicago, and his second Ph.D. in Ethnomusicology from the University of California at Berkeley. Dr. Diouf has taught at some of the nation's most prestige institutions including, San Francisco State University, San Jose State University, UC San Diego, UCLA and has been a part-time instructor at Laney College since 1987 teaching traditional West African Dance and Rhythmic Analysis. He has collaborated with and choreographed for many renewed companies including Dimensions Dance Theatre, San Francisco Ballet, and the African-American Dance Ensemble, just to name a few. You can see his latest works on YouTube: P-SPAN #599, P-SPAN #513, P-SPAN #514, P-SPAN #658, and P-SPAN #403. For more information contact, [zdiouf@peralita.edu](mailto:zdiouf@peralita.edu) or call (510) 464-3481.

**Carolyn Himes** is an Alumna of the Mills College Dance Department and has taught in the Laney College Dance Department for almost three decades. She has taught every course prescribed in the curriculum for Dance Majors. Currently teaching Ballet and Salsa her specialty areas are Katherine Dunham Technique, Tap, Ballet, and Salsa. You can see her latest works on YouTube: P-SPAN #599, P-SPAN #513, P-SPAN #514, P-SPAN #658, and P-SPAN #403.



**Andrea Vonny Lee**, the department's chair, teaches Jazz, Modern, Haitian, & Tap dance, Dance History, Composition & Choreography as well as, Dance Production & Performance. She is one of Peralta's global ambassadors, having led the charge for development of study abroad programs and curriculum in conjunction with Laney Faculty. Having performed professionally for over 20 years as a principal dancer with Nuba Dance Theatre and Dimensions Dance Theater, Ms. Lee dedicates her time towards student development in the arts, both locally and globally and continues to choreograph for the professional stage. This year, scholarship recipients will be performing in Ghana, West Africa, in collaboration with the National Dance Ensemble of Ghana. You can see her latest works on YouTube: P-SPAN #599, P-SPAN #513, P-SPAN #514, P-SPAN #658, and P-SPAN #403. For more information contact, [avlee@peralta.edu](mailto:avlee@peralta.edu) or call (510) 833-8950.

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*If you don't know what dance is about, it becomes just movement.  
It means nothing. Movement without meaning is just exercise.*

*Marie Brooks*

# *Reflections in Dance...*

## FOREVER IN DANCE

Life is dance.

To dance, is to have a vision and realize  
the spirit of dance is always changing,  
just as one's spirit for life is constantly changing,  
many times to reflect, add or take away.

To dance, one must explore one's soul  
and connect life with one's dreams and aspirations.

You may ask, how does it happen?

The answer is simple.

Never allow anyone or anything to take away your dreams,  
limit your ambitions or stifle your passion.

Be wise and cautious in making choices, yet...

Do not be afraid of the stage and its many haunts,  
but embrace it,

and wrap yourself in the sweet applause of recognition.

Understand, to dance one needs more than leotards and tights,

for the costume makes not the dancer,  
it's the heart and soul of an unending desire  
that engulfs every fiber of one's being...

Dance is life.

Jacqueline Burgess,  
Dancing for Life & Always!  
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**DREAM ♥ FLOURISH ♥ SUCCEED**

# *Dance @ Laney College*