

Messiah University Department of Theatre and Dance presents

Culmination '23

SPRING DANCE CONCERT



Dancing is an artistic endeavor. Celebrate spring and the dance accomplishments of Messiah University's theatre and dance department in an offering of favorite dance pieces from the year, new faculty work, student adjudicated creations, and senior capstone projects all in one fun and glorious dance concert!

MILLER THEATER


April 21 at 8 pm
& April 22 at 2 pm


Directed by:
Gregg Hurley




DEPARTMENT OF
THEATRE AND DANCE

2022-2023 SEASON

MUTheatreandDance 

@MUTheatre_Dance 

messiah_theatre_and_dance 

Messiah University
Department of Theatre and Dance presents

Culmination '23

SPRING DANCE CONCERT

2022-2023 SEASON



DEPARTMENT OF
THEATRE AND DANCE

Mission Statement: As a community of Theatre and Dance artists, we cultivate the stewardship of intellect and imagination in a forum for civic dialogue as we seek to understand our calling in Christ.

messiah.edu/departments/theatre

CONNECT WITH US!

If you liked what you
saw tonight, please
spread the word on
social media!



@MUTheatreandDance



@MUTheatre_Dance



messiah_theatre_and_dance

**THE PHOTOGRAPHY, VIDEOTAPING, OR OTHER VIDEO OR AUDIO
RECORDING OF THIS PRODUCTION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.**

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director.....	Gregg Hurley
Stage Manager.....	Sunny Almeyda
Costume Designer.....	Samuel Lyon
Lighting Designer.....	Tristan Stasiulis
Sound Designer.....	Yanira Perez
Department Chair.....	Daniel Inouye
Technical Director.....	Benjamin Roberts
Production Manager.....	Patricia DuBois
Publicity Coordinator.....	Annika Stockbauer
House Manager.....	Ella Murray
Light Board Operator.....	Sunny Almeyda
Sound Board Operator.....	Yanira Perez

FULL CAST

Elisaveta Alekumova	Katriel Moss
Mikayla Broome	Madalyn Oliver
Hannah Colegrove	Morgan Osborn-Wotthlie
Elizabeth Crognale	Olivia Reardon
Tzeniah Frazier	Heidi Schoenhals
Faith Gestewitz	Annika Stockbauer
Madison Hanks	Chengeu Sun
Skyler Hildebeitel	Ella Talbot
Bryce Jache	Xin Yi Toh
Anna Kreider	Emma Walt
Julia Kropp	Tacey Widrick
Hannah Lim	Ashley Winfield
Elliana Morrison	

PROGRAM

With A Twist

Choreographer: Eileen Beth Mitchell

Music: Sheet Music Boss

Dancers: Faith Gestewitz, Skyler Hildebeitel, Bryce Jache, Hannah Lim,
Heidi Schoenhals,
Annika Stockbauer, Xin Yi Toh, Tacey Widrick

Alegria

Choreographer: Mikayla Broome

Music: Israel Houghton

Dancers: Elisaveta Alekumova, Mikayla Broome, Elizabeth Crognale, Skyler
Hildebeitel, Julia Kropp, Katriel Moss, Madalyn Oliver, Chengeu Sun, Ella Talbot,
Emma Walt

One

Choreographers: Hannah Colegrove and Faith Gestewitz

Music: Taylor Swift

Dancers: Hannah Colegrove and Faith Gestewitz

Today's Masks: Fake Hello

Choreographer: Bryce Jache

Music: OneRepublic

Dancers: Bryce Jache and Madison Hanks

The Laboratory of Human Movement

Choreographer: Ellianna Morrison

Music: Hania Rani; Alabaster Co; Shawn Halim and Stacey Chou

Dancers: Ellianna Morrison, Ashley Winfield, Olivia Reardon, Skyler Hildebeitel

Today's Masks: You First

Choreographer: Bryce Jache

Music: Jonah Kagen

Dancers: Bryce Jache and Madison Hanks

Today's Masks: Alone

Choreographer: Bryce Jache

Music: Bedroom Citizen Soldier

Dancers: Bryce Jache and Madison Hanks

Today's Masks: Part of Me

Choreographer: Bryce Jache

Music: Citizen Soldier

Dancers: Bryce Jache and Madison Hanks

The Road to Zion

Choreographer: Heidi Schoenhals

Music: Vianlzak, Davide Rossi

Dancers: Elizabeth Crognale, Julia Kropp, Heidi Schoenhals

Trading Chains for Change

Choreographer: Hannah Lim

Music: Joe Hisaishi

Dancers: Hannah Lim and Morgan Osborn-Wotthlie

Burnout

Choreographer: Skyler Hildebeitel

Music: Hozier

Dancers: Olivia Reardon, Heidi Schoenhals, Annika Stockbauer, Emma Walt
Ashley Winfield

Intermission

Fields of Forever

The days are long/The years are short/Recollect.Remember.Rejoice

Choreographer: Eileen Beth Mitchell

Music: Lucille Ball Vintage Radio Shows, Suzuki Piano School, Max Richter,
Noah Kahan, Abel Selaocoe

Dancers: Tzeniah Frazier, Anna Kreider, Julia Kropp, Morgan Osborn-Wotthlie,
Olivia Reardon, Heidi Schoenhals
Understudy: Hannah Lim

Leaving Our Recliners to Find Home

Choreographer: Gregg Hurley

Music: Nils Frahm

Dancers: Mikayla Broome, Faith Gestewitz, Madison Hanks, Skyler Hildebeitel,
Hannah Lim, Ellianna Morrison, Annika Stockbauer, Ella Talbot, Xin Yi Toh,
Tacey Widrick, Ashley Winfield

DANCE SENIOR SPOTLIGHT:

Mikayla Broome is a senior dance and business administration double major. She has participated in any and every dance opportunity available at Messiah University, from Blue Christmas, to Humanities, and the Drum and Dance collaboration. Working with a variety of dance teachers such as Gregg Hurley and Molly Misiga has strengthened her into the dancer she is today. Mikayla began dancing when she was eleven years old and has been in love with the art form ever since. The role of choreographer is one that she holds dear, and is the career that she will be pursuing after graduation with the help of her mentor Patrice Comadore. While at Messiah, Mikayla has created a number of pieces such as Psalm 91 or Song of Healing and Comfort. Mikayla has enjoyed her education thoroughly and looks forward to creating new opportunities for Christians of color in her hometown of Charlotte, North Carolina.

Hannah Colegrove started dancing at the age of nine years old. She has studied ballet, jazz, modern, tap, and hip-hop. She has been dancing for the last twelve years. She is a dance and psychology double major at Messiah. Hannah came to Messiah in 2019 and has enjoyed learning and growing in her dancing for the last four years. She greatly appreciates all of the lessons she has learned from professors that she has studied under. Hannah has a passion for connecting her knowledge of psychology with her dancing in order to help form deep connections with her audience.

Faith Gestewitz began dancing at six years old. Since then, she has acquired experience in multiple styles of dance including ballet, jazz, contemporary, modern, tap, hip-hop, and character. Faith has learned the art of dance from several different instructors including Ashley Dowling, Gregg Hurley, Laura Morton, Cynthia Newland, and Gretchen Patchell. She transferred to Messiah University in the fall of 2020 and has enjoyed growing and refining her technique throughout her college education. Faith finds dance to be a form of prayer and a powerful tool in forming deep connections between people. Faith uses dance to approach difficult subjects that are seldom talked about. She has a passion for using her choreography to inspire hope and form connections with her audience.

Bryce Jache started dancing when he was ten years old. He came to Messiah in the fall of 2019 as a dance major and later took up a minor in education. While at Messiah, he has danced in Culmination, Humanities, Informal Dance Concerts, and Drum and Dance Collaboration. During his time at Messiah, he only created one set work, and that is his senior piece. After college, Bryce's goal is to open and run his own dance studio.

Hannah Lim is a senior dance major with a pre-counselling and therapy minor who is from Selangor, Malaysia. Before coming to Messiah, she trained at Karen Barnes Dance Studies in the styles of ballet, modern, contemporary and tap for fourteen years, and then at Kuala Lumpur Dance Works Ballet Academy for two years. Some of the dance productions she has been in at Messiah University include Carnival of the Animals, Blue Christmas, Humanities Symposium Dance Concert, and Culmination Spring Dance Concert. Hannah hopes to stay in the US and perform with a faith-based dance company after she graduates.

Ellianna Morrison will be graduating with a Bachelor of Science in applied health science and a Bachelor of Arts in dance. She has actively participated in performing and creating choreography for the GiViM dance ensemble since she was a first-year student. She has also had the opportunity to begin a research project involving injury prevention and risk assessment for the dance population. When she graduates she will pursue a graduate-level degree in physical therapy at Messiah University. She has loved being a part of the dance program at Messiah because she has been able to integrate science and art while being a part of an authentic community that seeks to worship the Lord through human movement.

Julia Reep is a dance major with a business/marketing minor. She has been dancing since the age of three in a small town in Nevada. Dance quickly became a language for her to speak as an outlet for the many issues she faced as a child. Back surgery left her to believe that she would never dance again, but she has prevailed and is now on the brink of graduating this December! Dance helped her on the road to recovery, physically, mentally, and emotionally. It also has given her the opportunity to minister in her own way. She is currently an intern at Messiah Lifeways teaching dance to a 55+ community. Julia aspires to take this experience and apply it to her own dance studio someday!

Xin Yi Toh is a ballet-trained dancer born and raised in Malaysia. Upon arriving at Messiah, she found love in a variety of new dance styles, including jazz, hip hop, modern and tap dance. She's found herself performing in Messiah's Culmination, Blue Christmas, Humanities Symposium, Percussion Ensembles, YBTV, International Gala, and even the Fall Senior Series show of her dear friends Elisaveta and Mikayla. Each experience offered a diverse perspective. She would like to thank Christ, her family, mentors and friends for their love and support. She has definitely found a home in the dance community here at Messiah.

Tacey Widrick has been dancing for twenty years. She has been trained in ballet, jazz, modern, hip-hop, and tap. She is currently finishing her Bachelor of Arts degree from Messiah University where she has appeared in numerous performances as a GiViM ensemble member. She has been choreographing for six years. She will continue to teach, dance, and choreograph upon graduation.

SILENT SKY Written by Lauren Gunderson, Directed by Daniel Inouye

When Henrietta Leavitt begins work at the Harvard Observatory in the early 1900s, she isn't allowed to touch a telescope or express an original idea. Instead, she joins a group of women "computers," charting the stars for a renowned astronomer who calculates projects in "girl hours" and has no time for the women's probing theories. As Henrietta, in her free time, attempts to measure the light and distance of stars, she must also take measure of her life on Earth, trying to balance her dedication to science with family obligations and the possibility of love. The true story of 19th-century astronomer Henrietta Leavitt explores a woman's place in society during a time of immense scientific discoveries, when women's ideas were dismissed until men claimed credit for them. Social progress, like scientific progress, can be hard to see when one is trapped among earthly complications; Henrietta Leavitt and her female peers believe in both, and their dedication changed the way we understand both the heavens and Earth. **Poorman Black Box Theater Oct. 6 – 8 at 8pm; Oct. 9 at 3 pm**

SHOELESS JOE Directed by Susan Hurlley

Fall musical theatre cabaret. **Poorman Black Box Theater Oct. 29 at 8pm; Oct. 30 at 3pm**

STEEL MAGNOLIAS Written by Robert Harling, Directed by Elizabeth Angelozzi

Steel Magnolias is set over the span of 3 years and tells the story of a group of friends, neighbors, and clients of hairstylist, Truvy Jones. The beginning of the play focuses on young Shelby who is preparing for her upcoming wedding. As Shelby's story progresses, we learn about her struggles with Type 1 diabetes, and her mother's concern about her leaving the nest and starting a family of her own. Although the ladies argue and tease each other, their friendship and sense of community holds them together. We see this at various points of crisis during the play and, ultimately, at the end when Shelby decision to go against her doctor's orders and have a child has dire consequences.

Miller Theater Nov. 10-12, 18-19 at 8pm; Nov. 13 & 20 at 3pm; *Nov. 17 at 10am special school performance

BLUE CHRISTMAS Directed by Gregg Hurlley

Messiah University dance students acknowledge the struggles and challenges of this broken and fallen world with this lament-driven dance experience. Reflect with us through the medium of dance with this intimate evening of words, music, and dance that will tenderly prepare us all for the joyous season of Advent. **Poorman Black Box Theater Nov. 17 at 7pm**

FALL SENIOR SERIES

An evening of performance created and presented by department seniors. **Poorman Black Box Theater Dec. 2 at 8pm, Dec. 3 at 3pm; Grace Pollock Dance Studio Dec. 9-10 at 8pm, Dec. 10 at 3pm**

SHOELESS JOE Directed by Susan Hurlley

Spring musical theatre cabaret. **Grace Pollock Dance Studio Feb. 4 at 8pm; Feb. 5 at 3pm**

CRIMES OF THE HEART Written by Beth Henley, Directed by Ed Cohn

The scene is Hazlehurst, Mississippi, where the three Magrath sisters have gathered to await news of the family patriarch, their grandfather, who is living out his last hours in the local hospital. Lenny, the eldest, never left Hazlehurst -- she is the caretaker of the sisters' cantankerous Old Granddaddy. Meg, the middle sister, left home to pursue stardom as a singer in Los Angeles, but has, so far, only found happiness at the bottom of a bottle. And Babe, the youngest, has just been arrested for shooting her abusive husband, Zackery Botrelle. Their troubles, grave and yet somehow hilarious, are highlighted by their priggish cousin, Chick, and by the awkward young lawyer who tries to keep Babe out of jail. Under the scorching heat of the Mississippi sun, past resentments bubble to the surface and each sister must come to terms with the consequences of her own "crimes of the heart." **Poorman Black Box Theater Feb. 16-18 at 8pm; Feb. 18-19 at 3pm**

2023 HUMANITIES SYMPOSIUM DANCE CONCERT Directed by Gregg Hurlley

Dancing is a scholarly pursuit. Watch and consider how the dance program tackles the annual Humanities symposium topic in its own unique way. This dance "lecture" explores and examines movement metaphors and images surrounding the idea of migration. **Poorman Black Box Theater Feb. 24 at 4pm; Feb. 25 at 8pm**

INTO THE WOODS Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, Book by James Lapine, Directed by Daniel Inouye

Based on the Brothers Grimm most popular folk tales, Into the Woods is a reimagining of what can happen when beloved fairy tale characters are thrown together while pursuing their dreams and wishes. The Pulitzer Prize- and Tony Award-winning team of Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine bring to life characters such as Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Rapunzel, Jack (down from his beanstalk), the Baker and his wife, a pair of princes in search of their brides, and the big bad wolf who is on the lookout for his next meal. It intertwines these stories in increasingly dramatic and humorous ways and asks what comes after the "happily ever after" and whether the journey through the woods was worth it in the end. **Miller Theater March 23-25, 31 & April 1 at 8 pm; March 26 & April 2 at 3pm; *March 30 at 10am special school performance**

SPRING SENIOR SERIES

An evening of performance created and presented by department seniors. **Poorman Black Box Theater April 14 – 15 at 8pm**

CULMINATION '23: SPRING DANCE CONCERT Directed by Gregg Hurlley

Dancing is an artistic endeavor. Celebrate spring and the dance accomplishments of Messiah University's theatre and dance department in an offering of favorite dance pieces from the year, new faculty work, student adjudicated creations, and senior capstone projects all in one fun and glorious dance concert! **Miller Theater April 21 at 8pm; April 22 at 2pm**