

PLAYBILL®

Duerksen Outdoor Amphitheatre
Wichita State University School of Performing Arts
Wichita, KS

Wichita State University Dance Program 2021 *presents*

Free Outdoor Spring Dance Concert!

Friday & Saturday April 2-3

Duerksen Fine Arts Center

Outdoor Amphitheater

6:00pm



Photo Credit

DANCE PIECES

Title: *Half-Time* (Premiere)

Choreography: Cheyla Clawson Chandler

Music/Sound: "Pajarocamara," "Para Abajo (feat. Matmos & Seba TC)," "Ayida Weddo (mobilegiltr Remix)," - Lechuga Zafiro; "People Talking (Version 2)" - Finnolia Sound Effects; "Cafe, Dinner...," "Basketball, Crowds....," - Sounddog Sound Effects

Music/Sound Editing: Cheyla Clawson Chandler

Scenic Coordinator: Jason Flanders

Scenic Construction: Alicia Miro, Trevor Seyl, Alex Simpson

Research and Text: Dr. Brittany Lockard and Jodie Simon

Rehearsal Assistant: Sara Boehm

Dancers: Emily Blaine, Natalie Carrera, Alison Huddleston, Camille Knoepffler, Megan Reinhart, Rhiannon Vieyra, Vivian Young

Title: *InsideOut*

Choreography: Nicholas Johnson

Costume Design: Trevor Hayden

Performer: Timothy Portwood

Music: Andrew Lloyd Weber

Title: *From the WestSide*

Choreography: Sabrina Vasquez

Music: Brian Setzer Orchestra

Rehearsal Assistant: Emily Blaine

Dancers: Bailey Buchanan, Caroline Boesen, Hannah Chandler, Madelynn Marshall, Alexandria Nickel, Piper Patterson, Siena Radice, Liberty Warner, Amalia Wendlandt

Understudy: Angela Brincefield

Title: *Duck It!* (Premiere)

Choreography: Hui Cha Poos

Music (Edited): Duckwrth - Tuesday, Too Bad, Kiss U Right Now, World on Wheels, Coming Closer, Super Good.

Rehearsal Mistresses: Amy Pollard Yarberry, Sabrina Vasquez

Rehearsal Assistant: Grace Brown

Dancers: Emily Blaine, Bailey Buchanan, Caroline Boesen, Nasir Burton, Natalie Carrera, Hannah Chandler, Camille Knoepffler, Madelynn Marshall, Alexandria Nickel, Piper Patterson, Timothy Portwood, Megan Reinhart, Siena Radice, Rhiannon Vieyra, Liberty Warner, Vivian Young

CHOREOGRAPHERS



Nicholas Johnson

Professor and Director of Dance at Wichita State University, Nick earned his MFA degree in Dance/Drama at the University of Arizona, training with Douglas Nielsen, Jory Hancock, Melissa Lowe and John Wilson. He trained in New York City with Polish Mime Director Stefan Niedzialkowski and performed with his company MimeDance Theatre while simultaneously training with dancers Frank Hatchett, Richard Levi, and Ronnie De-Marco. Johnson has dedicated his professional career to the fusion of mime and dance in artistic production and training. Johnson is a founding member of the School for Mime Theatre, a summer residency program based at Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio, where he taught for 25 years working closely with Marcel Marceau.

Johnson is the Artistic Director for the Alithea Mime Theatre, a professional company in residence at WSU and he is also an Artistic Director for the Wichita Contemporary Dance Theatre, the student touring company from the WSU Dance Program. Alithea and WCDT have toured to Mexico, Italy, Taiwan, Shanghai, Poland, Arizona, Arkansas, and the state of Kansas. Alithea was invited to perform at the United Nations in 2006. Johnson won an Interdisciplinary/Performance Art Fellowship from The Kansas Arts Commission in 1999, the Mickey and Pete Armstrong Faculty Award for Special Fine Arts Endeavors 2015 and the 2017 Art Educator of the Year Award from City of Wichita. Johnson creates original works each semester for the Dance Program, offers master classes in mime theatre and performs with his daughter Zoe with Arts Partners for schools in the Wichita community.
www.alitheacreations.com



Hui Cha Poos

Hui Cha Poos has been teaching and sharing her love of dance with students for over 20 years. She is currently an Instructor of Dance and serves as head of the Jazz Department at the University of Central Oklahoma. Hui recently earned a Masters Degree in Secondary Education from UCO and was the recipient of the John C. Westerman Award. Her experience with musical theater began in Oklahoma at Lyric with such shows as A Chorus Line and Peter Pan. She worked in Los Angeles and was seen in feature films such as “Batman & Robin” and “Happy Texas”. Her experience on stage includes being Micky & Minnie Mouse for several Disney premiers, being featured in a show with the Russian Imperial Circus, and sharing the stage with stars like Sandy Duncan, Ed Harris, Smokey Robinson, Paul McCartney & Busta Rhymes. Some video credits include Monifa, Candyman and choreography for Brian Mcknight. She has choreographed for OKC Thunder Girls, Pollard Theatre, OKC Philharmonic, OKC Summer Stock and many others. Hui co-founded Oklahoma Dance Alliance, OKLA Dance Connection, Groove Street Productions and is the creator/ director of Race Dance Company, the first Jazz/Hip Hop Dance Company in Oklahoma. Her hard work and dedication earned her the Vanderford Initiative Award given by President Betz of UCO.

CHOREOGRAPHERS



Sabrina Vasquez

Sabrina Vasquez is originally from Tucson Az where her training and performance experience was with Arizona Dance Theatre under the artistic direction of Jean Paul Comelin and University of Arizona with Douglas Nielsen, Jory Hancock, Melissa Lowe, Susan Quinn Williams. Her professional dance experience was in Chicago Illinois with Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, James Kelly Choreography Project, Chicago Tribune Charities Nutcracker choreographed by Ruth Page, under the direction of Larry Long and Ballet Theatre of Chicago. Since her arrival to Wichita in 1997, Ms. Vasquez has collaborated with WSU Opera\Musical Theatre on several productions including Pippin, which was an alternate for the 2005 ACTF Kennedy Center Festival. She is also the recipient of the Individual Artist Fellowship Award for Choreography from the Kansas Arts Commission and received a Mary Jane Teal award for her work with the Crown Uptown Theatre on Chicago. Sabrina is currently senior educator at WSU teaching ballet and jazz technique classes, Associate Artistic Director of Wichita Contemporary Dance Theatre and Associate Artistic Director of Alithea Mime Theatre with her husband of 25 years Nick Johnson.

CHOREOGRAPHERS



Denise A. Celestin

Professor of Ballet at Wichita State University, received her early ballet training in New Orleans and the BFA/MFA in Ballet from Texas Christian University. She performed with the New Orleans Ballet, Fort Worth Ballet and BalletMet Columbus, and served on the faculties of BalletMet Academy, Otterbein College, and the Ohio State University. Ms. Celestin has participated as a coach in the USA International Ballet Competition, and she has choreographed a wide range of works for Ballet and Opera. Several of her works have been presented on tours throughout Europe with Voyageurs International Kansas Ambassadors of Music, and to Taiwan, Italy and Mexico with Wichita Contemporary Dance Theatre. Awards received include an Individual Artist Fellowship Award for Choreography from the Kansas Arts Commission, the WSU College of Fine Arts Excellence in Creative Activity Award and the Excellence in Teaching Award, and the WSU President's Award for Distinguished Service. She is also a Dorothy Johansen Hauck Faculty Fellow in Dance. She has presented research papers for the Society of Dance History Scholars (Dance Studies Association,) the World Congress on Dance Research, and at Leiden University in the Netherlands. Her special interest in music and dance has led to the presentation of interactive sessions on historical dances with her colleague Dr. Sylvia Coats, at numerous national and international conferences, including Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) Conferences in New York, Los Angeles, and Washington DC, as well as International Society for Music Education (ISME) Conferences in Thessaloniki, Greece and Porto Alegre, Brazil. Well versed in all styles of ballet, she has a particular love for Russian style and aesthetics, and has studied teaching methods at the International Vaganova Method Conference/Demonstration in St. Petersburg, Russia, in addition to studies with Russian teachers in the U.S.

CHOREOGRAPHERS



Cheyla Clawson Chandler

MFA/MA (University of Oklahoma/Wichita State University) has instructed dance at several colleges including the University of Oklahoma, Wichita State University, and Barton County College. Her modern dance research is focused on Horton Technique and she attended the Horton Certificate Program 2013-2016 and 2020 at The Ailey School in NYC. As a choreographer, her two duets, *Anam Chara* (2014) and *nosuchSymbiosis*(2016) were invited to The American College Dance Association National Festival at The Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. Cheyla presented her latest scholarly research focused on community integration curriculum in dance performance degrees at The American Dance Symposium 2020 through The Joyce Education Program/NYU in 2020 (NYC) and is invited to present at the International Arts in Society Conference in 2021 (Australia).

She is currently directing the dance film *She Moved the Prairie* focused on female Kansas farm labor practices in the early 20thcentury supported as a Tallgrass National Artist 2020. Cheyla is also working in collaboration with Dr. Twyla Hill (WSU Sociology Department) on two funded research projects, *Kansas Lineage* - focused on memories of home of Kansas women in assisted living communities in the Wichita, Kansas area and the Ulrich Museum's *Solving for X Series - Matrilineal Memories* at WSU - focused on the WSU campus community memories of their mother's and grandmother's homes. Chandler's current embodied research is with collaborator Mina Estrada and is focused on mining cellular, embodied history of their Mexican lineage through their fathers' ancestry.

As a faculty of color, Cheyla is chairing the Wichita State University School of Performing Arts Inclusion, Diversity and Equity Alliance (IDEA). She was invited to share this work for the American College Dance Association's virtual "Dance and..." series in March of 2021 and is an audit work group member of the Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) for the National Dance Education Organization. Cheyla is the Associate Director of the School of Performing Arts and Assistant Professor of Dance at Wichita State University.