

Lydia Young Green, MFA

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Adjunct Professor of Dance / Choreographer / Dance Educator

Education

Master of Fine Arts in Choreography | Wilson College, Chambersburg, PA

Mentors: Joshua Legg, MFA; Jen Graham, MFA

Bachelor of Fine Arts in Performing Arts, Dance Concentration | University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Lafayette, LA

Mentors: Kenneth Jenkins, MFA; Marie Broussard, BFA

Career Profile

Dynamic and innovative dance professional with a Master of Fine Arts in Choreography and comprehensive experience in dance education, performance, and choreography. Leveraging a solid academic foundation with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Performing Arts, Dance Concentration. Proven track record in developing and teaching a wide range of dance courses, including modern, hip hop, and ballet, infused with historical context and critical thinking exercises. Adept at mentoring students, fostering their creative and technical growth. Demonstrated success in choreographing for diverse audiences and platforms, from academic settings to professional stages and national television. A collaborative team player dedicated to nurturing the next generation of dancers, promoting diversity, and engaging in the broader dance and academic communities.

Core Competencies

Pedagogical Expertise in Dance - Choreographic Skills - Dance Technique Mastery - Dance History and Theory - Curriculum Development - Academic Advising and Mentorship - Research and Scholarship - Diversity and Inclusion Advocacy - Professional Experience - Project Management - Effective Communication - Technical Proficiency - Critical Thinking and Analysis - Team Collaboration - Commitment to Professional Development

Work Experience

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Higher Education | University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Intro to Dance I: Horton Technique | Spring 2024

- Developed and taught a comprehensive hybrid modern dance course integrating historical lectures with practical movement exercises, covering pivotal figures such as Francois Delsarte, Isadora Duncan, Martha Graham, and Merce Cunningham, among others.
- Assessed student understanding through three written exams and facilitated critical thinking with 10 reflective essays based on film analysis and comparison of distinct dance techniques presented in lectures.
- Culminated the course with a two-part final project, guiding students in creating PowerPoint presentations on influential modern dancers not covered in the syllabus and choreographing a 2-minute dance tribute, incorporating class-taught movement ideas and their research findings on figures like Alvin Ailey and Pina Bausch.

Beginner Hip Hop | Spring 2024

- Developed and instructed a comprehensive hybrid hip-hop dance course blending historical lectures with practical movement sessions, emphasizing the evolution and impact of hip-hop culture.
- Delivered in-depth lectures on foundational figures and elements of hip-hop, including pioneers like DJ Kool Herc, Afrika Bambaataa, and innovators such as Boogaloo Sam and Rennie Harris, alongside the study of significant groups like The Rocksteady Crew.
- Assessed student understanding through three written exams and facilitated critical thinking with 10 reflection essays on hip-hop films, encouraging comparisons between the origins of hip-hop and its contemporary manifestations.
- Guided students in a culminating group project that required a research-based PowerPoint presentation on influential dancers and choreographers not covered in the course, followed by a choreographed dance performance incorporating learned techniques and honoring the researched individuals.

Student Mentor | Spring 2024

- Provided comprehensive mentorship to three student choreographers, guiding them through their creative process by attending rehearsals, offering critical feedback on artistic direction, music, costumes, lighting, and formations, and emphasizing the importance of meaningful and intentional art creation.

- Successfully supported all three mentees in surpassing adjudication criteria, resulting in their inclusion in the annual spring concert, "An Evening of Dance," showcasing student-choreographed performances.

Intro to Dance I: Horton Technique | Fall 2023

- Designed and instructed a comprehensive hybrid modern dance course, blending historical lectures with practical movement sessions.
- Covered the history and techniques of seminal figures in modern dance, including Francois Delsarte, Isadora Duncan, Martha Graham, and Paul Taylor, among others.
- Assessed students through 3 written exams and 10 reflective essays based on film analysis and comparisons of codified dance techniques.
- Developed a two-part final assessment, including a research-based PowerPoint presentation on influential modern dancers not covered in the course and a group-choreographed dance piece.
- Encouraged the application of movement ideas taught in class and research findings on figures like Alvin Ailey and Pina Bausch, to create original dance performances honoring these icons.

Intro to Dance II: Ballet | Fall 2023

- Led a hybrid modern dance course, blending historical insights from the Renaissance to the 21st century with practical movement exercises.
- Designed a detailed curriculum covering significant dance evolution phases and methodologies, including Bournonville, Vaganova, Cecchetti, and Balanchine techniques, alongside specialized topics such as Blacks in Ballet and Class Etiquette.
- Guided students in creating a 2-minute dance piece honoring notable figures such as Misty Copeland and Arthur Mitchell, incorporating learned movement concepts and research insights, fostering creativity and a deeper appreciation of dance history.

Faculty Choreographer | Fall 2023

- Choreographed a 12 ½ minute piece titled "More Than Expected" for the State of La Danse concert, showcasing the talents of faculty and guest choreographers.
- The performance, involving a cast of 12 dancers, explored the profound effects of social media on societal relationships and individual self-perception, reflecting my ongoing research for a master's program at Wilson College.
- Integrated academic research into a creative presentation, leveraging dance as a medium to investigate and communicate complex themes related to technology's impact on human connections.

Student Mentor | Spring 2023

- Guided 3 student choreographers on creative processes, including rehearsals, feedback on artistry, music, and stage design.
- Encouraged creating art with purpose and intentionality, enhancing their artistic expression.
- Mentored 2 students to success in the adjudication process for inclusion in the annual "An Evening of Dance"

Guest Choreographer | Fall 2022

- State of La Danse: Faculty and guest choreographers annual concert
- Choreographed an 8-minute dance titled "The Way Forward" for the State of La Danse annual concert, focusing on the exploration of ingrained community stereotypes.
- Volunteered for an innovative project initiated by the Coordinator of Dance to exclusively cast undergraduates, successfully assembling and directing a diverse team of 6 dancers.
- Through collaborative exploration with the cast, delved into personal and collective experiences of stereotypes, fostering a deepened understanding and portrayal of societal themes within the performance.

Guest Choreographer | Spring 2022

- Choreographed "Mustard Seeds" and "Two Busy" for "An Evening of Dance," showcasing themes of faith and comedy through dance.
- Developed a faith-based duet and a comedic piece on personal identity amidst chaos.
- Directed upperclassmen in expressive performances, highlighting life's challenges and dualities.
- Collaborated with production teams for successful execution at a student-led concert.

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Acadiana Center for the Arts | Fall 2022-current

- Developed and delivered integrated art curriculum for PreK-3rd grade students, emphasizing the incorporation of movement art to complement their Science and Social Studies education, ensuring a holistic learning experience.
- Collaborated with educators to tailor lesson plans in alignment with the Lafayette Parish School System's curriculum, creating a cohesive and supportive educational environment.
- Designed and executed specialized lesson plans for Special Education (SPED) classes, fostering an inclusive classroom that accommodates diverse learning needs.
- Implemented comprehensive lessons on social-emotional learning and physical education, focusing on locomotor and non-locomotor skills, spatial awareness, and expressive storytelling through body movements, enhancing students' physical and emotional intelligence.

STUDIO

Christian Youth Theater | Fall 2022-current

- Developed and led a dynamic 10-week musical theater dance program for children aged 8-18, integrating jazz and hip-hop styles to enhance their performing arts skills.

FIRE Expressions Dance Conservatory | Fall 2022-current

- Lead advanced hip-hop and modern dance classes, emphasizing Horton technique in modern dance instruction.
- Introduced a 3-week lecture series on dance history to enrich foundational learning in each course.

CHOREOGRAPHY

FIRE Expressions Dance Conservatory | Summer 2023

- Developed original choreography for annual June concerts, including crafting unique 3-minute routines for various classes, and selecting appropriate costumes and lighting to enhance performance aesthetics.

Christian Youth Theater Production | Fall 2023

- Designed and executed choreography for 8 routines in CYT's production of "Elf Jr.," successfully guiding 35 novice dancers aged 8-18 through rehearsals and performances.

Christian Youth Theater Production | Fall 2022

- Choreographed nine numbers for CYT's "The Wizard of Oz," working with 55 children ages 8-18, most with little dance experience.

In Motion Dance Concert | Spring 2021

- Designed and choreographed "Four Women," a 5-minute dance performance exploring the experiences of Black women in America, presented as the inaugural professional concert by In Motion Dance.

Essence Festival | Summer 2019

- Created original choreography for gospel artist Koryn Hawthorne, leading a four-dancer cast through a comprehensive three-month rehearsal process.

Lifetime Movie Network | Spring 2017

- Choreographed for a team who competed on seasons 4 and 5 of the Lifetime show Bring It.

PERFORMANCE

Acadiana Center for the Arts | Spring 2019

- Delivered an acclaimed performance at Evidence: A Dance Company's pre-concert, refined through months of director-led rehearsals.
- Collaborated with the company owner and cast, achieving a seamless and well-received presentation.

WALT DISNEY WORLD

Mickey's New Year's Eve Celebration | Winter 2017

- Executed both choreographed and improvisational performances on the main stage as a visible face character, engaging audiences without the aid of rehearsals.
- Presented in a role that emphasized natural appearance, directly interacting with viewers, enhancing the authenticity and connection of live performances.

Mickey's Very Merry Christmas | Winter 2016

- Performed in both choreographed and freestyle routines as a Christmas Elf on the main stage.
- Guided a polar bear mascot through crowd interactions for meet-and-greets and photos.
- Fully embraced character roles, enhancing the holiday atmosphere.
- Participated in extensive rehearsals for performance perfection.

Mickey's Not So Scary Halloween Party | Fall 2016

- Performed choreographed and freestyled numbers on the main stage. I was dressed in character for this role. There were no rehearsals for this.

TELEVISION/FILM

HBO Television | Spring 2016

- Performed as a dancer in Beyoncé's "Sorry" music video for the Lemonade Project, mastering choreography on-set with no rehearsals after a 2-day audition.

CBS Network: NCIS | Spring 2016

- Performed as an extra portraying a park jogger in the television series NCIS: New Orleans, contributing to the authenticity and depth of background scenes.

FOX Network | Summer 2017

- Performed as a high school student extra in the television series "Scream Queens."

INTERNSHIP

Walt Disney World | Fall 2016-Winter 2017

- As an Entertainment Performer, I specialized in embodying both fur and face characters, delivering captivating performances through choreographed routines and freestyle dance, while fostering unforgettable magical experiences for guests.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Alumni Teaching Series

- Facilitated no-cost enhancement of the dance program by coordinating with alumni to conduct movement workshops, including Contemporary and Commercial Hip Hop, for current students.

Alumni Social

- Facilitated a complimentary event for dance program alumni to foster greater involvement and connection.
- Launched a one-hour happy hour as both a reunion and a briefing session for initiating the Alumni Dance Chapter.
- Wrapped up the event by attending "An Evening of Dance," featuring performances choreographed by students.

Alumni Speaker Series

- Initiated and led a career development workshop for dance majors and minors, inviting four alumni to share their academic and professional experiences, offering valuable perspectives on life after college.
- Arranged for an alumnus to lead a one-hour Jazz class, enhancing practical learning, with other alumni contributing voluntarily based on established relationships.
- Designed an informative agenda covering five critical topics: Dance Entrepreneurship, Freelance Teaching, Careers in Dance Education, NBA Pro Dance, and strategies for Dance Relocation.

LINKEDIN LEARNINGS

- Elevated middle management impact, tackling challenges through self-leadership and overcoming self-doubt.
- Adopted high performers' morning habits to boost productivity and decision-making.
- Enhanced team communication by improving listening skills.
- Streamlined productivity strategies for better focus and efficiency.
- Strengthened critical thinking and polished executive presentation skills.

Certification

Progressing Ballet Technique | Summer 2021

Horton Teacher Workshop | Summer 2021

Zumba I | Summer 2017

LinkedIn Learning: Leadership, Productivity, Critical Thinking

Organization & Volunteer Experience

- Acadiana Center for the Arts - Black Inclusion Group - Women in Leadership - Chi Tau Epsilon Honor Society
- Volunteer: Be My Eyes - Skate Like a Girl - Habitat for Humanity - Arc of Acadiana - Feed the Children - Sam's Kid Safari - St. Joseph's Diner - Hearts of Hope - Ky Cares Foundation

References

Joshua Legg, MFA | Wilson College MFA Program Director joshua.legg@wilson.edu

Kallie Theriot, BFA | Christian Youth Theater Artistic Director kallie@cytlafayette.org

Paige Thomas, M. Ed | Acadiana Center for the Arts Education Manager paige@acadianacenterforthearts.org