



UGA Department of Dance and Young Choreographers Series Presents

ENDURE



A Senior Exit and Emerging Choreographers Showcase

November 10-12, 2022
7:30 pm
New Dance Theatre



**Fulfills final senior exit choreographic requirement for the A.B. degree in Dance. All others fulfill the Young Choreographers Series lab requirement.*

Program

Uhuru

Choreographer: Hadiya Williams*

Performers: Olivia Byers, Elizabeth Clark, Alyssa Dula, Jaalah Evans, Kendyl Hayes, Abby Schulze, Lindsey Sewell, Aria Surka

Music: "Come Here Jesus, If You Please" by Moses Hogan, "Be Free" by Trent Shelton, "Run Free" by Dennis Ferrer

"Uhuru," meaning freedom in Swahili, tells the story of one who is lost, drowned in depression and anxiety, and trapped by the ups and downs of life. Through the love and forgiveness of Christ, true joy and freedom is found and the realization that anyone can be accepted by Him is made. My piece displays a journey of revelation through faith.

Crepuscular

Choreographer: Abby Schulze

Performers: Kayleigh Everhart, Haleigh Green, Katie Hanna, Emily Kea, Casey Wesolowski

Music: "Vacancy" by Son Lux featuring Kiah Victoria

My piece explores the action of making a decision and the discomfort of moving forward with its consequences. The dance acknowledges both the hope that a choice will serve an individual and the despair of lost opportunity. This is reflected in the title, Crepuscular, meaning of, resembling, or relating to twilight, which is a time of anticipation of the night to come while a sliver of sun and hope still to remain over the horizon.

Ornament

Choreographer: Vivian Munce

Performers: Gigi Anderson, Elizabeth Clark, Katie Hanna, Emery Martin, Erin O'Keefe, Lindsey Sewell

Music: "Ornament" by Kiah Victoria

My piece speaks to societal standards wherein women are objectified and viewed as nothing more than beings for which others can admire and use. It is a piece of frustration and ultimately empowerment as it works through these trends of exteriorization and showcases the striking power of women.

Siúil a Rúin

Choreographer: Erin O’Keefe

Performers: Jasmine Chen, Isabelle Collins, Vivian Munce, Sky Poole, Madelyn Wolfe

Music: Siúil a Rúin by Anúna, Michael McGlynn, and Lucy Champion

“Though I am old with wandering / Through hollow lands and hilly lands, / I will find out where she has gone, / And kiss her lips and take her hands; / And walk among long dappled grass, / And pluck till time and times are done, / The silver apples of the moon, / The golden apples of the sun.” – William Butler Yeats

Beholder

Choreographer: Haleigh Green

Performers: Olivia Byers, Kayleigh Everhart, Katie Hanna, Aria Surka, Casey Wesolowski

Music: “Girl Behind the Mask” by Iwan Bedford

The journey of overcoming self-doubt and learning to appreciate and be proud of who we are. We are the beholders of our own beauty and awareness. We are worthy just as we are without having to wear a mask and hide our true selves, and our own beauty lies in ourselves and not in someone else’s opinion of us.

Benevolence

Choreographer: Lindsey Sewell*

Performers: Abriana Byrd, Kendyl Hayes, Emery Martin, Vivian Munce, Regan Sadowski, Olivia Sayer, Abby Schulze, Hadiya Williams, Madelyn Wolfe

Music: “Haunted” by Beyonce, “Find your Way Back” by Beyonce

My piece is a tribute to my former dance teacher, Pytron Parker. Pytron inspires me not only because of her artistry and talent, but because of her authentic character, kindhearted-spirit, and her powerful resilience. She has left a mark that will be with me always. Inspired by Pytron, I welcome viewers to immerse themselves in my piece and take away whatever resonates.

~ Intermission (10 minutes) ~

Call Me Mother

Choreographer: Kendyl Hayes

Performers: Gigi Anderson, Summer Arrington, Lorelai Crook, Alyssa Dula, Jaalah Evans, Emery Martin, Elizabeth Steele, Aria Surka, Hadiya Williams

Music: “Call Me Mother” by Rupaul

Everyone exudes confidence a bit differently. In my dance, I wanted to showcase each dancer’s unique personality and how they exhibit confidence and stand out in their own way without having to feel like they’re out of place.

Tacenda

Choreographer: Haley Roberson

Performers: Mary Margaret McClellan, Elizabeth Clark, Clara Forehand, Maggie Huff, Emily Kea, Abby Lawson

Music: “Happy Together” by The Turtles

Inspired by the William Shakespeare quote, “Love all, trust a few, do wrong to none,” this satirical piece focuses on times when things are better left unsaid.

Evolution

Choreographer: Katie Hanna

Performers: Gigi Anderson, Kayleigh Everhart, Haleigh Green, Vivian Munce, Lindsey Sewell, Casey Wesolowski

Music: “The Corner” by Dermont Kennedy

Never be afraid to change and evolve into the person you are meant to be.

Beguiled

Choreographer: Isabelle Collins

Performers: Lorelai Crook, Kayleigh Everhart, Clara Forehand, Erin O’Keefe, Sky Poole, Alaina Sacco

Music: “Pink Skies” (Demo) by Wiley from Atlanta

Often in life we are told that everything happens for a reason. I believe that to live life to the fullest you must live in the moment. “Beguiled” represents that moment when you choose to not question the reason behind life but just appreciate the moment you are in.

Nowadays

Choreographer: Madelyn Wolfe

Performers: Isabelle Collins, Alyssa Dula, Haleigh Green, Ana Mattingly, Vivian Munce, Aria Surka

Music: "Nowadays/Hot Honey Rag - Medley Title" by Renée Zellweger, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Taye Diggs, Composed by John Kander & Fred Ebb
My piece is a fun, upbeat musical theater dance inspired by the Broadway Musical, *Chicago*.

Too Young for This

Choreographer: Gigi Anderson

Performers: Elizabeth Clark, Kayleigh Everhart, Katie Hanna, Regan Sadowski, Elizabeth Steele, Casey Wesolowski

Music: "Getting Older" by Billie Eilish, "Burn" instrumental by Billie Eilish
My piece is a commentary on how it feels to be thrown into adulthood. I chose the songs that I did to give the audience the same feelings that I have had since moving out- a sort of calm before the storm.

Compathy

Choreographer: Ana Mattingly

Performers: Grace Healy, Emily Kea, Abby Lawson, Haley Roberson, Dawn Sawyer

Music: "Amen" by Amber Run

"Compathy" is defined as a feeling, such as happiness or grief, shared by others. We have all experienced the loss of something, whether that be a missed opportunity, a relationship, a person, or even ourselves and share a similar deep sense of longing for that thing back. This piece serves as a reminder that you are never alone in whatever you feel.

Unapologetically Me

Choreographer: Aria Surka*

Performers: Olivia Byers, Jasmine Chen, Haleigh Green, Kendyl Hayes, Erin O'Keefe, Regan Sadowski, Katherine Stockton, Hadiya Williams, Madelyn Wolfe

Music: "Arnalds: Epilogue" by Olafur Arnalds, "Cornfield Chase" by Hans Zimmer, "False Confidence" by Noah Kahan

This piece is for anyone who has ever been told, "you are too much." This one phrase can compress your personality to a point where you lose your light. However, through finding new passions and friendships, you can break away from those who simply could not handle your colorful personality. It's okay to be *unapologetically*, your truest self.

Meet our Choreographers



Aria Surka, coming from Spartanburg, SC, is a fourth-year student currently pursuing two Bachelor of Arts degrees in dance and journalism. Aria has been dancing for 18 years and has previously trained in numerous styles at Miss Marion’s School of Dance. At the University of Georgia, Aria has performed in the past three Young Choreographer Series Showcases (2019, 2020, 2021) in works by Kristin Jaspers, Audrey Snow, Devyn Hannon, and Olivia Byers. Last year, she also presented her first choreographic work, “HOWL!”. Aria’s other performances at UGA include “Beholder” (2021) a screen dance by Jillian Mitchell, *Ubuntu* (2022), and *Mergence* (2022) in works by Jason Aryeh. This summer, she participated in the Cortona, Italy dance & theater study abroad and performed works by Lisa Fusillo and the students as well as with the theater department in *A Midsummer's Night's Dream*. Aria is excited to present her senior choreographic work, “Unapologetically Me” inspired by her journey about not being afraid to show your truest and boldest self. She is grateful for the numerous opportunities that the Dance Department has given her and looks forward to taking these incredible memories with her as she moves on post-graduation.



Hadiya Williams is a Liberian American fourth year with a double major in dance and journalism. A native of Stockbridge, Georgia, she received most of her dance training at Eagles Landing Dance Center under the direction of Vanessa Gibson in many styles including ballet, tap, jazz, hip-hop, lyrical, liturgical, modern, contemporary, pointe, and West African dance. During her time at ELDC, she was a member of their award-winning competition team for 5 years and the Gibson Repertory Ensemble for a year. She was also a dancer with the Dutchtown Starz during high school. While at the University of Georgia she has performed in the 2019 and 2021 Young Choreographer Series Showcase, and in the 2022 Black History Month Concert, *Ubuntu*, in works by Lynette Lewis, Brooke Rogers, Lindsey Sewell, and Jason Aryeh. She also choreographed and presented her first professional work, “Nightly Groove,” in the 2021 YCS Showcase. Hadiya believes that dance is her gift to share with others and has taught dance throughout Athens and in Liberia, West Africa at the Cyber-Ed Christian School of Excellence. She plans to continue to use her talents to reach her community and is blessed to have the opportunity to perform and to present her senior choreographic work, “Uhuru,” in this year’s YCS Showcase.



Lindsey Sewell is a fourth-year student double majoring in dance and dietetics. At age 3, she began her training at The Dance Company in her hometown, Gainesville, Georgia, and she has been dancing ever since. Before college, Lindsey was an assistant teacher and company member of Dance Theater USA International. Over the past four years at UGA, she has performed in multiple Young Choreographers Series Showcases and

screen dance performances, and she performed and choreographed for Jason Aryeh's concert *Ubuntu* this past spring where her hip hop piece "CHURCH" was performed. Lindsey is also the Artistic Director of Counterpoint Dance Company, which she joined during her first year at UGA. Lindsey is thrilled to share her senior exhibition piece "Benevolence" with friends, family and the Athens community; her piece is a tribute to Pytron Parker, an inspiring former dance teacher of hers.



Gigi Anderson is a third-year double major in neuroscience and dance from Duluth, Georgia. Before coming to UGA, she danced with North Atlanta Dance Academy and Joffrey Ballet School. While at UGA, she has performed with in the Black History Month Concert, *Ubuntu*, and the UGA Dance Company Spring Concert, *Mergence*. This past summer Gigi attended the Dance and Theater study abroad program in Cortona, Italy and performed in works by Lisa Fusillo and the students. Gigi is also involved in other campus organizations like the University Neuroscience Organization. This is Gigi's

first YCS experience and she is excited to have the opportunity to dance and present her choreographic piece "Too Young for This." You can also look for her in the 2023 Black History Month and UGADC Spring Concerts!



Isabelle Collins is a third-year dance and marketing major from San Francisco, CA. She studied at the Menlo Park Academy of Dance where she trained under and received her membership to the Royal Academy of Dance. Isabelle has attended many summer intensives including Butler Ballet, Ballet West, and Joffrey San Francisco. While at UGA Isabelle has performed with the UGA Dance Company Spring Concert, *Mergence*, in works choreographed by Lisa Fusillo and guest choreographer Seyong Kim. In addition, she performed in the 2020 virtual Young Choreographers Series

Showcase. She is looking forward to performing on stage for the first time with in this year's YCS showcase and debuting her dance "Beguiled".



Haleigh Green is a third-year student double majoring in dance and French education from Newnan, GA. She began her dance training at the age of three at Star Dance Studio where she continued training through high school while also attending numerous conventions, intensives, and workshops throughout the southeast. While at UGA, Haleigh has performed in the 2020 and 2021 Young Choreographers Series Showcases in pieces choreographed by Malia Craft, Grace Weigel, & Aria Surka. She also performed at the American College Dance Association conference this past March in a piece

by Alyssa Nesmith. Haleigh was cast in the faculty shows *Ubuntu* and *Mergence*, performing choreography by Jason Aryeh, Lisa Fusillo, and Alyssa Nesmith. She is excited to share her first choreographic group piece, “Beholder,” in this year's YCS showcase. Haleigh is thankful for such an amazing cast for working with her to create and present her vision.



Katie Hanna, originally from Boone, North Carolina, is a third-year student currently pursuing her Bachelor of Arts in dance and a Bachelor of Science in exercise and sport science, with plans to attend physical therapy school after completing her undergraduate degree. She trained at The Space at Project Dance, UNCSA, and with the North Carolina Governor's School before attending the University of Georgia. She performed in the Young Choreographers Series Showcase, *Untethered* in the fall of 2021 in pieces choreographed by Britney Bales and Erin O’Keefe. She also performed in *Mergence* in the

spring of 2022 in a piece choreographed by faculty member Rebecca Gose. Katie is very excited to both perform in and showcase her choreographic work “Evolution” in this year's Young Choreographers Series Showcase.



Kendyl Hayes is a third-year dance and health promotion major from Lawrenceville, GA. Kendyl has been dancing for 16 years, with training in many styles of dance such as ballet, modern, tap, jazz, hip-hop, pom, and much more. She began her training at the age of 5, starting at Steppin’ Up Dance Academy, then she trained under Jessica Gouge at OnStage School of Dance in Loganville for 8 years. She has also received training in the Royal Ballet style at the Royal Dance Academy for two years. Lastly, she was on Greater Atlanta Christian School’s Spartanettes team for two years, and she was captain for one of those years.

Last year, she performed in UGA’s YCS showcase and in faculty member, Jason Aryeh’s Black History Month Concert, *Ubuntu*. This will be Kendyl’s second YCS show and her first year exhibiting a piece she has choreographed.



Ana Mattingly is a junior dance major and history minor at UGA on the teacher certification track in dance. She is from Newnan, Georgia and trained at Star Dance Studio and various intensives and conventions prior to UGA making her a member and honors graduate of the National Honors Society of Dance Arts. Ana has danced competitively for the past thirteen years and is now a part of the UGA Red Hotz Competitive Club Dance Team. She performed in the 2022 UGA Dance Company Spring Concert, *Mergence*, in works by Barbara Powers and Seyong Kim. Ana is excited to be performing in her

first Young Choreographers Series Showcase and featuring her first choreographic work at UGA, “Compathy.”



Vivian Munce is a third-year student from Cumming, Georgia pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in dance and a Bachelor of Science in human development and Family Sciences with a Pre-Occupational Therapy intent. She has danced for 18 years and trained at Cumming Ballet Theatre and Arseneau Dance Academy. During her time at the University of Georgia Department of Dance, she has performed in the Spring Dance Concert under the works of Barbara Powers, Lisa Fusillo, and guest choreographer Seyong Kim in 2022, as well as in the Young Choreographers Series Showcase in both

2020 and 2021. Vivian also performed in Cortona, Italy during the 2022 Dance and Theatre study abroad program under the works of Lisa Fusillo and fellow students. Vivian is very excited to present her work entitled “Ornament” in this year’s Young Choreographers Series Showcase!



Erin O'Keefe is a third-year at the University of Georgia, and she is double majoring in dance and English with an area of emphasis in creative writing. Erin is from Kennesaw, Georgia. She has been dancing since she was 4 years old and trained at the Georgia Ballet as a young ballet student. When she was 12, she began pre-professional ballet training at the International City School of Ballet under Georné Aucoin and Musashi Alvarez. Last summer Erin danced and performed as an apprentice with Kit Modus, a professional dance company directed by Jillian Mitchell. During her

freshman year at The University of Georgia, she performed in two Young Choreographers Series pieces by Brenna Hayes and Amira Guinn.

Sophomore year, she performed in pieces by Alyssa Nesmith and Lauren Taylor and choreographed her first piece. Erin is very excited to be both choreographing and dancing in *Endure!* Her piece is titled "Siúil a Rúin", which translates to "Walk My Love". It is inspired by her time spent in the emerald country of Ireland and her West-Irish ancestry.



Haley Roberson is a third-year student currently pursuing two Bachelor of Arts degrees in dance and journalism. Originally from Tifton, Georgia, Haley has been dancing for 17 years. She received her training in modern, jazz, ballet, and tap at Carolyn Ellis School of Dance under Mallory Ward. During the fall of her sophomore year, she performed in the Young Choreographers Series Showcase, *Untethered*, in choreographic works of Lauren Taylor and Grace Weigel. Throughout spring of 2022, she also performed in the Black History Month Concert, *Ubuntu*, as well as

the UGA Dance Company Spring Dance Concert, *Mergence*, in works by Jason Aryeh. Haley is excited to be performing as well as presenting her first choreographic piece, "Tacenda," in this year's YCS Senior Exit and Emerging Choreographers Showcase.



Abby Schulze is a second-year dance major and Nonprofit Management and Leadership Master's student at the University of Georgia. Prior to college, Abby trained for thirteen years under Alexis Kozar at N-Step Dance Academy in Suwanee, Georgia and attended summer programs with the University of South Carolina Summer Dance Conservatory and Los Angeles based contemporary company BODYTRAFFIC. During her freshman year, Abby performed in the 2021 Young

Choreographers Series Showcase in a piece by Hadiya Williams. In the spring, she danced in both the 2022 UGA Dance Company Spring Concert, *Mergence* and the Black History Month Concert, *Ubuntu*. She is thrilled to be performing and debuting her piece, “Crepuscular”, in this year’s Young Choreographers Series Showcase.



Madelyn Wolfe is a third-year student and is double majoring in dance and elementary education with a K-12 teaching certificate for dance education. Before attending UGA, Madelyn trained with the Statesboro Youth Ballet and Technique Dance Company. She has attended many summer intensives including The Rock School, Nashville Ballet, and The University of South Carolina Dance Conservatory. While at UGA, Madelyn has performed with the UGA Dance Company in works choreographed by Barbara Powers, Rebecca Gose, Lisa Fusillo, Virginia Carver, and guest choreographer

Seyong Kim. She also performed in the 2021 Young Choreographers Series Showcase, *Untethered*. This past summer, Madelyn studied abroad with the University of Georgia Dance Department in Cortona, Italy. While in Cortona, she performed in works choreographed by Lisa Fusillo as well as a collaboration with the UGA Theater Department. Madelyn is very excited to present her first choreographic work titled “Nowadays,” in this year's Young Choreographer’s Series Showcase, *Endure*.

Department of Dance

Faculty & Staff:

Jason Aryeh, Joan Buttram, Lisa Fusillo, Rebecca Gose,
Barbara Powers, Elizabeth Stich, Skip Taylor (Head),
Natalie Cox, Mike Fulford, Lindsay Giedl, Nena Gilreath,
Melissa Roberts, Carina McGeehin, Betty Prickett

Special Thank You

UGA Department of Dance
Franklin College of Arts & Sciences
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Ron Braxley, College of Education OIT
Betty Prickett, Business Manager, Department of Dance
Jason Thrasher, Thrasher Photo & Design

Showcase Co-Directors: Rebecca Gose and Barbara Powers

Senior Concert Advisor: Rebecca Gose

Young Choreographers Advisor: Barbara Powers

Senior Project Advisors: Jason Aryeh and Elizabeth Stich

YCS Officers: Aria Surka (President), Hadiya Williams (Vice
President), Vivian Munce (Treasurer),
Erin O'Keefe (Secretary)

Production Crew

Technical Director/Production Manager: Carina McGeehin
Lighting Designers, Light Board Operators: Carina, McGeehin,
Delaney McLaughlin, Abby Smithwick
Stage Manager, Sound & Video: Carson Bridges
House Manager: Jin Lee
Tech Crew/Stage Hands: Sofia Ferrucci, Calista Honick,
Marissa Jones, Elizabeth Kish, Frances Williams
Photography: Terri Chase, Aria Surka, Jason Thrasher
Poster/Postcard Design & Program Cover Photo: Olivia Byers

Upcoming Events

Spotlight on the Arts Festival

November 1-30, 2022

UGA Ballroom Performance Group

Ballroom Magic 2023

New Dance Theatre, Thur.-Fri. Feb. 9-10, 8:00 p.m.

Sat., Feb. 11, 2:00 & 8:00 p.m.

UGA Black History Concert

Amistad We Stand

New Dance Theatre, Fri. Feb 17, 7:30 p.m.

Sat. Feb. 18, 2:30 p.m.

UGA Dance Company Spring Faculty Concert

New Dance Theatre, Thur.-Fri. Apr. 20-21, 8:00 p.m.

Sat., Apr. 22, 2:00 & 8:00 p.m.

Tickets for these events are on sale now at the UGA Performing Arts Center and Tate Center box offices, online at pac.uga.edu, or by phone at 706-542-4400. Please visit our website at dance.uga.edu for more information on events and programs.

This showcase is one of many events included in the 2022 Spotlight on the Arts Festival. For more information and a complete list of events, please visit: <https://arts.uga.edu/>.

Please join us for a reception celebrating our graduating seniors, choreographers, and dancers following the Friday night performance in the Mark Wheeler Studio 267. Light refreshments will be served.





**SPOTLIGHT
ON THE ARTS**

November 1-30, 2022



Department of Dance

Franklin College of Arts and Sciences

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA