

# Hope College Dance Department

Hope College is one of the few liberal arts colleges in the Midwest fully accredited by the National Association of Schools of Dance. At Hope, students can major in dance, minor in dance, or pursue one of our many dual majors. Dance students engage in the performance and academic study of dance with those who have a dedicated passion for the art form, based on the belief that dance can develop spiritual and personal growth. Students are presented with many possibilities to perform and actively participate in many companies, clubs and organizations. Hope College goes out of their way to create a comfortable atmosphere for new and incoming students. We would love to have you as part of our Hope College Dance Department Family!



Photo by Erik Alberg

## Dance Department Mission Statement

The Dance Department provides opportunities for the student to develop artistically, intellectually, physically, and spiritually. This is accomplished through the art of dance and in adherence to the college's religious and liberal arts philosophies.

## Goals of Department

Students will:

- Acquire an understanding of the role of dance in our civilization and civilizations of the past.
- Develop their creativity, especially in the areas of reasoning and problem solving through the field of dance.
- Acquire both verbal and nonverbal skills for communication through the experience of dance.
- Be provided with the means for making informed choices among products of the arts through the experience of dance.
- Acquire an understanding of biomechanical and physiological aspects of movement and develop approaches for healthy living through dance experience.



Photo by Erik Alberg



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## Comparing Hope to other Undergraduate Programs

"Hope's dance program is different from other schools because it allows students to personalize their own experience. At no other school could I major in dance, minor in both French and communication, spend a semester abroad, study with guest artists, perform with a company, and choreograph works of my own with the full support and guidance of active faculty members." –

Katherine Moore, '10

- Hope is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Dance in all four areas of the arts: dance, theater, musical, and visual art.
- Hope is one of only two schools in the Midwest to offer dance teacher certification.

## Degree Programs

Majors available in:

- Dance Performance and Choreography
- Dance Education Certification

Dual Majors available in:

- Dance/ Psychology (dance therapy)
- Dance/Engineering (dance science)
- Dance/Biology or Chemistry (dance medicine/ pre-med)
- Dance/English
- Dance/French

Minors available in:

- Dance
- Dance Education

\*Students may have the opportunity to double major or minor in other fields of study with permission of departments.



Photo by Erik Alberg

## Off Campus Study

- Paris – study at the IES Center and the Centre de Danse du Marais
- New York City – participate in the GLCA New York Arts Semester and take on a dance internship
- Mexico – study at the Universidad Autónoma De Queretoro
- Chicago– participate in the Chicago Semester with an internship in the arts
- Philadelphia– study at the GLCA Philadelphia Center and participate in a local dance internship



Photo by Erik Alberg

## Performance Opportunities

- Student Choreographed Dance Concerts (Fall and Spring)
  - Students are provided with the unique opportunity to further explore choreographic and performing talents as well as production elements through a self-produced student choreographed dance concert. This opportunity is open to the entire Hope College student population and participation is encouraged for dance majors and minors.
- Faculty Dance Concerts (Spring only)
  - Students have the opportunity to audition for and perform in pieces created by faculty and guest artists.
- Resident Companies
  - Each semester dance companies from around the world come to Hope College, offer master classes and perform, sometimes dancing alongside Hope College students.
  - Past Resident Companies include: Hiroko Maeda Dance Company, Contemporary Motions, and LehrerDance.
- Great Performance Series
  - Not only can one perform, one can watch world-famous dance companies that come to perform as part of the Great Performance Series. Past Great Performance Series guests include: Taylor 2, Bridgman/Packer, Grosso Modo, Gus Giordano Jazz Dance Chicago, Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company, James Sewell Ballet, and the Jump Rhythm Jazz Project.

# Dance Groups

## COMPANIES

● **dANCEpROJECT** is the affiliate modern dance company of Hope College. The main goals of dANCEpROJECT are to create and present intellectually stimulating and entertaining works, to develop serious dance artists and choreographers, and to maintain a valuable repertory that provides a platform for growing choreographers and guest artists.



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● **IDT** is a semi-professional jazz and tap repertory company. It is an established ensemble that shares the artistry of these dance forms with audiences from Michigan and surrounding states. The company explores the ever changing expressive rhythms and ranges of jazz and tap dance.

● **Strike Time Dance Company** specializes in students in grades K-6 introducing and highlighting dance for children of diverse backgrounds across Michigan and the surrounding area. Strike Time is an interactive dance production that creatively teaches the elements of Time, Energy and Space as well as the forms of Ballet, Tap, Jazz and Modern.



## CLUBS



● **Ballet Club** exists to explore the spirit of ballet by increasing technical efficiency through classical ballet and considering the role that ballet plays in today's dance world through contemporary and original works rooted in ballet. Annually, Ballet Club performs pieces in the Fall and Spring Student Choreographed Dance Concerts, as well as performing their own interpretation of the Nutcracker.

● **Hip Hop Club** is a student run organization that provides opportunities for Hope students to explore the evolving form of dance which is driven by the roots of Hip Hop Culture. Students may also audition for the performance group, *Hip Hop Anonymous*, that performs at the fall Student Choreographed Dance Concert.

● **Sacred Dance's** mission is to live and spread God's word through movement. Sacred Dance is a community of believers and dancers who have committed themselves not to dance for applause or performance, but to worship God in every aspect of their lives and their movement.

● **Swing Club** is a student organization that hosts one swing dance each month for all Hope students. Each dance is preceded by a free half-hour lesson. Swing Club has also performed in the Student Choreographed Dance Concert.



## HONORS SOCIETY

● **Sigma Omicron**, founded in 1991, is one of the nation's first honorary society for dance. SigO organizes events not only for the dance department, but for Hope College in general and for the Holland community.

## Faculty

Maxine DeBruyn: Founder, Hope College Dance Department

Linda Graham: Department Chair

Steven Iannacone

Alicia Díaz

Matthew Thornton

Rosanne Mork

Amanda Smith-Heynen

Nicki Flinn

Linda Booker

Erik Alberg

Check the Dance Department website,

[www.hope.edu/academic/dance](http://www.hope.edu/academic/dance),

for more information about our faculty and curriculum!

## Guest Artists

The dance department offers a unique guest artist program that allows students to study and work with dance professionals. Each year, at least four guest artists teach and choreograph within the dance department, each for half of a semester. Many of these artists return to teach at Hope several times, which allows students to gain personal contacts and experience with active members of the professional dance community. In the past few years, guest artists at Hope have included Sharon Wong (Alvin Ailey School), Dorrell Martin (Joffrey Ballet School, Dance New Amsterdam), Anne-Renee Petrarca (Dance New Amsterdam, Dancewave), Jon Lehrer (Giordano Jazz Dance Chicago, Lehrerdance),

## Thoughts from Alumni

"As an alumnus of Hope College I can tell you that I have only good things to say about the dance program at Hope. Above all I find that the faculty in the dance program at Hope are superb in their efforts to create both artists and performers. They ensure that the students who leave the program are both informed artists, as well as talented individuals. There was never a sense of animosity amongst the students, and unlike other programs in the US the faculty created an environment that was conducive to learning and creativity; and not negativity and competition."

Matthew Farmer, '04

"The vigorous schedule of challenging classes with exceptional faculty provided me with the experience, knowledge, creativity, and confidence needed to begin a professional life in dance."

Teresa VanDenend, '05

## DAA Auditions

The Distinguished Artist's Award is a scholarship that is awarded to prospective Hope College dance majors or minors who show tremendous potential as dance students. The DAA is renewed yearly according to the following policies:

- After the student completes his/her freshman year (and every year thereafter), a demonstrated GPA of 2.6 is required for renewal of the award.
- A student must also have a record of continued participation in the arts. The chairperson of the department who gave the award decides whether the student has fulfilled this participation requirement.

Application requirements: Interview and audition by appointment. Auditions must be completed by late February. Please contact the Dance Department for specific dates. Auditions involve spending a day on campus and participating in several dance classes. Campus tour and other appointments can be coordinated with auditions.

To schedule an audition, contact Dance Visit Coordinator, Stephanie Brumels, weekdays between 9 am and 3 pm, 616.395.7700

Hope College Department of Dance | 168 E. 13th St. | Holland, MI 49423 | phone: 616.395.7700 | fax: 616.395.7090 | <http://www.hope.edu/academic/dance/>

This booklet was compiled and designed by the 20<sup>th</sup> Century Dance History Class, Fall 2008.