

Donielle Bailey Horst

doniellebaileyhorst@gmail.com

I. Education

JACKSONVILLE UNIVERSITY, FL – MASTER of FINE ARTS with Distinction: CHOREOGRAPHY, 2023 - 2025 (PHI KAPPA PHI)

Thesis Title: "Exploring the Phenomenon of the Unknown Using a Methodology of Play."
Adviser: Daina Block

ARCADIA UNIVERSITY, PA – MASTER of FINE ARTS with Distinction: CREATIVE WRITING, 2020 - 2022

Thesis Title: *The Ceiling Was Glass*
Adviser: Joshua Isard

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE ARTS, PA – BACHELOR of FINE ARTS with Honors: MODERN DANCE PERFORMANCE, 1996 - 2000

II. Academic Appointments

ADJUNCT FACULTY, DANCE (2020 - 2021, 2024 - PRESENT), MESSIAH UNIVERSITY

Teaching Responsibilities: Undergraduate Level: Courses: Ballet 101, 201, 301, & 401, Wellness (2020 - Present), Cecchetti/Vaganova, Pilates Conditioning, Variations, Composition Jazz 102, 302, Vernacular Jazz, Broadway/Hollywood, Contemporary (2025) Modern 403, 404, Taylor, Graham, Denishawn, Limon, Horton (Present)

LECTURER ENGLISH (PRESENT), ALBRIGHT UNIVERSITY

Teaching Responsibilities: Undergraduate Level: Courses: ENG 102 Writing with Sources, MLA Research Focus

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE CHOREOGRAPHY (2024- PRESENT), MESSIAH UNIVERSITY

Teaching Responsibilities: Undergraduate Level: Courses: Dance Ensemble (2024 - 2025)

LECTURER DANCE (2024), THE INSTITUTE OF CLASSICAL & MODERN DANCE, MUMBAI, INDIA.

Teaching Responsibilities: Undergraduate Level: Course: Composition (2024), Lecture Students on Storytelling as Dance Composition

LECTURER DANCE (2024), JACKSONVILLE UNIVERSITY

Teaching Responsibilities: Undergraduate Level: Course: Dance Writing (2024), Lecture Senior Students on Writing, Researching, and Storytelling for Capstone Projects

LECTURER COMMUNICATIONS (2021 - 2022), ALVERNIA UNIVERSITY

Teaching Responsibilities: Undergraduate Level: Courses: Composition & Research (2021 - 2022), MLA & APA Formatting, Multimodal Approach to Writing & Presentations

III. Entrepreneurial/Business Endeavors

PROPRIETOR/CREATIVE DIRECTOR of THE HORIZONS DANCE CONSERVATORY (2007 - PRESENT), PA

Focus:

A heuristic approach to education centered upon lived experience.

Teaching Responsibilities:

Ages 3 - 18: Ballet, Pointe, Contemporary, Lyrical, Jazz, Tap, Acrobatics, Street Jazz, Yoga, Pilates, Conditioning, Turns/Jumps, Composition, Improvisation, Competitive Teams

Leadership Responsibilities:

Director: Supervise faculty. Establish and manage operating budgets. Manage workshop and teaching scheduling. Develop and implement marketing strategy and advertising initiatives used to promote programs to students in Berks County, PA.

Creative Responsibilities:

Compose up to 30 solos, 10 duos/trios, and up to 30 group numbers per a 9 month season. Produce lighting, sound, stage design for end-of-season Spring Showcase. Attend 5 dance competitions/conventions annually.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR/ARTISTIC DIRECTOR of EASTERN PA BALLET THEATRE, PA (2000 - 2006)

Teaching Responsibilities:

Ages 9 - 18: Ballet, Pointe, Contemporary, Character, Composition. Professionals: Work with and supervise student collaboration with guest artists.

Leadership Responsibilities:

Development of new choreographic works and processes of movement and performance. Assisted with creation of marketing strategy used to promote courses to community members. Organized workshops to gain new students.

IV. Movement Practitioner Certifications

Fletcher Pilates Mat Certification (2025)

Pilates Reformer Certification, 250 Hours, Club Pilates (2025)

Yoga Renew Asana Certification (2025)

Sport Yoga Certification, NESTA (2005)

Pilates Mat Certification, Powerhouse Pilates (2003)

~Working individuals on Pilates Reformer, Chair, and Mat, engaging with magic circles, exercise balls, and hand weights. Creating group flows for mat & reformer classes up to 12 students

V. Professional Appointments (Choreographer, Director)

The Triadic Embodied, Culmination '25, Mechanicsburg, PA (2025), Choreographer

Where We Are Not, Miller Center for the Arts, Reading, PA (2025), Director/Choreographer

Transience, Humanities Symposium Concert, Mechanicsburg, PA (Feb. 2025), Choreographer
~Physical response to Living Digitally, Incorporated Methodology of Play

Falling Up, Spring Showcase, Hamburg, PA (2024), Director/Choreographer

Seize the Day, Spring Showcase, Hamburg, PA (2023), Director/Choreographer

Adjudicator - I LOVE DANCE, National (2008 - 2023)

Woven, Spring Showcase, Hamburg, PA (2022), Director/Choreographer

Adjudicator - OUTSTANDING YOUNG WOMAN, Kutztown, PA (2021 - 2022)

Still Me, Spring Showcase, Hamburg, PA (2019), Director/Choreographer

Keep Breathing, Spring Showcase, Hamburg, PA (2018), Director/Choreographer

True North, Spring Showcase, Hamburg, PA (2017), Director/Choreographer

Unbreakable, Spring Showcase, Hamburg, PA (2016), Director/Choreographer

Open Sky, Spring Showcase, Hamburg, PA (2015), Director/Choreographer

Infinite Vision, Spring Showcase, Hamburg, PA (2014), Director/Choreographer

Still Me, Spring Showcase, Hamburg, PA (2013), Director/Choreographer

Daylight, Spring Showcase, Hamburg, PA (2012), Director/Choreographer

Breathless, Spring Showcase, Hamburg, PA (2011), Director/Choreographer

Believe, Spring Showcase, Hamburg, PA (2010), Director/Choreographer

Emotions, Spring Showcase, Hamburg, PA (2009), Director/Choreographer

Beginnings, Spring Showcase, Hamburg, PA (2008), Director/Choreographer

Beauty & the Beast, Kutztown, PA (2006), Choreographer

Snow White, Eastern PA Ballet Theatre (2006), Artistic Director/Choreographer

The Nutcracker, Eastern PA Ballet Theatre (2005), Artistic Director/Choreographer

Aida, Kutztown, PA (2005), Choreographer

Outstanding Young Woman Program, Berks County, PA (2002 - 2003), Choreographer

VI. Teaching Experience

The Horizons Dance Conservatory, Leesport, PA (2007 - Present)

Messiah University, Mechanicsburg, PA - Ballet, Composition (2020 - 2021), (2024 - Present)

Messiah University, PA Summer Dance Intensive - Ballet & Ensemble to High School Students (2023 - Present)

Let's Get Dancing, Boyertown, PA - Ballet, Jazz (2005 - 2007)

Eastern PA Ballet Theatre, Hamburg, PA - Ballet, Pointe, Variations, Conditioning (2000 - 2006)

Dance Pointe Studio, Hamburg, PA - Ballet, Pointe, Modern, Jazz, Creative Movement, Yoga, Pilates, Acrobatics (2000 - 2006)

Dance Centers, Reading, PA - Ballet, Pilates, Pointe (2000 - 2002)

The Wyomissing Institute of Fine Arts, Wyomissing, PA - Ballet, Jazz, Creative Movement (1999 - 2000)

2000 Feet, Philadelphia, PA - Teacher's Assistant, Event Organizer (2000)

VII. Publications/Editorial

"Exploring the Phenomenon of the Unknown," Jacksonville University Thesis Archives (2025)

Fiction, ISELE MAGAZINE – "Watch Over Me," September 2023
<https://iselemagazine.com/september-2023/>

Art Editor, MARATHON LIT REVIEW, Arcadia University, Glenside, PA (2021 - 2022)

Randall Design Inc., Ballet Model (2000)

VIII. Presentations/Conferences

Presenter – “Unlocking the Unknown Via a Methodology of Play,”
The National Dance Education Organization (NDEO), Detroit, MI. (Oct. 2025)

Presenter – LANCASTER LEARNS Educational Conference, “Unlocking the Unknown
Via a Methodology of Play,” Lancaster, PA. (Feb. 2025)
~Attended “Mindfulness,” “Ungrading,” & “TILT” Presentations

History Through Fiction - “Preparing Your Query Package for Submission,” Colin
Mustful & Robin Henry led Workshop (2023)

The North Carolina Writers’ Network, “At the Beginning of the World: Writing Historical
Fiction,” Michael Zapata led Workshop (2021)

IX. Performance Experience

The Sound of Music, Pines Dinner Theatre, Slatington, PA (2006)
Dancer, Singer

The Meeting House Thriller, Allenberry Resort Inn & Playhouse, Boiling Springs, PA (2005 - 2006)
Dancer, Singer, Murder Mystery Weekend audience interaction

The Nutcracker, Eastern PA Ballet Theatre (2000 - 2006)
Sugar Plum Fairy, Snow Queen, Arabian

Red Hot & Country, Blatt’s Dinner Theatre, Kutztown, PA (2005)
Dancer, Singer

Inevitable, Ronen Koresh Ensemble, Philadelphia, PA (2000)
Dancer

Via Crucis, Philadelphia Dance Alliance, PA (2000)
Dancer, Actor

HONORS

PHI KAPPA PHI – Jacksonville University, FL (2025)
Most Improved Dancer in a 4-year Degree – The University of the Arts, PA (2000)
Salutatorian of Class of 1996, Hamburg High School, PA (1996)

Professional Organizations

The National Dance Education Organization, Business Member (2025)

Competitive Accolades

Best Technique Horizons Dance Conservatory, Industry Dance Challenge (2025)

Choreography Awards, Horizons Dance Conservatory, On Pointe Dance (2023 - 2025),
True Dance Challenge (2021 - 2025), That's Entertainment (2022 - 2024), Starquest (2017 - 2020)

Best of Show, Best Musicality, Horizons Dance Conservatory, I Love Dance (2007 - 2023)

Scholarships, Horizons Dance Conservatory, NYCDA, JUMP, Radix, Groove, Deviate (2010 - 2025)

REFERENCES

Dr. Christina Teague-Mann, Professor & Research Supervisor MFA Choreography
Jacksonville University, (904) 481-6194

cteague@ju.edu

Joshua Isard, Program Director, MFA Creative Writing, Arcadia University
(267) 620-4886
isardj@arcadia.edu

Lana Heylock, Professor of Dance, Jacksonville University
(904) 256-7378
lheyloc@ju.edu

Gregg Hurley, Associate Professor of Dance, Messiah University
(717) 796-5045
ghurley@messiah.edu