

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER
FALL 2007

WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Dance Alumni and Friends:

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

ALUMNI
UPDATES 2ALUMNI
UPDATES
CONTINUED 3PARTNERS IN
DANCE CDA
AWARD
RECIPIENT 4WINTER
CONCERT
PREVIEW 5IN MEMORY OF
LURETTA
MCCRAY 6DEPARTMENT
INFORMATION 7UPCOMING
EVENTS 8

As always, the fall has been rich with creative and scholarly activities by students and faculty and the residencies of exceptionally talented guest artists. While departmental projects have varied widely, one thing that is consistent about them, and our comprehensive curriculum, is that they provide students unique opportunities to expand their artistry and scholarship while allowing them to explore career paths. Following are some highlights from this fall.

We have always taken great pride in the quality, number and diversity of our guest artists, and this semester's roster has been an especially inspiring group. Eddie Taketa's quiet precision captivated the dancers as he taught modern dance master classes and staged Doug Varone's *Strict Love* for the Winter Concert of Dance. Students took warm-up classes side-by-side with Willy Shives, principal dancer with the Joffrey Ballet, who was here to stage Antony Tudor's *Dark Elegies* and teach master classes. Alumna Kristen Legg taught energizing modern dance classes and created a dance for the Western Dance Project and others. Her success in dance was reassuring to juniors and seniors that there is "life after graduation!"

Faculty are excited about the inauguration of the new choreography curriculum. For the first time, all freshman dance majors are taking a choreography course together. To celebrate this togetherness, faculty member Rhonda Cinotto, has created a dance for them for the Winter Concert of Dance. The other day, David Curwen showed me excerpts from assignments in the Choreographing for the New Millennium course (formerly Choreography II). Students used technology to create a duet using digital technology and only one dancer. The results showed sensitivity and ingenuity, and highlighted the diverse approaches to the assignment.

The fall concert showcased the work of David Curwen, Sharon Garber and dance major Patrick Schultz. Patrick created a dance video that was the culmination of a year's work as part of the Digital Media Innovation Grant. Patrick proudly tells the story of how he wasn't doing email three years ago, and now he is creating art using some of the most sophisticated applications of digital media, including motion capture and animation. David's dance, *SexyTeenLoveIdol.net*, opened opportunities for our dancers to explore acting for the camera as well as experience the vast aesthetic options that are made possible with digital technology. Shari's dance, *Undertow*, used digital technology that had never been tried before – live performance with live motion-capture. Her students were a part of the thrill (and sometimes agony!) of experimenting with the blending of new media.

Finally, I think students would agree that the Orchesis dance concert is one of the most gratifying experiences for our dancers. Through this concert, all levels of students with varying performance and choreographic ambitions create a memorable program that is truly their own. I'm guessing that several alumni have fond memories of past Orchesis Concerts and might even remember steps to the dances they performed!

I hope you enjoy reading the alumni updates and other departmental news.

With good wishes for a cheerful holiday season!

Nina



Undertow by Sharon
Garber, 2007 Fall Concert

ALUMNI UPDATES

- **Bethany Blanchard** has been offered a contract as a company member with the Eisenhower Dance Ensemble. She wants to let everyone know that the new Eisenhower Dance Ensemble bios are up with photos, so check it out at ede-dance.org. Bethany reports that the “company is going great...a lot of work but its nice to get back to the artistic side of things.” They also have some choreographic opportunities, which she is enjoying.
- **Emily Blanchard** (2003) is dancing with the Rockettes and although it is reportedly “the hardest thing she has ever done,” she is starting to enjoy it.
- **Alaina Bomke** (2002) is now Alaina Murray after getting married in August.
- **John Bradley** (1985) reports *Polyhymnia* is the biggest creative project in his life, with a lot of support from his partner of nearly nine years Charles, who is “really good at talking me off the ledge when I need it.” The big news recently is the four performance tour to Boston, Providence and The New York Early Music Celebration, www.nyemc.com, of a concert of music by Nicolas Gombert, most of which John edited from a 16th-century source, and a big collaborative project, The Fiesta of Mexican Baroque Music, with Concerts at St. Luke’s, another early music series in NY. There are 14 singers and 10 instrumentalists participating in the event.
- **Molly Britctson** (2006) Molly has been living in Los Angeles, CA for a few months now and is currently dancing with Winifred R. Harris’ *Between Lines Dance Company*. She was also recently signed by Acme Talent and Literary Agency. She is very excited to be in the middle of such a vibrant, art-loving culture, and is looking forward to a winter that doesn’t involve shoveling snow off her windshield!
- **Stephanie Brown** (2006) is studying Pilates through the Polestar program in New York City and has started graduate school, pursuing a Masters in childhood education in upstate New York.
- **Donnalynn Gerrity-Collings** (1983) is living in a suburb of Chicago and although she is no longer dancing she is having fun teaching youth creative movement, pre-ballet and 2 modern classes at a local studio. Donnalynn was directing a dance company at one of the regional sites of Willow Creek Community Church for a while but stepped down about 5 months ago to focus on her dissertation. She is currently on the second draft of her proposal in pursuit of a EdD in Higher Education Administration-Leadership. After completing her degree, she is looking to pursue assistant dean’s positions. Readers of *Dance Studio Life* be on the lookout for a short opinion piece Donnalynn wrote on sacred dance, which is scheduled to run in their December 2007 issue.
- **Nick Dalton** (MTP Major) spent the summer wrapping another production of *The Full Monty* with Sally Struthers and Hunter Foster in Ogunquit, Maine.
- **Erica Quensen-Diaz** (1995) has invited everyone to view the new website that has been put up (and is still under construction) for the private practice she is working at. It’s called Agor Behavioral Health Services and the main office is in Plainfield, IL. The website is www.doctoragor.com. She adds, “Please keep us in mind if you have any referrals in the south west suburbs!”
- **Jennifer Fiero** (1998) has been teaching dance, musical theatre, voice and piano at the Niles Academy of Performing Arts for the past two years. The kids, the parents, and sharing her love of dance with others are all reasons why Jennifer loves her job.
- **Kimberly (Beachum) Gaver** (2001): Kim moved with her husband Matt to Westchester County, NY (a suburb of NYC) in February 2003. In 2006, she was selected to become a NYC Teaching Fellow; an intensive 2 year fast track program to provide college graduates with the opportunity to receive a subsidized Master’s degree in Education while working as teachers in NYC public schools. Kim is currently teaching 2nd/3rd grade special education in the Bronx at PS 94, and is a 4 year member of *Dance-works*; Westchester Community College’s dance company.
- **Valerie Gonzalez** (1998): After spending three years in NYC obtaining her MFA and exploring the scene, Valerie has relocated back to Chicago. She is teaching dance, preschool and enjoying being close to her family. She is currently taking some time to regroup and put her new experiences into action until she “figures out what the next step will be.”
- **Holly (Emhoff) Hobbs** (1993) is proud to introduce a daughter, born June 4. After taking the summer off, she is back dancing with Peter Sparling this fall as well as teaching at EMU, Hillsdale College and Dance Gallery.
- **Elaine Hoxie** (2002) is pleased with the terrific response from the DRIP performances that filled their schedules with major corporate events and talks of a permanent venue. She is currently busy performing with Bluestar productions, which is booked every Wed and Sat through the rest of the year with shows. This group provides her with the chance to sing, dance and act with a “crazy group of misfits.” Elaine hopes to make a trip to L.A. soon to meet with Ivan Kane, owner of burlesque club *40 Deuce.*, who is interested in having her choreograph and/or perform there a few times each year. Images of her dancing were in the Florida Performer Magazine. In addition to her busy schedule, she has been doing modeling with images to be used for two charity events, one for HIV/Aids and another for breast cancer. In addition, Elaine has been enjoying two new additions to her family, Levi and Livvie, a brother and sister from a red long hair doxie.
- **Sarah Ivory** (2006) is currently dancing professionally for Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines on a 6 month contract. The name of her ship is the Explorer of the Seas which sails the E. and S. Caribbean. She is in a cast of 12 dancers who are the first cast to perform 4 shows on a ship with an all -Ballroom show which was choreographed by Loui Van Amstel of *Dancing With the Stars*.

- **Kristin (Hanley) Johnston** (1996) has relocated to Southern California last year due to her husband's Secret Service position. Their daughter, Molly, is 18 months, and son, Tommy will be four in December. After Tommy was diagnosed with life-threatening food allergies to peanuts, tree nuts, egg, dairy and garlic, Kristin founded www.AllergyMama.com, a website dedicated to connecting parents with the resources they need to raise allergic children. Through the website, she also sells custom bags & totes designed to keep life-saving medications handy, and recently launched the Food Allergic Families of Coachella Valley support group.
- **Jennifer Julian** just completed her duties as producer of a version of *Deal or No Deal* for a Volunteer Appreciation show at her church. 22 pastors were used as the suitcase models and Jennifer was able to choreograph a "little somethin' for them to do with the cases."
- **Lari Lawrence** (2001) was married September 15th, and is now Lari Lawrence-Gist. She has taken over the position of dance director at Everett High School, replacing another alum Heather Vaughan-Southard.
- **Jason Lott** (1997) is continuing to dance in a couple of concerts a year in the DC area and will be presenting his own choreography this spring. He is continuing his work at the Human Rights Campaign, where he has been for over four years.
- **Joan Lundahl** (1976 BA, 1979 MA) continues her day job as a VP/Student Services at Foothill Middle School in Walnut Creek, California. In addition; she and her husband moonlight as professional dancers where they teach at a local studio in Dublin, California (Rhythm Street) and travel and compete internationally at least once a month. Together they teach workshops in the ballroom dances, country and west coast swing and are the current 2007 Diamond (over 40) Division I World Champions on the UCWDC circuit!
- **Christina Maley**: has been made a core member of Motus Dance Theatre in Indianapolis. This means she has the opportunity to teach class, choreograph, do production work, and dance even more. The group just finished their show "Kin" for the Indy Fringe Festival. They received good reviews and audiences for the performances. Consult www.motusdance.com for future events. Christina is also still working as the Lighting Technician at the Honeywell Center in Wabash, IN.
- **Erin Malley** (2001) is the artistic director at the Malleable Dance Theater and is performing in the theater's work *7 Veils*, which will be performed on December 9th. For more information check out www.malleabledancetheater.org.
- **Michelle (Fligger) McClellan** (1984) is happy to share about her new office space and all of the exciting things happening around "Writing the Soul." Her new office allows for more course offerings including yoga, weekend workshops and refresher courses, in addition to her existing eight-week workshops. She is also nearing the completion of her first book. If in the Cary, IL area and interested in a "Writing the Soul" workshop contact Michelle at writingthesoul@comcast.net.
- **Mandi Neubecker** (1994) is currently teaching a Pilates machine certification course through The Fitness Guru/ Half Moon Pilates and is "thrilled with the opportunity." Anyone interested in Pilates training should check out www.fitnessgurunyc.com, home of "Pilatesmandi," a cardio/ strength- training/ Pilates fusion class on trampolines.
- **Noel Powers** (2006) has been offered a full company position for this season with Inaside Chicago Dance, after spending a year as an apprentice. Inaside is a jazz/contemporary company that puts on two self-produced concerts annually. They also participate in Dance Chicago, the month-long dance festival in November. She is also busy teaching dance in the Chicago suburbs and working part time at Athletico Rehabilitation.
- **Amy Pronovost** (1994) is a Stott Pilates Instructor Trainer and a certified Level 1 Gyrotonic instructor at Mind Body Fitness in Bloomfield Hills, MI. She has been teaching at Equilibrium since 2000 and is also the ballet director of Dance Dynamics in Walled Lake. She enjoys working with people of all ages and backgrounds, as well as with dancers. Amy loves teaching mat work and reformer classes as well as ballet barre class and Pilates for Golf & Racquet Sports.
- **Jessica Reschke** (2005) is excited to report that her first paid ad appears this November in Southwest Magazine's *Spirit Magazine*. It is also reported that a billboard of Jessica appears in an airport in Reno. "I'm famous!" says Jessica.
- **Nanette (Junker) Renzi** (1979) has been a Primary Level (ages 3-6) Montessori teacher for many years now. She was Executive Director for 4 years, but is now back in the classroom at Joliet Montessori School, where she brings social dance and improvisational theater to the students. Nanette is a graduate of the Players Workshop of the Second City and performed her graduation show on the Second City stage in Chicago. She is currently living in New Lenox, IL and around the corner from a dance studio owned by WMU alum Lisa (Chew) Wainwright, who also lives in New Lenox. Nanette and her husband, a lawyer and community theater director/actor/dancer, have attended an evening of East Coast Swing, and Charleston/Lindy Hop at the famous Willowbrook Ballroom, and plan to go back often and also take ballroom dancing with Lisa. Nanette has also been doing her share of musical theater, loving *La Cage Aux Folles* (where she played the fiancé) and *42nd Street* ("gotta love tap!") the best so far.
- **Peter Riopelle**, (MTP 1992) is currently appearing in the First Broadway National Tour of *THE DROWSY CHAPERONE!*
- **Kathy (Gibson) Rivera** (1997) welcomed the birth of daughter Isabel Ariah Rivera on Saturday August 25, 2007 at 11:39 am. She was 21 inches long and weighed 9lbs, 1 oz.
- **Kara (Facknitz) Rosengren** (2003) has been suffering with lower back problems which have prevented her from dancing everyday. Instead she is focusing on teaching and choreography. She is currently set to put her own show on at Links Hall in Chicago the last weekend of June, 2008. She has been married a year to her husband Ken and reports that "marriage is great!"

- **Heather Vaughan Southard** (1999) is now directing the dance program at Albion College as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Theatre and Dance. On November 19th she welcomed the birth of her son Greyson Charles Vaughan Southard. He weighed 7 pounds/15 ounces and was 20 1/2 inches long.



- **Susie Thiel** (2001) is currently in NYC where she is teaching at 2 dance schools, choreographing, performing, running a kids company and attending the Integrative Institute for Nutrition.
- **Nelleke Stravers Wooten** (2001) is happy to welcome the birth of son Dash Lee Wooten, who was born on Saturday, July 21st at 3am. He clocked in at 8 pounds/15 ounces, and was nearly 22 inches

long. She and her husband are thrilled to be parents and are still living in Ann Arbor, MI. Nelleke reports that currently the dancing she is doing is with Dash around their living room!

- **Angie (Wieland) Yetzke** (1994) is mom to Jake, 6, and Ty, 3, and is freelance teaching and choreographing in the greater Grand Rapids area.
- **Rebecca Yourison** (2004) ended her second and last season with Modern American Dance Company (MADCO) in St. Louis, Missouri in June. She then attended a Teachers Training Intensive under John White of the Pennsylvania Academy of Ballet, studying the first three years of the Vaganova Method syllabus. She also flew to Jackson, Mississippi to represent professional dance at a summit of leaders from around the world in the arts and ministry. This summit brought dancers, musicians, visual artists and other theatre professionals together with directors of world-wide ministry organizations to discuss how artists can be welcomed and nurtured in church communities and religious organizations that often neglect, misunderstand and alienate them. In August Rebecca moved to Minneapolis, Minnesota to be closer to her fiancé. She is looking for work and trying to determine her next direction in the dance field.

CORI TERRY NAMED 2ND RECIPIENT OF THE PARTNERS IN DANCE COMMUNITY ADVOCACY AWARD

Choreographer, dancer and artistic director Cori Terry has been selected to be the second recipient of the Community Dance Advocacy Award. The award, sponsored by Western Michigan University's Partners in Dance, is given to honor a leader or volunteer who has demonstrated significant accomplishments in advancing and supporting dance in the greater Kalamazoo area. Partners in Dance created the award to highlight and recognize the extent of dance activity and leadership in the greater Kalamazoo area. The Community Dance Advocacy Award is given annually, with nominations accepted each fall.

Cori Terry is the founder and artistic director of Wellspring/Cori Terry and Dancers, Kalamazoo's professional modern dance company. Since the founding of the company in 1981, Wellspring has presented numerous concerts at its home in the Epic Center and throughout the Midwest. The company provides the community with diverse dance programming through its fall and spring concerts, Dance Forums, the Alternative Dance Project, and other special events. In addition, the company has provided children's and adult classes in modern dance to the community for over 26 years.

Ms. Terry was born in Brooklyn and attended the State University of New York at Stony

Brook. She completed her dance training in New York City and joined the Erick Hawkins Dance Company in 1974. Ms. Terry performed and taught in major cities throughout the United States and Europe. In 1980, she came to Kalamazoo as artist-in-residence at Western Michigan University and formed Wellspring/Cori Terry & Dancers shortly thereafter. She earned a bachelor's degree from Western Michigan University. In 1987, Ms. Terry was honored with the Kalamazoo Community Medal of Arts Award. Wellspring/Cori Terry and Dancers were the recipients of the 2001 Great Lakes Community Arts Award from the Michigan Association of Community Arts Agencies.

A public presentation of the Community Dance Advocacy Award will be made at the Great Works dinner at Western Michigan University on Friday, February 8, 2008 prior to the Department of Dance's Winter Concert of Dance. Ms. Terry will receive a plaque of recognition and a year's membership in Partners in Dance. Her name will be engraved on a special plaque that is housed in the Department of Dance at Western Michigan University.



WINTER CONCERT PREVIEW

The Department of Dance's annual Winter Concert of Dance will be presented in Chenery Auditorium on February 8 and 9, 2008, with performances at 8:00 pm on Friday, and 2:00 and 8:00 pm on Saturday. The concert will feature two "Great Works" and dances by alumni, faculty and student choreographers. The "Great Works" dances are *Dark Elegies* by Antony Tudor and *Strict Love* by Doug Varone. It is the 100th anniversary of the birth of Antony Tudor, so WMU is part of the year-long celebration that includes performances of his work throughout the world. Through the performance of Doug Varone's work, the department is meeting its goal of exposing students and audiences to choreographers who are currently making their mark on the dance world. Alumna Kristen Legg has set a dance entitled *Finish Line* on the students. Kristen is currently living in Seattle and is the artistic director of ReddLeggDance company. Faculty members Carolyn Pavlik, Tony Calucci and Rhonda Cinotto will also have their work on the concert. Rhonda's dance will feature this year's freshman class. Dances by senior dance major Marissa Staniec and junior dance major Jessie Cosentino will also be on the program. We hope you can make it to this exciting event!



Dark Elegies



Willy Shives working with students on *Dark Elegies*



2fas2 from *SexyTeenLoveIdol.net*, 2007 Fall Concert



Undertow by Sharon Garber, 2007 Fall Concert

GREAT WORKS DINNER

Partners in Dance will host the annual Great Works dinner at the Richmond Center for Visual Arts on February 8, 2008 before the opening performance of the Winter Concert of Dance. The dinner will include remarks by "Great Works" artists and the presentation of the Community Dance Advocacy Award to Cori Terry. For more information, and to make reservations, please call the Department of Dance at 269-387-5830.

IN MEMORY OF LURETTA MCCRAY

In Memoriam

Adjunct dance professor **Loretta McCray Ryan** taught at Santa Monica College off and on since 1990. She was an accomplished dancer, singer, choreographer, teacher, and lecturer whose singing career took her all over the world—New York, Colorado, Nevada, Hawaii, Austria, Australia, Germany, and Japan. She died September 4, 2006, in Santa Monica at the age of 60.

- Santa Monica College Website

Loretta McCray

Born and raised in the Midwest, Loretta received a Bachelor of Music and Masters Degree in Communication Arts/Theatre. While continuing to teach Dance and Music for Dance at the University level, she has also owned and operated a dance studio and performed in summer stock theatre and with the Civic Light Opera Company. As Artistic Director and the Director of Training and Development, she continued her involvement with the Nikkei Foundation of America, which began in 1982. Loretta has used her dance expertise, vocal skills, and entertainment savvy over the years to choreograph a variety of production numbers, ranging in size from 10-40 performers, which included several Japanese dances, jazz dances, staging for guest artists and soloists as well as coordinating all the technical aspects of producing the Foundation's Annual Gala Show.

- Loyola Marymount University

Loretta McCray appears as a guest vocalist on Doc Anello & The Swing Machine Big Band's 1998 release, *Jumpin' Jive*, a copy of which has been donated to WMU's Dance Department.

The above are more recent accounts of Loretta's achievements. The following are remembrances from an earlier time—the late 1960s . . .

Loretta was first a student of Clara (Lulu) Gamble before becoming her colleague. Regarding memories of Loretta from that time, Clara says she's "got a million of 'em" on which she reflects quite often. She chose to share this particular one to demonstrate that "there were no prima donnas" in the early days of the Department.

On our way to perform "L'Histoire du Soldat" (Loretta was the Devil), an early snowfall made Oliver Street hill a challenge for my old car. Loretta, in tennis shoes, got out and pushed. Definitely a bonding expe-

rience. The performance was a success and a breakthrough of sorts in bringing dance to the attention of the local critic.

Wendy (Olson) Cornish remembers those days, too. Here's her account . . .

When I first came to teach at WMU, Loretta was an undergraduate student majoring in Music. She designed her own Master of Arts program, combining music, theatre, and dance. A "triple threat," she had lead roles in many opera and musical productions, and she was an outstanding performer in dance concerts.

Loretta joined the dance program in the Women's Physical Education Department in the late 1960s, first as a graduate assistant, then as a full-time faculty member. The first jazz classes at WMU were developed by Armine Vart. After Armine left, Loretta became identified with jazz dance, although she also taught courses in modern and choreography and supervised the University Dancers. In 1972, when the College of Fine Arts and the Department of Dance were created, Loretta designed the jazz program as an integral part of the dance major curriculum. She choreographed musical productions as well as concert works in both jazz and modern. Her choreography was very musical and dynamic. Loretta left WMU in the late 1970s to pursue a professional career in the Los Angeles area, but she returned briefly in 1982 to teach master classes and perform with alumna Helen Crookes in the first WMU Dance Alumni Concert.

Loretta and I shared an office in the basement of Oakland Gym until the dance program moved to Walwood Union. She took her work very seriously and was always thoroughly prepared for every class and rehearsal. She was disciplined, meticulous, and demanding as a teacher and a choreographer, and she always challenged herself as much as she challenged others. Many of her students went on to create professional performing and teaching careers, including Lindsey (Canfield) Thomas who took over the WMU jazz dance program after Loretta resigned. Loretta clearly left her stamp on dance at WMU, and her legacy thrives.

And my memories? They begin from a student's point of view . . .

When I heard that Loretta had passed, I could not believe it. And I could not believe that two whole years passed since she and I had that long conversation when I was vacationing in California—the one where we talked about

By Mary Bacon Williams

her letting me know when she planned to come home to Detroit or visit Chicago so we could get together.

"Ms. McCray" was my first jazz teacher—ever. I had been dancing since I was four years old, but jazz had not been a part of my dance experience. In the early 1970s, jazz looked cool and fast and sexy, and I thought it would be a fun class. How wrong I was!

Ms. McCray, herself a recent WMU grad, was a firm disciplinarian, relentless when it came to proper alignment and polished technique. I could not understand why she pushed us so hard. Didn't she know that dance was my minor, that I had no expectations of making it a career? Couldn't she just let me have some fun? What I came to learn was that she demanded no more of us than she did of herself. And that is how she eventually was able to succeed in a multi-faceted career of dance, acting, and singing.

I am not sure when, but sometime over the years Ms. McCray became Loretta. Maybe it was when Helen Crookes, Loretta, and I owned a dance studio in downtown Kalamazoo (Stage II). Helen and Loretta taught while I handled business matters. Or perhaps it was when she moved to California, and our relationship continued through letters and phone calls. Regardless . . .

Whenever we connected, the first topic of conversation was of an artistic nature—what group she was currently singing with, where they were performing, where I was taking class (or not), where she was teaching dance (or not), etc. Our mutual concern about our mothers' health would surface eventually, and that was as personal as we got. But we had one of those relationships where, no matter how much time had passed between connecting, we would pick up right where we left off. I always looked forward to the next call, eager to hear what she was doing in LA, because, of course, I always thought there would be a next call . . .

In 1974 (at age 28), Loretta McCray received the Western Michigan University Alumni Association Teaching Excellence Award.



WMU TO HOST ACDFA CONFERENCE MARCH 5-8, 2008

The Department of Dance will host the East Central Regional Conference of the American College Dance Festival March 5-8, 2008. The department expects 300-400 participants from Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and beyond. During the festival, participants will adjudicate dances, present dances in the informal concert, take master classes and social events. Adjudicators for the festival will be Donald McKayle, Claire Bataille, and Igal Perry. This is the fourth time Western Michigan University has hosted a regional conference.

Dance Faculty in Print

Our WMU dance faculty are everywhere! Check out their work in the following recent publications:

October 2007 issue of DanceTeacher magazine. P 130-133. Jane Baas is quoted in *Charting the Course*, an article about assessment and accreditation by Gigi Berardi. Note the beautiful photo of WMU dancers.

November 2007 issue of DanceTeacher magazine. P 157-162. Sharon Garber's article on faculty exchanges is titled *Prof Swap*.

October/November 2007 issue of Pointe magazine. P. 44. David Curwen is quoted in the "Words of Advice: Our panel of experts answers important questions about college"

Faculty News

G'day Mates! Jane just returned from a trip to Australia to make 3 presentations at the 2007 International Association for Dance Medicine and Science (IADMS) in Canberra. She got to see the Sydney Dance Company in performance--awesome!-- as well as tour beautiful Sydney including the famous Opera House. Jane also chairs the IADMS Media Committee.



GIVING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF DANCE

As the holiday season begins, the spirit of giving is in the air. As you consider making donations this season, we ask you to consider donating to the department. Through the donations of alumni and community members, the dance department is able to thrive and continue to provide a world of experiences and opportunities to our students. This year the department awarded over \$30,000 in dance scholarships to students thanks to the support of caring individuals such as yourself. If you have any questions about donating to the department please feel free to contact us at (269) 387- 5830 or the Development Office at (269) 387-8700. We thank you for your continued support of WMU Dance!

**WESTERN MICHIGAN
UNIVERSITY**

Department of Dance
1903 W Michigan Ave
Kalamazoo, MI 49008- 5417
Phone: 269-387-5830
Fax: 269-387-5820
Web: www.wmich.edu/dance



**“ E L E V A T I N G T H E
H U M A N C O N D I T I O N
T H R O U G H T H E
A R T S ”**

U P C O M I N G E V E N T S

Winter Concert of Dance
February 8 & 9, 2008 at Chenery Auditorium
Tickets: 269-387-2300

Department Auditions
February 22, 2008

American College Dance Festival
March 5-8, 2008

BFA Junior Jury Performances
Friday April 11, 2008, Noon, Dance Studio B

Graduating Presentations in Dance
April 11 & 12: 8:00pm, April 12 & 13 2:00pm
Dalton Dance Studio B

WMU Department of Dance

Faculty—Staff

Jane Baas, Professor
Tony Calucci, Assistant Professor
Frank Chaves, Adjunct Professor
Rhonda Cinotto, Faculty Specialist II
David Curwen, Associate Professor
Anders Dahlberg, Part-time Instructor
Jill Dailey, Graduate Assistant
Sharon Garber, Associate Professor
Dorothy Giovannini, Ballet Accompanist Coordinator
Rosemary Hubek, Office Coordinator
Nikol Mejeur, Part-time Instructor
Jeff Moehle, Modern/Jazz Accompanist Coordinator
Nina Nelson, Professor and Chair
Debra Norton, Part-time Instructor
Carolyn Pavlik, Assistant Professor
Patricia Plasko, Education for the Arts
Megan Slayter, Assistant Professor
David Smith, Part-time Instructor
Kathryn Williams, Part-time Instructor
Angie Yetzke, Part-time Instructor

Happy Holidays!

