



Department of **d**ance

Box 6966

Radford, VA 24142

540.831.5162

<http://dance.asp.radford.edu>

The School of Dance and Theatre

The Department of Dance

provides a comprehensive undergraduate dance education that fosters an environment committed to dance as an autonomous and major art form and realizes the many significant roles dance plays in world cultures. The department nurtures critical and creative thinking through a physical, academic and artistic support structure that promotes student and faculty excellence. Fulfilling its responsibility as advocate for the arts, the department delivers meaningful dance experiences for the cultural enrichment of the university, local communities, the commonwealth and beyond.

Entrance into Department

Auditions are held on an individual basis. The Department would like you to set a date to visit campus that best suits your schedule. The audition process includes taking a dance technique class or two with our dance majors. The Chair will meet with you and tell you all about the program and answer any questions. For more information or to schedule your campus visit, contact the Chair, Margaret Davaney.

Facilities

Peters Hall houses three studios with hardwood floors, mirrors, barres, video and audio equipment. Mainstage productions are presented in Preston Hall, an air-conditioned facility with a modern, computerized lighting system.

Degrees Offered

B.A. degree in Dance

B.F.A. degree in Dance

B.S. degree in Dance & licensure-Dance Education

Minor: Dance

Bachelor of Arts Degree

is a liberal arts degree focusing on performance and creative endeavors. There is an emphasis on technique as well as the creative process.

Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree

is a rigorous program requiring 70 credit hours in the areas of dance technique and performance. This degree option is geared for students who wish to pursue a professional career as a performing artist or choreographer.

Bachelor of Science Degree with Teacher Licensure in Dance Education

focuses on proficiency in dance technique and methodology courses in professional dance education. Students participate in field experience and student teaching under the careful supervision of the dance education faculty. These experiences lead to K-12 certification to teach dance in public schools.

Technique and Performance

A study of technique in the fundamental dance forms of ballet, modern, and jazz is a necessary part of a dance education. Students take one technique class a day in both ballet and contemporary dance. Creative aspects of dance are explored through courses in composition and choreographic studies. Students may elect to take courses in pointe, tap, ballroom and folk, and square dance.

Admission to upper division standing is determined by an evaluation at the end of the sophomore year. Each student meets with the dance faculty for a complete assessment of work accomplished and to determine the course of further study.

Theory

The faculty of the dance department endorses the view that a dance student's background should include a theoretical knowledge of dance and an understanding of the capabilities of the human body.

Preparation for a diversity of employment opportunities is considered essential. In addition to continuing study in dance technique, upper division majors take courses in dance history, production, accompaniment for movement and selected theatre course. Majors preparing for a teaching career also take course in teaching methodology.

Performance and Production

Radford University Dance Theatre, the performing company of the dance department, presents two to three mainstage productions per year. One is a ballet program, which may be a full-length work, such as the biennial production of *The Nutcracker*, or one-act ballets selected from the classical repertoire. Ballets are accompanied by an orchestra and students have the opportunity to perform with guest artists. The other productions feature original contemporary choreography in various dance mediums created by the faculty and guests.

Department Scholarships

The Mary Simon Blevins Scholarship:

Targeted toward dance majors in good standing

The Pegeen H. and David L. Albig Dance Scholarship:

Targeted toward male dance majors in good standing

The Bethany Lorraine Rooker Dance Scholarship:

Targeted toward dance majors in good standing

The Frano Jelincic Memorial Scholarship:

Established and endowed in honor of the late Frano Jelincic, Professor Emeritus of Dance, to assist deserving students with strong classical ballet background

Arts society Scholarships:

Ranging from five to ten scholarships each year for dance majors. The primary goal of the Arts Society is to provide money for scholarship support for students in the College of Visual and Performing

Arts. Donations from individuals, corporations, foundations and others provide scholarship support for exceptional and deserving students. Must be a student majoring in a discipline within the College of Visual and Performing Arts.

Guest Artists

The Radford University Department of Dance greatly benefits from having both guest artists and choreographers come to the university each year to perform and set new pieces on the students, greatly enriching their experience here. In the past, we have been honored to host such guest performers as Julie Kent, Guillaume Graffin, Illiana Lopez, Franklin Gamero, Jennifer Gelfand, and Alexei Lapshin. Our past guest choreographers have included Olivier Besson, Arturo Fernandez, and Donald McKayle.

Faculty

Margaret Davaney

Professor/Chair, Department of Dance
Administrator, RUBY Program
(540) 831-5162
mdevaney@radford.edu

Danah Bella

Associate Professor
Artistic Director, danahbella DanceWorks

Deborah McLaughlin

Associate Professor
Director, Dance Education Program

Inessa Plekhanova

Associate Professor
Director, Ballet Program
Artistic Director, RU Ballet Theatre/RUBY Program

Bob Boross

Assistant Professor
Director, Jazz Program

Aleksey Plekhanov

Adjunct Professor
Principal Faculty, RUBY Program

Jody Franko

Student Teacher/Site Supervisor