

# September News and Info

Welcome to Pre-Pro Season Two! First, I'd like to take a moment to share how incredibly impressed I am with everyone's performance at our company photo shoot! Everyone followed their directions perfectly which lead to an incredibly smooth night, many beautiful photos, and finishing ahead of schedule. GREAT WORK! I do not have a projected date for when we will receive our photos but I believe it took about two weeks last year. I will be sure to keep everyone informed because I know you are as eager to see them as I am! Moving forward, for our first month we have two of our favorite guest artists returning as well as one new addition to our roster.

## SEPTEMBER TEACHING SCHEDULE

9/7 Lawrence Jackson  
9/14 Lauren Carnesi Daniels  
9/21 Daniel Padierna  
9/28 Matt Pardo

## DANCE COMPANIES TO CHECK OUT

Whim W'him  
Visceral Dance Chicago  
Dallas Black Dance  
Body Traffic  
Sydney Dance Company  
OtroLada Dance Company  
Chunky Move  
Jon Lehrer Dance Company



# College Info and Suggested Performances

One of the main focuses of our contemporary program is college preparedness. Once we are a few weeks into our full dance and school schedule I will send out the presentation from last year with the accompanying materials for our new families, those who need a reminder, and those who the information is now relevant for. In August I met with each high school grade level to quickly discuss options and to get the students' brains thinking about their futures. Please take a moment at some point to talk to your student about that conversation and how they see dance in their future. JUNIOR PARENTS- an specific email will becoming to you within the next two weeks about more time sensitive matters.



I highly recommend going to see a college dance concert to get a feel for what college dance programs have to offer. Every concert will be different and offer a range of faculty and guest artist works. One of the best ways for your dancer to see if they feel like a school is a good fit is to go see one of their shows and ask the question, "Can I see myself dancing with them?"

## Upcoming Local-ish College Performances

- October 25-27th Shenandoah University
- November 8-9th George Mason University
  - We have been offered free tickets plus a tour opportunity for this performance

# This week!

GUEST ARTIST 9/07:

**LAWRENCE**

**JACKSON**

Lawrence M. Jackson is a multifaceted scholar, artist, and educator whose work transcends academic boundaries, creating a lasting impact on the fields of Dance and Black Studies. Holding a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Dance from The University of Southern Mississippi and a Master of Fine Arts degree in Dance from Florida State University, Lawrence currently serves as Professor of Dance at The George Mason University School of Dance. His extensive career in academia includes leadership roles such as Associate Chair of Dance, Associate Professor of Dance, and Director of Graduate Studies in Dance at The University of Alabama. During his tenure at UA, he also assumed artistic directorship roles for The Alabama Repertory Dance Theatre, Dance Alabama,

The MFA Dance Concert, and Dance Collection within the UA Department of Theatre and Dance.

Professionally, Lawrence performed many years with the renowned modern dance company, Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Ensemble, where he performed the works of Donald McKayle, Katherine Dunham, Alvin Ailey, Darrell Moultre, Rosangela Sylvestre, and Milton Myers, among many others. Lawrence has also performed as a guest artist at various national and international venues. A prolific choreographer with over 95 original works to his credit, Lawrence's off-Broadway production, "Separate and Equal," earned him a nomination for an AUDELCO Award for Best Choreography.

Lawrence's influence extends globally through his contributions as a guest artist, choreographer, and master teacher at esteemed institutions and dance organizations. His impact spans engagements with The International Ballet Competition, American Ballet Theatre Summer Intensive, International Association of Blacks in Dance, Alabama Dance Festival, Dancer's Workshop, Rhode Island College, University of Michigan, California State University Northridge, University of Nevada Las Vegas, University of Florida, University of Northern Colorado, West Virginia University, amongst many others.

In the realm of scholarship, Lawrence co-edited and published a groundbreaking special edition on Black Dance in the Journal of Pan African Studies. His dedication to advancing scholarly discourse in dance was recognized with The University of Alabama's President's Faculty Research Award for a Mid-Career Scholar. Currently serving on the editorial board of "Siyabonana: The Journal of Africana Studies," Lawrence continues to contribute significantly to the academic landscape.



# Later this month!

GUEST ARTIST 10/14:

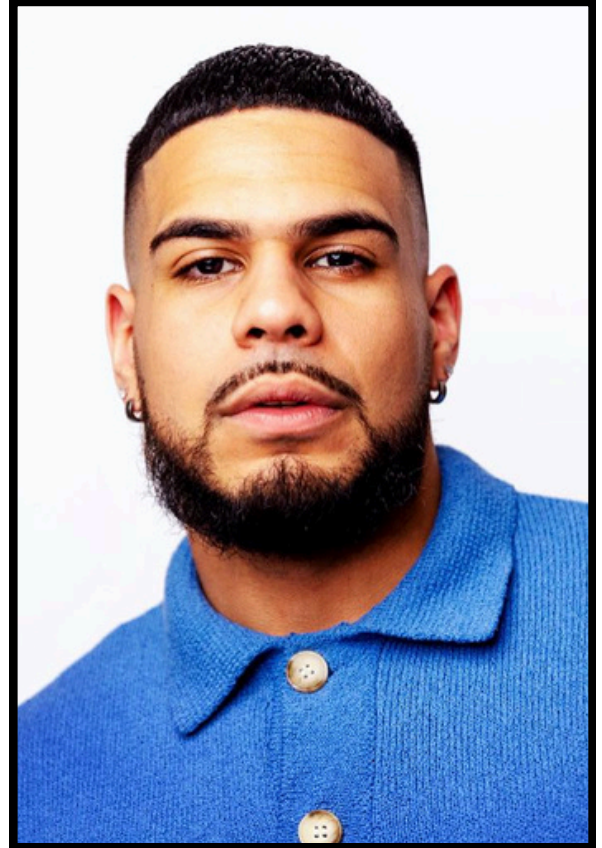
## DANIEL PADIERNA

Daniel L. Padierna, artistic director of Padierna Dance Project, is a queer Latino dance creator born and raised in Wallington, New Jersey. Padierna earned a Master of Fine Arts in Dance Performance and Choreography at Tisch School of the Arts, New York University in May 2020. Prior to that, he received his Bachelor of Arts in Dance Education at Montclair State University (MSU).

He is currently programs director for Diversity of Dance, Inc., directed by Fredrick Earl Mosley and has directed yearly programs including Dancing Beyond Winter Repertory Series, Hearts of Men Workshop Series and Earl Mosley's Institute of the Arts Summer Dance Intensive.

Padierna has performed works from a diverse group of choreographers including Antony Tudor, José Limón, Rennie Harris, Camille A. Brown, Ronald K. Brown and Larry Keigwin to name a few. His choreography has recently been produced at Bryant Park, 14th Street Y, Dance Against Cancer at Manhattan Movement and Arts Center, Brooklyn High School of the Arts, Frank Sinatra School for the Arts, Passaic County Technical Institute and numerous New Jersey and New York pre-professional dance programs. Padierna was selected to commission work for the Young Choreographer's Festival at Symphony Space, New York City, as well as Jersey (NEW) Moves! Festival of Dance at New Jersey Performing Arts Center. He is now choreographer and creative collaborator for Olivia Lux, Emmy award-winning drag queen and performer from "RuPaul's Drag Race" Season 13.

This will be Padierna's fifth year as an Assistant Professor at Shenandoah University in Winchester, Virginia.



# At the end of the month!

GUEST ARTIST 9/28:

## MATT PARDO

Matt Pardo - M.F.A., AEA. Experience: Eisenhower Dance Ensemble, River North Chicago Dance Company (apprentice), Pittsburgh Opera, Groundworks Dance Theatre, "Einstein on the Beach" (Olivier Award – Best Opera), Lucinda Childs Dance Company, among others. Dance Europe Magazine selected him as one of the "Top 100 dancers in the world" for 2010/2011 and called him "an artist to watch". Pardo is a co-founder and co-director of The Blanket ([theblanket.org](http://theblanket.org)), which has been featured in Dance Magazine-online, Departures Magazine (American Express), The Fjord Review, and the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. Pardo's choreographic and teaching credits include the American Dance Festival, Point Park University, Elon University, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre School, Centre National De Danse (Paris), Slippery Rock University, and more. Scholarly research includes an article in the Journal of Dance Education discussing the use of experiential observation in developing a practice of performance. Pardo is an associate professor of dance at James Madison University ([matt-pardo.com](http://matt-pardo.com))

