



KENT STATE  
UNIVERSITY

2011—2012

Dear Prospective Student:

Thank you for your inquiry into the Kent State University professional dance program. The Dance Division, located in the School of Theatre and Dance and College of the Arts, offers a **Bachelor of Fine Arts** degree in dance with tracks in **Dance** (Modern Dance Performance/Choreography) or in **Dance Education** (with Ohio multi-age licensure). All dance majors receive a strong foundation in modern dance, ballet and jazz, dance composition, dance academics, acting, music and anatomy, in addition to the required Kent Core. Double majors are allowed; however, be advised that this may add additional time to your college degree program.

We also offer a **Dance Minor** and non-major “**Studio**” dance classes for beginning through intermediate dancers. All prospective dance majors and minors must audition for acceptance into the program.

High school students may complete their graduation requirements while taking KSU dance classes through the **Post Secondary Education Option Program (PSEOP)**.

Our faculty of talented professionals is committed to producing the highest caliber of dancers. Master classes and company residencies are offered as opportunities arise. Numerous performing and choreographic opportunities in dance and theatre give our students valuable stage experience and the **Kent Dance Ensemble**, our student touring repertory company, performs in area schools and presents its own concert each year.

**Creative Artists Awards** in dance are available through the Honors College at Kent. These scholarships are for talented high school seniors with high academic averages and test scores who plan to enter Kent as freshmen. For more information, please contact the Honors College at (330) 672-2312.

Thanks to our emphasis on versatility and excellence in all aspects of dance and its related fields, graduates of the KSU Dance program can be found throughout the country, performing in modern and jazz dance companies (in Ohio, New York, Chicago, Minneapolis, Seattle and Virginia), at Disney and on cruise ships; teaching in colleges, universities, public schools and private studios; and owning/working in fitness and recreational centers. Others have gone on to graduate schools in dance or dance related subjects such as dance/physical therapy or in theatre/arts administration.

Before choosing a college dance program it is important to find the best “fit” for you. You are encouraged to visit the Dance Department during one of the University’s Open Houses or attend a College of the Arts “**Dance Shadow Day**.” Class observations can be arranged and should be scheduled at a time when you can also attend one of our dance concerts.

You are encouraged to visit the website at [www.dance.kent.edu](http://www.dance.kent.edu), where audition registration forms are also located. For additional information, contact the Dance office at (330) 672-2069 or [dance@kent.edu](mailto:dance@kent.edu).

I look forward to hearing from you and answering any questions you might have about the KSU Dance programs.

Sincerely,



Andrea Shearer  
Dance Division Director

AS/dmc

(w) misc/dance info packet

**School of Theatre and Dance**

1325 Theatre Drive • P.O. Box 5190 • Kent, Ohio 44242-0001  
Theatre: 330-672-2082, Fax: 330-672-2889, Mail: B141 Music and Speech  
Dance: 330-672-2069, Fax: 330-672-4897, Mail: D101 Music and Speech

KENT STATE UNIVERSITY  
School of Theatre and Dance  
Dance Division  
D101 Music & Speech Center (MSP)  
PO Box 5190  
Kent, OH 44242-0001  
Web site: [www.dance.kent.edu](http://www.dance.kent.edu)

**DANCE AUDITIONS**

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FALL	SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 2011	(DUE: August 13)	2:00 PM - 6:00 PM
FALL	SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2011	(DUE: November 5)	2:00 PM - 6:00 PM
SPRING	SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2012	(DUE: February 4)	2:00 PM - 6:00 PM
SPRING	SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 2012	(DUE: March 31)	2:00 PM - 6:00 PM

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All applicants must take an audition class which includes ballet, modern dance, improvisation and jazz and is given by the dance faculty.

Attire:                   Ballet                                 - ballet shoes, tights and leotards  
                              Modern & Improvisation - bare feet, footless tights and leotards  
                              Jazz                                     - jazz shoes (ballet shoes or bare feet are acceptable)

Reminders:                Acceptance into the dance program is contingent upon acceptance by the University.  
                                  University application deadline is March 15.

                                  If applying for scholarship consideration, you **must register with both** the Honors College (330-672-3212) **and** the Dance Division.

**Dance Audition Registration Form**

Go to [www.dance.kent.edu](http://www.dance.kent.edu).

Click on "Dance" (on the left side of the screen), then click on "Auditions" at the top of the screen. Once the "Dance Auditions and Requirements" page opens, click on "Click Here to Download a Dance Audition Form" (near top of page).

Return the completed form, along with your photo and letter of recommendation from a dance teacher a minimum of 2 weeks prior to the audition.

Send materials to:  
Dance Division/Auditions  
Kent State University  
D-101 Music & Speech Center  
1325 Theatre Drive  
PO Box 5190  
Kent OH 44242-0001

## KENT STATE UNIVERSITY DANCE FACULTY

**KIMBERLY KARPANTY**, Associate Professor of Dance, came to Kent State University in 1995 as Artist-in-Residence. She received her Master of Arts degree in Dance and Dance Education from New York University in New York City where she performed and taught professionally for over ten years; and completed her Master of Fine Arts degree in Dance at Arizona State University. Karpanty has been an invited guest teacher at numerous universities and dance festivals, and has had work produced throughout the U.S. and abroad. In the summer of 2001 her work was performed in Mexico as a finalist in the Jazz Dance World Congress choreography competition. At Kent State University, Karpanty directs the Kent Dance Ensemble and teaches modern, jazz, composition and related academics. Her awards for research and creative activity include consecutive grants for choreography from the Dance in Education Fund, Inc. in New York (1994 and 1995), a Kent State University research appointment in jazz dance history (1997), two commissions from the Northeast Ohio Dance Ensemble (1998, 2001), a 2001 commission for choreography from Richard Stockton College in New Jersey and a bonus award from Kent State University honoring her performance as a full-time, non-tenure track faculty member (2000). Karpanty is a certified instructor in Core Dynamics Pilates, and tours professionally with Travesty Dance Group, of which she is co-founder and co-director.

**ERIN LASALA**, Assistant Professor of Dance, joined our faculty in Fall 2009. She received her B.S. in Dance Education from the University of South Florida (2003) and her M.F.A. in Dance Choreography from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (2009). She has been a member of the summer dance faculty at Winthrop University in their Kaleidoscope Arts Program and served as a member of the dance technique faculty at UNC Greensboro. She has also directed middle and high school dance programs in Florida and held several other instructional positions. LaSala's training has been equally devoted to ballet, jazz and modern dance. She conducts her technique classes using various methods of translating traditional training forms of classical dance into contemporary methods, while still keeping to the form's original integrity. She has danced professionally with Asher Dance Eclectic and Revolutions Dance Company, as well as worked as a free-lance performer and choreographer in Florida and North Carolina. LaSala has had her choreography performed and recognized in numerous venues throughout New York, Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia.

**JOAN MEGGITT** first joined our faculty in Spring 2005 as a part-time instructor, returning in Fall 2005 to serve as Assistant Professor/Artist-in-Residence for three years. She re-joined us in Fall 2008 as a Visiting Assistant Professor. Meggitt is the Founding Director of Antaeus Dance, a modern dance company based in Cleveland, Ohio. She choreographs for and performs with the Company, which has an annual season in Cleveland as well as touring engagements throughout the year. Meggitt began dancing at Allegheny College (B.A., Economics) and earned her M.F.A. in Dance from Case Western Reserve University. Her training has been devoted to the modern dance technique of Erick Hawkins, which she has studied under numerous company members, most notably Kelly Holt, James Reedy and Cynthia Reynolds. Meggitt has co-directed the Allegheny Summer Dance Intensive since 1999, and has been a guest artist and lecturer at Allegheny College, Case, Colby College, The College of Wooster, Oberlin College, The School of Ohio Dance Theatre, and St. Lawrence University, as well as at English College, Pedagogic University, and Viljandi Culture College in Estonia.

**BILL SALLAK**, Assistant Professor/Dance Music Director, joined the Dance Division in October 2008. Prior to his appointment at Kent State, he worked with the Ohio Ballet, Verlezza Dance, Nadeen O'Connor Dance Theatre and Conder/DANCE; and the dance departments at SUNY-Fredonia, The University of Akron, Ohio University, Cleveland State University, Slippery Rock University and Arizona State University; and his music has reached audiences in New York City, Detroit, Mexico, Greece, South Korea and Bangladesh. In addition to his work with dance, he has performed in several contemporary music ensembles, including Crossing 32nd Street (Phoenix, AZ), Music on the Edge (Pittsburgh, PA), PRISM Players (NYC, NY) and the Akros Percussion Collective (Akron, OH), as well as the Phoenix and Akron Symphonies. As a percussionist, conductor, composer and coach, Bill has given world and regional premiere performances of over three dozen works; and he has taught university courses in percussion, contemporary music, music history, rock and jazz music, world music, electronic music, audio engineering and physics. He is a member of the International Guild of Musicians in Dance and the Percussive Arts Society Technology Committee. He holds degrees from SUNY-Fredonia and The University of Akron, and is currently completing his doctorate at Arizona State University.

**ANDREA TECZA SHEARER**, Associate Professor of Dance, has been on the faculty at Kent State University since 1980, and has served as the Dance Division Director since Fall 1996. Born and raised in northeastern New Jersey, she received her B.F.A. in Dance from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and her M.A. from the University of Michigan; and has studied extensively in New York City at Robert Joffrey's American Ballet Center, Merce Cunningham and Martha Graham Schools and with the José Limón Company. While on the faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Ms. Shearer studied ballet under guest artists Michael Maule, Jonathan Watts and William Carter; and performed with Dancecircus, Milwaukee's oldest continuing professional modern dance repertory company. In 1979, she became ballet mistress to the Canton (Ohio) Civic Ballet before moving to Kent State University where she has taught all levels of Ballet and Modern Technique, Dance Science, Dance Composition and Production. She is the Associate Director of the Leaven Dance Company, a sacred/liturgical company which performs nationally and internationally, and teaches Jitterbug in her spare time. Named Kent's first "Outstanding Adviser" for her role with the Kent Dance Association, Professor Shearer has twice been nominated for the University's Distinguished Teaching Award.

**BARBARA ALLEGRA VERLEZZA**, Associate Professor, joined our faculty as Artist-in-Residence in Fall 2004, having previously served with the Dance Division at Kent State University as a part-time instructor, Kent Dance Ensemble guest choreographer and visiting assistant professor. Following the completion of her education at the University of Michigan with a B.S. in Education of Dance (1975) and her M.F.A. degree (1978), Barbara danced professionally in New York City with the May O'Donnell Dance Company for almost 10 years until Ms. O'Donnell's retirement in 1988. She also danced with the Joyce Trisler Danscompany, Sophie Maslow, Norman Walker and Verlezza Dance. From 1981–1994 she was part-time instructor at Adelphi University, New York under director Norman Walker. In 1994, she relocated to Cleveland, Ohio to work with Dancing Wheels, a professional company of dancers with and without disabilities founded by Mary Verdi-Fletcher. For nine years, she served in the capacity of Associate Artistic Director, Education Director, principal dancer, faculty member, Administrative Director (1994-1999) and, along with her husband, created repertory and assembly, outreach and educational programs integrating professional dancers and students with and without disabilities. For over 25 years, Barbara has guest taught at numerous universities, private schools and companies throughout the world and has staged her own works as well as the repertoire of Ms. O'Donnell and Mr. Verlezza in many settings, including the Oakland Ballet; Danskern, Amsterdam; Dan Ching, Taiwan; the University of South Florida; Cleveland San Jose Ballet and the University of Akron.

**KENT STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**KENT, OHIO**

**ATTENTION COLLEGE BOUND DANCERS !!**

**SCHOLARSHIPS**

The Honors College of Kent State University announces its Creative Artists Awards for freshmen entering the university in the Fall semester immediately following graduation from high school.

The CAA Awards are granted to talented young people who demonstrate talent in creative and performing arts combined with high academic abilities. The competition is open to High School Seniors with a grade point average of at least 3.4 at the end of their junior year, ACT scores of 24 or SAT scores of 1090 (combined).

The scholarship stipends range from \$1,500 to \$3,500 per academic year and are renewable for four years. If you fit the above criteria and you are a young dancer who may be interested in declaring a Dance Major at Kent State University, contact the Honors College for more information (you must also register separately with the Dance Division for a dance audition):

Honors College  
Stopher-Johnson Hall/Creative Artist Awards Program  
Kent State University  
PO Box 5190  
Kent, OH 44242-0001  
(330) 672-2312

All dance nominees will be expected to take a dance audition which includes ballet, modern, jazz and improvisation; and show a two-minute dance of their own selection in ballet, modern or jazz. Nominees may be assessed during any of the scheduled audition dates in their senior year of high school.

For more information on the Dance Division at Kent State University and/or to register for a dance audition, please call or write:

Prof. Andrea Shearer, Dance Division Director  
Kent State University  
Dance Division - D101 Music & Speech Center (MSP)  
1325 Theatre Drive  
PO Box 5190  
Kent, OH 44242-0001  
(330) 672-2069

(w) misc/dance info packet

# UPCOMING

## **DANCE '11: *Parallel and Intersect***

December 2–4, 2011

E. Turner Stump Theatre

Ticket Information and Reservations: (330) 672-2497

## **B.F.A. SENIOR DANCE CONCERT**

March 1–3, 2012

(Thursday – Saturday at 8:00 PM)

EZ Black Box Theatre

Ticket Information and Reservations: (330) 672-2497

## **STUDENT DANCE FESTIVAL**

March 4, 2012

(Sunday at 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM)

EZ Black Box Theatre

Seating: First Come, First Served

## **KENT DANCE ENSEMBLE CONCERT**

March 30–April 1, 2012

E. Turner Stump Theatre

Ticket Information and Reservations: (330) 672-2497

*For the most current concert information, please  
visit our website at [www.dance.kent.edu](http://www.dance.kent.edu).*

# PERFORMANCES