

SCHOOL OF

DANCE

BFA

LIFELONG LESSONS...



THE UNIVERSITY
OF ARIZONA



dance.arizona.edu

...LIFELONG MEMORIES

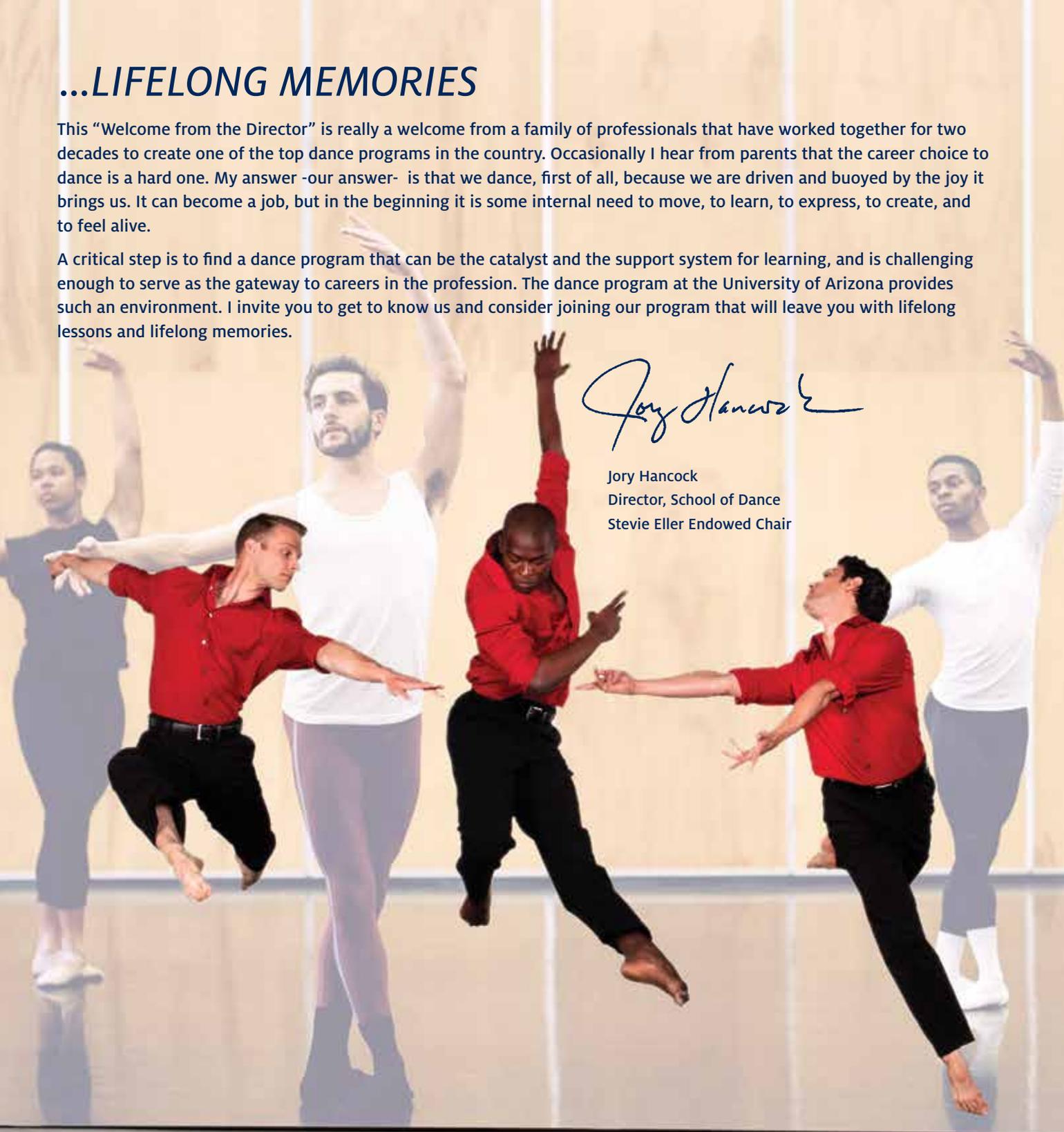
This “Welcome from the Director” is really a welcome from a family of professionals that have worked together for two decades to create one of the top dance programs in the country. Occasionally I hear from parents that the career choice to dance is a hard one. My answer -our answer- is that we dance, first of all, because we are driven and buoyed by the joy it brings us. It can become a job, but in the beginning it is some internal need to move, to learn, to express, to create, and to feel alive.

A critical step is to find a dance program that can be the catalyst and the support system for learning, and is challenging enough to serve as the gateway to careers in the profession. The dance program at the University of Arizona provides such an environment. I invite you to get to know us and consider joining our program that will leave you with lifelong lessons and lifelong memories.



Jory Hancock

Jory Hancock
Director, School of Dance
Stevie Eller Endowed Chair



WHAT WE'RE MADE OF

A TRIPLE-TRACK APPROACH

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The BFA is a **PROFESSIONAL DEGREE**, emphasizing both the studio and performance experience. The primary focus is to offer technical training that optimally prepares dancers for future professional careers in dance upon graduation. In meeting these demands, the unique **TRIPLE-TRACK DESIGN** affords students the opportunity to study ballet, modern, and jazz with strong and equal emphasis. The BFA degree in dance places an emphasis on **TECHNIQUE AND PERFORMANCE**, yet students are also assured of receiving a **WELL-ROUNDED EDUCATION**, housed within an institution nationally lauded for scientific discoveries and research.

CORE CURRICULUM

The dance technique curriculum is designed to prepare students for careers as performers, choreographers, movement specialists and teachers, and develops scholarly foundations for specialized and advanced degree work. It approaches the study of dance as an art form and as a means to understand society, history, the human body, and other areas of scholarly endeavor. The core curriculum for dance majors includes history, research in world dance, biomechanics, improvisation, choreography, a music course for dancers, musical theatre vocal training, production, and career planning. In the junior year, majors may choose to emphasize ballet, modern, or jazz dance in their technical classes and in performance or maintain a broad, diverse approach. A senior project may be in the areas of performance, choreography, artistic collaboration, or scholarly research.



A PLACE TO GROW, DISCOVER AND CREATE

STEVIE ELLER DANCE THEATRE

In 2003 the University of Arizona's dance program was privileged by the completion of the Stevie Eller Dance Theatre. Home to the UA Dance Ensemble, dance majors rehearse and perform in this award-winning, state-of-the-art facility. The 29,000 square foot complex, which houses a 300-seat theatre with a spacious stage, full-fly system and full orchestra pit, is host to some 40 performances a year by majors in the dance program. Additionally, performances are supported by a costume shop, scene shop, Pilates studio, physical therapy clinic, and ample dressing rooms.

Lead architects on the project, Donna Barry and José Pombo (then with Gould Evans), created a space so inviting and yet so innovative that several awards announced and recognized their work. A 2003 Citation Award from the AIA and a Best Public Project over \$5M were quickly followed in 2004 with the AIA Arizona Honor Award. In short order, the building was added as one of only fifteen on the list of "Arizona's Greatest Architectural Wonders."



The Stevie Eller Dance Theatre provides a brilliant blend of form and function, resulting in this stunning achievement. This building will continue to impact future generations of students, artists, and art patrons.



The theatre's design — an integration of art, movement, and architecture — features a second-story studio.



TECHNICAL TRAINING TO MEET YOUR GOALS

BALLET, MODERN, JAZZ

Three levels of technique are offered in each discipline. Dancers are carefully placed into classes by the faculty according to each dancer's technical competency. This ensures dancers will receive ample challenges and maximum progression in technique and virtuosity. Dancers can look forward to embracing and becoming fluent in a broad range of material as part of their foundation, leading them to find their own unique voices and versatility as performers. Studying with and being mentored by a faculty, all of whom are distinguished figures in the dance world, ensures that dancers will have a stimulating environment in which to learn and to make professional connections as they approach graduation.

BALLET

The ballet faculty's approach to instruction is deeply rooted in the classical traditions of the great Italian, Russian, and American ballet masters. This comprehensive approach to training enables dancers to transfer technical knowledge to both established and contemporary repertoire. Two levels of pointe work are offered as well as men's technique, ballet repertoire, and partnering.

MODERN

With instruction from modern dance faculty who have extensive and personal references to traditional vocabularies such as Humphrey, Graham, Limón, Cunningham, Taylor, and Lewitzky, as well as contemporary methodologies, dancers receive diverse exposure to the past and present styles of modern dance movement.

JAZZ

The jazz dance faculty hail from professional performance backgrounds with diverse jazz influences, most notably, Gus Giordano. Individually, they have worked in professional musical theatre, corporate industrials, fashion, and managed and directed their own companies. Two levels of tap are offered as part of our jazz curriculum.

MEET OUR FACULTY AND STAFF:

dance.arizona.edu

PERFORMANCE

With the extensive number of performances each season (and an impressive number of season subscribers as audience members), students grow increasingly more comfortable, spontaneous and free to take risks on stage. The UA Dance Ensemble is comprised of BFA and MFA students, privileged to perform in the state-of-the-art performance facility; the Stevie Eller Dance Theatre. Dancers enjoy a large performance season, averaging 40+ main stage concerts per year.

**THROUGH PERFORMANCE
STUDENTS ARE FULLY ABLE TO
INTEGRATE AND APPLY WHAT
THEY HAVE LEARNED IN THE
CLASSROOM.**

A LIST OF CRITERIA TO HELP APPLICANTS UNDERSTAND THE BFA PROGRAM

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

The following list of criteria is used by the dance faculty as a guideline when auditioning students for the BFA program. Our criteria demonstrates the professional and serious nature of our program so that applicants can determine whether the level of training they have received will align them successfully with our entrance standards.

Due to the fact that the BFA is a professional degree, our criteria requires each accepted applicant to appear physically and mentally capable of completing the rigors of the four year program. The faculty choose dancers who are disciplined, focused, and exhibit a level of professionalism which will allow them to be competitive in the professional job market upon graduation.

ENTRANCE CRITERIA

- ▶ A strong ballet base with minimum 5 years study in one or more of the following training programs:
 - arts conservatory
 - affiliate school of a company
 - arts magnet high school dance program
 - reputable dance studio that regularly concertizes
- ▶ Ability to demonstrate strength and/or have notable attributes in all of the following areas:
 - technical facility
 - knowledge of movement vocabulary beyond a foundational level
 - clearly articulated footwork
- ▶ A well-proportioned and toned physique
- ▶ Accuracy of line and body placement
- ▶ Musicality
- ▶ Learning potential (the ability to readily embrace new concepts)
- ▶ Knowledge of all three concentration areas in our program: ballet, modern, and jazz
- ▶ Performance experience suggested

TOP-RANKED

The Performing Arts Major's College Guide listed the UA Dance program as one of the top 20. In addition to being internationally recognized, the School of Dance received the University-Wide Teaching Award for Meritorious Departmental Achievement in Undergraduate Education, "for sharing (your) vision, your art and inspiration across cultural, educational and disciplinary bounds." The UA School of Dance is a charter member of the National Association of Schools of Dance.

REGULARLY FEATURED IN:
DANCE MAGAZINE
POINTE MAGAZINE
DANCE TEACHER
DANCE SPIRIT



ADMISSION

Visit dance.arizona.edu for upcoming audition dates and application deadlines.

A TWO-STEP PROCESS

STEP ONE: Complete an application for admission to the University of Arizona. This application should be submitted to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.

STEP TWO: Complete the College of Fine Arts supplemental application in your UA Future online portal. In-person auditions are scheduled through the online application.

ONLINE APPLICATION

- ▶ Outline of training in Ballet, Modern, & Jazz
- ▶ Resumé of dance experience
- ▶ Full body photo in first arabesque
- ▶ Headshot
- ▶ One Reference contact information
- ▶ Video content per required guidelines
- ▶ Audition Fee (see dance.arizona.edu)

AUDITION FORMAT

Attending one of our national auditions on the University of Arizona campus is strongly encouraged and will help you become familiar with our faculty, curriculum, and state-of-the-art facilities. The auditions are instructed by UA Dance Faculty, following a class format of a brief ballet barre, several ballet center-floor combinations, a modern combination, and a jazz combination. Dancers will not be asked to present a prepared solo as part of the audition. For dancers unable to travel to Tucson we offer a video audition option.

SUGGESTED DRESS CODE

- ▶ Leotard and tights for ballet, jazz pants for jazz (optional), footless tights for modern
- ▶ Ballet shoes and jazz shoes (modern will be executed barefoot)
- ▶ Hair confined up off the neck and back from the face
- ▶ Females: solid leotard or a unitard (no loose fitting clothing)
- ▶ Males: solid color top/tights or a unitard (no loose fitting clothing)



VIDEO SUBMISSION

The video submission is an integral and required piece of the dance application for all auditioners.

Videos are submitted as part of the School of Dance online application.

Primarily, the video should contain classroom/studio footage. It is most helpful if the applicant is the only individual filmed. In addition to the requirements listed, a performance clip/clips may be included at the end of the footage, making sure if in a group, the applicant can be easily identified.

CONTENT REQUIREMENTS

Please introduce yourself and briefly state the reasons you are interested in applying to the University of Arizona School of Dance.

BALLET SEGMENT

- ▶ 2 Ballet Barrework Combinations (side view)
- ▶ 3 Ballet Centerwork Combinations to include:
 - An Adagio demonstrating control, line, extension, placement
 - Pirouettes en dehors and en dedans
 - A Petit Allegro Combination
 - A Grand Allegro Combination

Optional for female dancers: 1 or 2 pointe work exercises in the center

Optional for male and female dancers: 1 or 2 brief partnering excerpts

MODERN SEGMENT

- ▶ 2 Modern Combinations of approximately 32 counts or 1/2 minute each which should demonstrate the following:
 - Articulation of the spine
 - Descending and ascending (floorwork)

Optional: you may wish to do just one combination which is twice as long (64 counts or one full minute)

Include slow, sustained movement as well as quicker footwork/changes of direction

JAZZ SEGMENT

- ▶ A Lyrical Combination (approximately 32 counts or 1/2 minute)
- ▶ An Upbeat Combination (approximately 32 counts or 1/2 minute)
- ▶ Demonstrate your turning ability
- ▶ Demonstrate your jumping ability

Optional: musical theatre or tap combination

PLAN OF STUDY

FRESHMAN FALL SEMESTER		FRESHMAN SPRING SEMESTER	
ENGLISH 101	3	ENGLISH 102	3
MATH 105 (or above) or PHIL 110 (MRT must be taken)	3	TIER I: NATS	3
DNC 200 History	3	TIER I: INDV	3
DNC 145 Improvisation	1	DNC 343 Ensemble	1
DNC Tech I (200 level or above, Ballet, Modern or Jazz)	2	DNC 243 Creating with Movement and Rhythm	2
DNC Tech II (300 level or above, Ballet, Modern or Jazz)	2	DNC Tech I (200 level or above, Ballet, Modern or Jazz)	2
DNC 301A Pilates/302 Injury Prevention/303 Yoga for Dancers	1	DNC Tech II (300 level or above, Ballet, Modern or Jazz)	2
TOTAL:	15	TOTAL:	16

SOPHOMORE FALL SEMESTER		SOPHOMORE SPRING SEMESTER	
TIER I: NATS	3	TIER II: INDV	3
TIER I: TRAD	3	TIER I: TRAD	3
TIER I: INDV	3	DNC 343 Ensemble	1
DNC 343 Ensemble	1	DNC Tech I (200 level or above, Ballet, Modern or Jazz)	2
DNC 245A Basic Choreography	2	TIER II: NATS	3
DNC Tech I (200 level or above, Ballet, Modern or Jazz)	2	DNC 245B Basic Choreography	2
DNC Tech II (300 level or above, Ballet, Modern or Jazz)	2	DNC Elective	1
n/a	---	Foreign Language 1st semester**	4
TOTAL	16	TOTAL:	19

JUNIOR FALL SEMESTER		JUNIOR SPRING SEMESTER	
TIER II: HUM	3	DNC Elective or Technique	2
Department Specified Music Course	3	Department Specified Music Course	3
DNC Tech II (300 level or above, Ballet, Modern or Jazz)	2	DNC 343 Ensemble	1
DNC 343 Ensemble	1	DNC 455 Biomechanics	3
DNC Elective	2	DNC 445B Advanced Choreography	2
DNC Tech II (300 level or above, Ballet, Modern or Jazz)	2	DNC Tech II (300 level or above, Ballet, Modern or Jazz)	2
DNC 445A Advanced Choreography	2	DNC 394B Production Project	1
n/a	---	Foreign Language 2nd semester**	4
TOTAL	15	TOTAL	18

SENIOR FALL SEMESTER		SENIOR SPRING SEMESTER	
DNC Elective or Technique	2	DNC Elective or Technique	3
DNC Elective or Technique	2	Department Specified Fine Arts Course	3
DNC 343 Ensemble	2	DNC 343 Ensemble	1
DNC Tech III (400 level Ballet, Modern or Jazz)	2	DNC Tech III (400 level Ballet, Modern or Jazz)	2
DNC 498 Senior Capstone	1	DNC 446 Careers in Dance	3
DNC 400 Dance and Culture	3	DNC Elective	2
TOTAL	12	TOTAL	14

BFA = 125 UNITS*

*This is a suggested program for the BFA in Dance. The order in which degree requirements are completed depends on course availability, transfer units, deficiencies at the time of admission, summer/winter coursework and other factors.

**Students entering with extensive Foreign Language study during High School may need only second semester proficiency (a single semester) or may place out of both semesters entirely.

UA DANCE ALUMNI

For a comprehensive list visit dance.arizona.edu

BALLET COMPANIES

Pacific Northwest Ballet, WA
Houston Ballet, TX
Ballet West, UT
City Ballet of San Diego, CA
Rochester City Ballet, NY
Ballet Hispanico II, NYC

BROADWAY / LAS VEGAS / TOURING SHOWS

Chicago
Wicked
Billy Elliot
Radio City Rockettes (NYC cast)
An American in Paris
Cirque du Soleil, numerous productions

CONTEMPORARY & JAZZ COMPANIES

10 Hairy Legs, NYC
Hubbard Street Dance Company, IL
Paul Taylor II, NYC
BodyTraffic, CA
Giordano Dance Chicago, IL
Keigwin + Company, NYC



CAMPUS

Founded in 1885, the University of Arizona is a Land Grant and leading Public Research University. With a population of over 40,000 students, and a 387-acre campus in central Tucson, UA is the oldest continually maintained green space in Arizona offering some of the highest quality academics in the country.

arizona.edu

Photo by Ernesto Somoza, UA "Old Main"



CULTURE

Along with the School of Dance, the Fred Fox School of Music, School of Theatre, Film & Television, and the School of Art comprise the College of Fine Arts. Facilities housing these units include the Marroney and Tornabene Theatres, Crowder and Holsclaw Halls, the Joseph Gross and Lionel Rombach Galleries, the Marshall Building, and Centennial Hall. Four arts presenting organizations on campus put world-class performances and visual art at the fingertips of all UA students: UA Presents, the Center for Creative Photography, The University of Arizona Museum of Art, and the Hanson Film TV Institute.

cfa.arizona.edu

Photo by Ernesto Somoza, Lionel Rombach Gallery





CITY

More than 1 million people from all over the world call the “Old Pueblo” home. Tucson provides students with a highly active professional performing arts community of music, theater, fine art, and dance companies. Tucson offers an immense amount of outdoor activities such as hiking, biking, rock climbing, camping, and more. The city is surrounded by mountains framing the famous sunsets of the southwest.

visittucson.org

Photo by Ernesto Somoza, Tucson Convention Center



STUDENT CHOREOGRAPHY

Students receive many opportunities to choreograph during their degree program at UA Dance. Such opportunities include “Student Spotlight,” a juried concert featuring student works selected by UA Dance faculty members and “Last Chance to Dance,” an end of semester choreography showcase.

Photo by Ed Flores, Student Spotlight performance featuring work by student choreographer Taylor Mitchell



VISITING ARTISTS

Students have valuable opportunities to learn and perform masterworks from notable choreographers such as George Balanchine, Martha Graham, Jerome Robbins, Edward Villella (photo right), Ben Stevenson, Ann Reinking, Paul Taylor, Mia Michaels, Sherry Zunker, Paul Sanasardo, Donald McKayle, Frank Chaves, Bella Lewitsky, José Limón, Christopher Wheeldon, Larry Keigwin, Gus Giordano, Alexei Ratmansky, Jessica Lang & Nacho Duato.

Photo by Taylor Noel, guest artist Edward Villella coaching George Balanchine's *Tchaikovsky Pas De Deux* with dancers, Brandon Coleman and Allyson March



PILATES PROGRAM

The UA Dance Pilates and Movement Therapy Program is tailored to meet the specific needs of our Dance majors, focusing on core strength, movement awareness, body symmetry, and injury prevention. Fully endorsed by Pilates Master Ron Fletcher and taught by Fletcher Pilates Program Director, Kyria Sabin Waugaman, our program features state-of-the-art professional Pilates equipment. Dance majors have the opportunity to pursue a Pilates certification offered in partnership with Fletcher Pilates and UA Dance.

Photo featuring the Somatics Lab home of the UA Dance Pilates and Movement Therapy Program



DOUBLE DEGREES

Dancers have the opportunity to pursue additional programs of study alongside their dance degree. Alumni have earned degrees in marketing, aerospace engineering, neuroscience, mechanical engineering, optical science, English, biology and others. Double degrees and minors are philosophically encouraged and supported.



MALE TRAINING & PARTNERING

A portion of the BFA curriculum is dedicated to meeting the specific training needs of male dancers. Classes are designed to enhance the strength, power, and stamina required of professional male dancers. Daily training provides an environment for men to work together, mastering elevation, turns, beats, and virtuoso technical steps. Supported adagio classes hone partnering skills and build confidence associated with becoming a trusted partner, which is vital to a male dancer's career. The number of men in the program, about 1/3 of dance majors, is a distinct advantage for women, who can look forward to abundant partnering opportunities in the classroom and performance.





COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS
School of Dance

University of Arizona School of Dance

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Photo by Ed Flores featuring Thomas Archey

Photo by Taylor Noel featuring Professor James Clouser teaching men's Ballet Technique