

THIRD ANNUAL

DANCE FESTIVAL



Six Headliners

- Martha Graham Dance Company
- Beth Gill Dance
- Luna Negra Dance Theater
- RPO
- LehrerDance
- FuturPointe Dance

Master Classes

Community Dances

Lectures

Outdoor performances
... and more!

JULY 12-21, 2012
artscenter.naz.edu/dancefest

Thanks to our Dance Festival sponsors:



KATIE AND TRAVIS BETTERS

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friend,

We continue to raise the bar. For the 2012 Nazareth College Arts Center Dance Festival, we have established new partnerships, welcomed new sponsors, and expanded our roster of headliners. We will present the most sought-after performers and choreographers on the national dance scene and highlight our local and regional talent.

I am thrilled to have the RPO perform the “Dance Festival Overture” in our recently renovated, state-of-the-art Callahan Theater. It is my hope that this special dance-themed Pops concert, led by Principal Pops Conductor Jeff Tyzik, will be the beginning of a long-term partnership between Nazareth College and the RPO.

Our headliners also include the iconic Martha Graham Dance Company, two-time Bessie Award-winning choreographer Beth Gill, Chicago’s acclaimed Luna Negra Dance Theater, Buffalo’s wildly popular LehrerDance, and Rochester’s own contemporary fusion company, FuturPointe Dance.

In addition to these ticketed, headliner performances, we are offering many events that are free and open to the public, including all Master Classes, two outdoor “Dancing on the Grass” events, a performance on the lawn of the Memorial Art Gallery, and Community Dance events.

Our popular Choreographer Conversation—also free and open to the public—will feature Janet Eilber, artistic director of the Martha Graham Dance Company, and Beth Gill, choreographer/artistic director of Beth Gill Dance. The discussion will be moderated by Heather Roffe, who was recently appointed assistant professor of theatre in dance at Nazareth College.

I also would like to thank our festival sponsors and partners, who are listed below. Their support makes the Dance Festival possible.



Enjoy the festival!

Daan Braveman
President
Nazareth College

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS AND SPONSORS

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KATIE AND TRAVIS BETTERS

RPO

RG&E

Lifespan

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County Executive

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COVER PHOTO: *Katherine Crockett in Martha Graham’s Cave of the Heart*
Photo: John Deane/Copyright: John Deane

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome to the third annual Nazareth College Arts Center Dance Festival!

This year promises to be our best, and we invite you to join us for an exciting community-wide celebration of dance.

This year's Dance Festival will feature an expanded and diverse roster of headliner events, as well as a wide variety of programs by some of the most popular and engaging regional companies.

We'll open with a dance-themed concert, and showcase performances by one of the most celebrated contemporary dance companies in the country. We'll present traditional Native American dance-drama and high-energy Latino choreography; athletic, jazz-based contemporary movement, award-winning experimental work, and a cross-cultural, multi-media program. Audiences will be awed, inspired, and entertained.

This year, all our dance headliners—as well as most of our featured regional companies—will lead free Master Classes on campus or provide instruction to underserved inner-city youth.

We also have several fun and informal outdoor events scheduled.

We will welcome Phoenix Project Dance for a much-anticipated performance on the lawn of the Memorial Art Gallery.

Our two evenings of "Dancing on the Grass" on campus balance traditional dance repertoire (performed by the Flower City Ballet) with traditional storytelling of Native America (performed by Daystar: Contemporary Dance-Drama of Indian America).



For those with little or no dance experience, we are also offering Community Dance instruction: enjoy free sessions in Broadway, modern square dance, and Latin American dance (Latin American sessions led by Luna Negra Dance Theater).

Susan Chekow Lusignan
Director of the Arts Center

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message from President Braveman.....	2	LehrerDance.....	16
Sponsors and Partners	2	Community Dances	17
Message from the Arts Center Director	3	FuturPointe Dance.....	18
Arts Center Contacts.....	3	Heather Roffe's appointment to Dept. of Theatre Arts	19
Ticket Information.....	5	Choreographer Conversation	20
Lifespan Service	9	Martha Graham Dance Company.....	22-23
Festival Calendar.....	8-9	Master Classes.....	24-25
Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra	12	Dancing on the Grass I and II.....	26-27
Phoenix Project Dance at the Memorial Art Gallery.....	13	Visual and Performing Arts at Nazareth College	28
Beth Gill Dance	14	Nazareth College Administration	31
Luna Negra Dance Theater	15		

Visit artscenter.naz.edu/dancefest



TICKETS

Nazareth College Arts Center • 2012 Dance Festival Pricing

EVENT	VENUE	DATE(S)	TIME	PREMIUM PRICE	ORCHESTRA PRICE
RPO	Callahan	Thurs., July 12	8 p.m.	\$50*	\$35
<i>*Premium seating includes admission to the post-show Party in the Garden</i>					
Beth Gill	Studio A48	Sat., July 14	2 p.m.	n/a	\$20
Beth Gill	Studio A48	Sat., July 14	6:30 p.m.	n/a	\$20
Luna Negra	Callahan	Sat., July 14	8 p.m.	\$50	\$35
Beth Gill	Studio A48	Sun., July 15	2 p.m.	n/a	\$20
Beth Gill	Studio A48	Sun., July 15	5:30 p.m.	n/a	\$20
LehrerDance	Callahan	Sun., July 15	7 p.m.	\$25	\$15
FuturPointe Dance	Callahan	Mon., July 16	8 p.m.	\$25	\$15
Martha Graham Program A	Callahan	Fri., July 20	8 p.m.	\$65	\$50
Martha Graham Program B	Callahan	Sat., July 21	8 p.m.	\$65	\$50

Tickets: artscenter.naz.edu/dancefest or 585-389-2170

PLEASE NOTE: With the exception of the community program held on the grounds of the Memorial Art Gallery, all events take place on the Nazareth College campus.

The following events are free and open to the public:

- All six Master Classes (see pp. 24-25 for a complete listing). Pre-registration is required. Please contact Lindsay Chassé to register: 585-389-2180 or lchasse7@naz.edu.
- The community dance event at the Memorial Art Gallery, featuring Phoenix Project Dance (see p. 13 for more information).
- Community Dances (see p. 17 for more information): three concurrent sessions of modern square dance, Broadway, and Latin American dance (Latin American sessions led by Luna Negra Dance Theater).
- Dancing on the Grass I, featuring Daystar: Contemporary Dance-Drama of Indian America (see p. 26 for more information).
- Dancing on the Grass II, featuring the Flower City Ballet (see p. 27 for more information).
- Choreographer conversation with Janet Eilber, artistic director, Martha Graham Dance Company, and Beth Gill, artistic director/choreographer, Beth Gill Dance (see p. 20 for more information).



Monroe County is proud to support the Nazareth College Arts Center Dance Festival

This exciting, innovative festival will surely enhance our image as one of the nation's top destinations for arts and culture.

Our community's newest festival will dance its way into your heart with electrifying performances from world-renowned companies, certain to take your breath away.



Maggie Brooks
County Executive

Powerful Partners

Serving our communities means providing reliable, essential electricity and natural gas service. It also means investing our energy in the organizations and events that make our communities special. We're pleased to lend our support to the Nazareth College Arts Center Dance Festival.

www.rge.com



FESTIVAL CALENDAR

THURS., JULY 12	7 p.m., The Peace Theater (A14) Pre-performance lecture with RPO Principal Pops Conductor Jeff Tyzik
	8 p.m., Callahan Theater Dance Festival Overture: RPO
SAT., JULY 14	11 a.m., Memorial Art Gallery of the University of Rochester; rain space: Memorial Art Gallery Auditorium Outdoor community dance program on the Memorial Art Gallery grounds (500 University Ave.) with Phoenix Project Dance. Free and open to the public.
	2 p.m., Studio A48* *(audience capacity: approx. 80) Beth Gill: <i>Electric Midwife</i>
	5:30-7 p.m., George Hall Dance Studio Adult Master Class—Jon Lehrer, Artistic Director, LehrerDance
	6:30 p.m., Studio A48* *(audience capacity: approx. 80) Beth Gill: <i>Electric Midwife</i>
	8 p.m., Callahan Theater Luna Negra Dance Theater
	8 p.m., Callahan Theater Luna Negra Dance Theater
SUN., JULY 15	2 p.m., Studio A48* *(audience capacity: approx. 80) Beth Gill: <i>Electric Midwife</i>
	5:30 p.m., Studio A48* *(audience capacity: approx. 80) Beth Gill: <i>Electric Midwife</i>
	7 p.m., Callahan Theater LehrerDance
MON., JULY 16	5:30-7 p.m., George Hall Dance Studio Adult Master Class—Beth Gill
	6-8 p.m., Otto A. Shults Community Center Community Dances: three concurrent sessions of modern square dance, Broadway, and Latin American dance (Latin American sessions led by Luna Negra Dance Theater). Free and open to the public.
	8 p.m., Callahan Theater FuturPointe Dance

PLEASE NOTE: With the exception of the community dance event held on the grounds of the Memorial Art Gallery, all events take place on the Nazareth College campus.

FESTIVAL CALENDAR

TUES., JULY 17	5:30-7 p.m., George Hall Dance Studio Adult Master Class—Beth Gill
	6-8 p.m., Outdoor stage by Golisano Academic Center; rain space: Callahan Theater Dancing on the Grass I Daystar: Contemporary Dance-Drama of Indian America Free and open to the public.
WED., JULY 18	5:30-7 p.m., George Hall Dance Studio Adult Master Class—Beth Gill
	6-7:30 p.m., Outdoor stage by Golisano Academic Center; rain space: Callahan Theater Dancing on the Grass II Flower City Ballet
THURS., JULY 19	5:30-7 p.m., George Hall Dance Studio Adult Master Class—Daystar/Rosalie Jones
	8 p.m., The Peace Theater (A14) Choreographer conversation with Janet Eilber (artistic director, Martha Graham Dance Company) and Beth Gill (artistic director/choreographer, Beth Gill Dance)
FRI., JULY 20	4-6 p.m., George Hall Dance Studio Adult Master Class—Martha Graham Dance Company
	7 p.m., The Peace Theater (A14) Pre-performance lecture presented by the Martha Graham Dance Company
	8 p.m., Callahan Theater Martha Graham Dance Company, Program “A”
SAT., JULY 21	7 p.m., The Peace Theater (A14) Pre-performance lecture presented by the Martha Graham Dance Company
	8 p.m., Callahan Theater Martha Graham Dance Company, Program “B”

Need a ride?

The Nazareth College Arts Center is pleased to partner with RSVP, the Volunteer Transportation Program of Lifespan.

Adults (55+) living in Monroe County who can no longer drive themselves and need a ride to one of the headliner, ticketed performances during the

Dance Festival can call to arrange free round-trip transportation, provided by a volunteer with Lifespan.

If you are interested in using this service, please contact Deb Foster, Arts Center Box Office Manager, for more information and details on the parameters of the service: (585) 389-2172.

visit artscenter.naz.edu/dancefest

you can
dance
anywhere,



even if only in your
heart.

The City of Rochester congratulates the Nazareth College Arts Center Dance Festival and supports their mission to provide a vibrant array of dance programs exploring and celebrating the range of expression of the human body in movement.



Thomas S. Richards, Mayor
City of Rochester, NY

2012-13

OUR 90th SEASON

ROCHESTER
PHILHARMONIC
ORCHESTRA

DANCE AT THE RPO

THE NUTCRACKER

NOVEMBER 23-25

KODAK HALL AT EASTMAN THEATRE

Tchaikovsky's classic, brought to life
by dancers from the Rochester City Ballet.

NEW YORK CITYSCAPES

FEBRUARY 1 AND 2 AT 8 PM

KODAK HALL AT EASTMAN THEATRE

Exquisite dance, featuring world-premiere choreography to
Jeff Tyzik's *New York Cityscapes*, with the Rochester City Ballet.



THE 2012-2013 SEASON IS PRESENTED BY DAWN  JACQUES LIPSON

Learn More About Our Season

585-454-2100
RPO.ORG


beyond measure.

THURSDAY, JULY 12

7 P.M., THE PEACE THEATER (A14)

Pre-performance lecture with Jeff Tyzik

8 P.M., CALLAHAN THEATER

Dance Festival Overture

Jeff Tyzik, conductor



Nazareth College Arts Center welcomes the RPO, for their debut performance at the College. Performers from the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra's hit 2011-2012 show *Let's Dance* return to open the festival. Swing and tango, plus music from *West Side Story* and Strauss waltzes.

Made possible with support from Louise Woerner & Don Kollmorgen; Louise Epstein; Dawn & Jacques Lipson; Suzanne Welch & William Watson; Alesco Advisors; Norman Horton; Marjorie & David Perlman; Rochester Area Community Foundation; John Williams & Chuck Lundeen



Principal Pops Conductor Jeff Tyzik

MEMORIAL ART GALLERY

**COMMUNITY DANCE
EVENT on the grounds
of the Memorial Art Gallery
(500 University Avenue)
SATURDAY, JULY 14
11 A.M.**

Free and open to the public

Phoenix Project Dance

Phoenix Project Dance was founded in 2004 under the artistic direction of Amber Perkins and is based upon the concept of re-invention of one's self. The Phoenix Project has achieved great successes in both Europe and America: the company toured Bavaria, Germany, in winter 2006 and received the honor of rehearsing with the Munich State Ballet. The Phoenix Project has been selected twice to perform at the Thang Dao Contemporary Dance Festival in NYC's Ailey Citi Group Theater: in 2009, to present "Stonehenge," and in 2010, to present "Democracy Is Coming."

Nazareth College would like to extend a special welcome to Phoenix Project Dance Executive Director and Choreographer Mike Perkins, and his sister Heather Perkins (a member of the Phoenix Project Dance Board of Directors), both of whom are alums of the College.

Amber Perkins, Artistic Director

Amber Perkins was born and raised in Norwich, New York, where she began her dance training. She attended Brockport College and the University of the Arts in Philadelphia, earning a bachelor of fine arts degree in dance as well as a bachelor of science degree in economics. She performed with the Danscore Company as a principal dancer for three years. As a choreographer, Amber has worked with various companies and dance institutions across both the United States and Canada, including the Williams/Henry Dance Theater in Kansas City. She is the owner of the nationally distinguished Amber Perkins School of the Arts as well as the artistic director of Phoenix Project Dance, both of which are based in Norwich. Perkins has won many choreography awards, including the prestigious "Spirit of Elan Award" for her piece *The Firebird*, given to an emerging choreographer and company. Perkins's work has been recognized in *Dancer Magazine* and *Dance Studio Life*. Her students have gone on to perform for various companies such as Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Pilobolus, Garth Fagan Dance, Radio City, David Parsons, and Tokyo Disney.



Stonehenge

BETH GILL DANCE

SATURDAY, JULY 14
2 P.M. AND 6:30 P.M.,
STUDIO A48

(audience capacity: approx. 80)

Two performances of
Electric Midwife

Exclusive, “black box” performances of *Electric Midwife*, Beth Gill’s signature 45-minute work, which was designed for intimate settings and is performed without intermission.

SUNDAY, JULY 15
2 P.M. AND 5:30 P.M.,
STUDIO A48

(audience capacity: approx. 80)

Two performances of
Electric Midwife

See above for program description.

***Beth Gill, Artistic Director/
Choreographer, Beth Gill
Dance***

Beth Gill received her B.F.A. from the New York University Tisch School of the Arts. Most recently, she was selected as one of *Dance Magazine’s* “25 to Watch” for 2012. Gill was the recipient of two New York State Dance and Performance “Bessie” Awards in 2011: the Outstanding Emerging Choreographer Award and a Special Juried Award—created in partnership with Nazareth

College—recognizing “the most interesting and exciting ideas happening in dance in New York City today.” Beth Gill also received the distinction of *Time Out New York’s* “Best Dance of 2011” for *Electric Midwife*.

Electric Midwife

“In *Electric Midwife*, Beth Gill is trying something new: to unveil a dance that retains, as much as possible, the sensation of what it looked like in the studio. Delving even deeper into ideas about perception and symmetry, with a vocabulary of minimal, precise movement and original music by Jon Moniaci, Gill has created a formal work for six women or, as it happens, three sets of twins.” (Gia Kourlas, *Time Out New York*)

Significance of the title

“My grandmother[’s] mother was a real-life midwife and her father was a real-life electrician. . . . Thinking about [my great-grandmother] . . . walking up and down these brownstone steps to help other women. . . it’s mystical and beautiful, real, scary, hard. . . I was just in love with thinking about my relatives who I’ve never met and the way that their lives were paving these ideals that mean something to me. That word assemblage stuck.” (Beth Gill, excerpt from interview in *Time Out New York*).



Beth Gill’s Electric Midwife. Photo: Julieta Cervantes/The New York Times/Redux

LUNA NEGRA DANCE THEATER

SATURDAY, JULY 14, 8 P.M.
CALLAHAN THEATER

The distinctive style of Chicago's acclaimed Luna Negra Dance Theater is a blend of ballet's discipline and the dynamic movements of contemporary dance, infused with the explosive energy of Latin and Afro-Caribbean dance forms.

Founded in 1999 by Cuban-born dancer and choreographer Eduardo Vilaro, Luna Negra Dance Theater is the only Latino contemporary dance company in the country that is solely devoted to the works of Latino choreographers. The company prides itself on presenting the works of renowned Latino contemporary choreographers as well as emerging Latino choreographers from around the world.

The company has created cross-disciplinary, richly textured, original contemporary dance theater through collaborations with world-renowned artists and organizations such as Peruvian singer Susana Baca, Chicago Sinfonietta, Tiempo Libre, and the Ravinia Festival.

Artistic Director Gustavo Ramírez Sansano

Gustavo Ramírez Sansano was appointed artistic director of Luna Negra Dance Theater in 2009, after directing TITTOYAYA Dance Project in Valencia, Spain, for four years. Sansano has received numerous awards for his choreography, including first prizes at the Ricard Moragas competition in Barcelona, the Dom Perignon choreographic competition in Hamburg, and at Las Artes Escénicas de la Comunidad Valenciana. His work has been featured at "Les Etoiles de Ballet" in Cannes and the IX International Festival of Ballet in Miami. He has been commissioned to create works for Compania Nacional de Danza, the Hamburg Ballet, Budapest Dance Theater, Ballet Junior de Genève, and Nederlands Dans Theater II, among others. As a dancer, Sansano performed with the Ballet Joven de Alicante, Ballet Contemporaneo de Barcelona, Ballet de la Comunidad de Madrid, Nederlands Dans Theater II, and Hubbard Street Dance Chicago. Sansano was just selected as one of *Dance Magazine's* "25 to Watch" for 2012.



Luna Negra Dance Theater.
Photo: Cheryl Mann.

LEHRERDANCE

SUNDAY, JULY 15, 7 P.M. CALLAHAN THEATER

(Please note: this will be a one-hour performance, presented without an intermission)



Photo by Mike Canale

Join us for an encore performance by Buffalo's wildly popular, "organically athletic" LehrerDance, offering a fusion of fluid modern movement with the energy of jazz dance.

LehrerDance is a "small, enviable team of dynamite Buffalo, N.Y. dancers" (*Chicago Tribune*) under the direction of Jon Lehrer. Jon's extensive background in both the modern and jazz dance idioms fosters a definitive choreographic style that is organic, artistic, accessible, and often humorous, reflecting life experience and the human condition.

The LehrerDance style is based on three main elements of movement: circularity, three-dimensionality, and momentum.

From break-dancing to modern, ballet to gymnastics, each dancer in this eight-member company adds their own spice to the LehrerDance mix, keeping it fresh and evolving.

Photo by David Evertsen

July 2012 marks LehrerDance's fifth anniversary, and the company has already received critical acclaim nationwide. *Dance Magazine* says LehrerDance "took the house not so much by storm as by quantum physics."

The company tours extensively, bringing their trademark athletic, edge-of-your-seat excitement to audiences across the country.

LehrerDance is proud to be the professional dance company in partnership with the University at Buffalo Department of Theatre and Dance, helping the arts thrive in Western New York.

"Seeing LehrerDance alongside the other culturally influenced companies [as part of the Dance Festival] will be a real treat for the audience. I have always considered LehrerDance to be a genuine American style of dance," says Jon Lehrer. "Like the United States itself, LehrerDance merges and combines many forms to create an exciting style that stands alone."



COMMUNITY DANCES

MONDAY, JULY 16, 6-8 P.M.

OTTO A. SHULTS COMMUNITY CENTER

These concurrent sessions were planned so that guests can try any or all dance styles. Classes are divided into two one-hour sessions. Free and open to the public. No registration required.

MODERN SQUARE DANCE

Style: modern square dance

Skill level: No experience necessary; children (3rd grade and older) and teens are welcome.

**Robert A. Kidera Gymnasium,
Otto A. Shults Community Center**

Square Dancing is a healthy, fun, “team building” exercise that can be enjoyed by people of all ages. Modern square dancing uses interesting choreography that is danced to modern and traditional music. These sessions will be an introduction to modern square dancing with a few current line dances taught.

Mike Callahan has been a full-time professional square dance caller since 1974. In addition to calling for square dance clubs throughout New York State, he has called for festivals in 20 states, as well as internationally in Canada, Germany and Australia. Mike also teaches square dancing in school physical education programs throughout Monroe and surrounding counties.

LATIN AMERICAN DANCE

Skill level: Beginner

The Cabaret, Otto A. Shults Community Center

Founded by Cuban-born dancer and choreographer Eduardo Vilaro, Luna Negra Dance Theater celebrates the richness and diversity of Latino culture through the creation of works by contemporary Latino choreographers and through intensive, hands-on education programs that encourage discovery and exploration of personal and community identity.

These sessions will be led by a principal instructor of Luna Negra Dance Theater.

BROADWAY

Skill level: Beginner

The Forum, Otto A. Shults Community Center

If you like Broadway, you’ll enjoy this introduction to basic musical theatre movement. Students will explore a variety of dance styles that lend themselves well to different musical eras. We will try ballroom, jazz dance, modern, and lyrical dance. A fun, informal introduction to musical theatre for all levels!

Lorene Benson has a B.A. in dance performance, and is the founder and director of Cobblestone Arts Center and of Wheels in Motion Dance Company. She has been teaching ballet, modern jazz and musical theatre dance since 1974.

FUTURPOINTE DANCE

MONDAY, JULY 16, 8 P.M.
CALLAHAN THEATER

(Please note: this will be a one-hour performance, presented without an intermission)

FuturPointe Dance is a dynamic contemporary dance company founded in 2009 in Rochester, N.Y. Their work is characterized by an eclectic, multi-genre repertoire that is in touch with contemporary/urban culture. Through trans-media collaborations with photographers, videographers, visual artists, composers, musicians, and puppeteers, the company's aesthetic is a collision of culture, rhythms, and varied choreographic styles expressing theme, story, and character. FuturPointe's fusion of Caribbean and African dance, ballet and Latin movement, reggae and urban vocabulary has engaged new and non-traditional dance audiences throughout Rochester, as well as in other areas of New York State and the Midwest.

"[FuturPointe's choreography is] accessibly emotional, dramatic, humorous, hardcore —and most importantly, fresh." — Anna Reguero, Democrat and Chronicle

Company members: N'jelle Gage (co-founder, associate artistic director, dramaturge), Liam Knighten (founding dancer, performance artist), Olga Kravets (dancer), Melinda Blythe Phillips (founding dancer, teaching artist), Heather Roffe (collaborating director, resident choreographer), Guy Thorne (co-founder, artistic director), Niema Atkins (production and technical assistant, apprentice)

Guy Thorne: Co-Founder, Artistic Director

A native of Guyana (South America), Thorne moved to the island of Jamaica, where he graduated with a professional diploma in dance theatre production from the Edna Manley College of Visual and Performing Arts. He moved to the U.S. as a scholarship student at Dance Theater of Harlem N.Y.C. and served as a principal dancer with Garth Fagan Dance for seven years. Thorne holds a B.F.A. in dance from SUNY Brockport. He has toured and taught master classes throughout the world. He has been reviewed favorably on several occasions by *The New York Times* and has danced in such notable U.S. spaces as the Ted Shawn Theater (Jacob's Pillow), Lincoln Center, and the Kennedy Center, among others. Most recently, Thorne was chosen by the Jubilation Foundation to be a 2012 Fellow.



Guy Thorne



N'jelle Gage



Heather Roffe

**HEATHER ROFFE
APPOINTED ASSISTANT
PROFESSOR OF
THEATRE IN DANCE
AT NAZARETH COLLEGE**



The Department of Theatre Arts at Nazareth College is pleased to announce the appointment of Heather Roffe as assistant professor of theatre in dance. Roffe joins the faculty fall 2012. Theatre arts faculty, staff, and students welcome Heather.

Heather Roffe, M.F.A., has taught dance on the faculties of Wells College, The College at Brockport, SUNY Potsdam, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, and at St. John Fisher College. Roffe's choreography has been presented in various venues across the country and has been commissioned by both professional companies and dance programs. She has performed nationally and internationally with the Garth Fagan Dance Company and at venues such as Jacob's Pillow, the International Dance Festival, and the American Dance Guild Festival in her own work, and with Bill Evans Dance Company, Assemblage Dance Company, and Burnidge-Clark Dance.

For the past two and a half years, she has directed, choreographed, performed and taught for FuturPointe Dance Company. Prior to her graduate studies in dance, Roffe also worked in marketing, sales, fund-raising, and event planning,

skills she will put to good use in her new role at Nazareth College.

The Department of Theatre Arts at Nazareth College combines a theoretical and practical study of performance and production, teaching theatre in a liberal arts context and developing students' skills in critical thinking, analysis, reasoning, and communication.

The Department of Theatre Arts prepares students for the professional theatre and music theatre world as well as for further study in graduate school. The department supports students training for teacher certification at the elementary and high school levels with a theatre major.

The Nazareth College Department of Theatre Arts' play season has often been ranked in the top ten nationally by *The Princeton Review*.

Department of Theatre Arts program offerings include: B.F.A. in acting, B.F.A. in musical theatre performance, B.F.A. in technical production; B.A. in theatre arts, B.A. in theatre arts with adolescent certification in English, B.A. in theatre arts with inclusive education certification; and minors in theatre arts and in dance.

CHOREOGRAPHER CONVERSATION

**THURSDAY, JULY 19
8 P.M., THE PEACE THEATER (A14)**

Choreographer conversation with Janet Eilber (Artistic Director, Martha Graham Dance Company) and Beth Gill (Artistic Director/Choreographer, Beth Gill Dance).

The choreographer conversation will be moderated by Heather Roffe, collaborating director and resident choreographer for FuturPointe Dance, and Nazareth College's new assistant professor of theatre in dance. Roffe joins the Department of Theatre Arts Faculty in fall 2012.

***Janet Eilber, Artistic Director,
Martha Graham
Dance Company***

Janet Eilber has been artistic director since 2005. Her direction has focused on creating new forms of audience access to Martha Graham's masterworks, including contextual programming, cultural partnerships, use of media, commissions, and events such as the *Lamentation Variations* and *Dance is a Weapon*. During her years as principal dancer, Eilber worked closely with Martha Graham. She danced many of Graham's greatest roles, had roles created for her by Graham, and has since taught, lectured, and directed Graham ballets internationally. Eilber is married to screenwriter John Warren, with whom she has two daughters, Madeline and Eva.

***Beth Gill, Artistic Director/
Choreographer, Beth Gill Dance***

Beth Gill received her B.F.A. from the New York University Tisch School of the Arts. Most recently, she was selected as one of *Dance Magazine's* "25 to Watch" for 2012. Gill was the recipient of two New York State Dance and Performance "Bessie" Awards in 2011: the Outstanding Emerging Choreographer Award and a Special Juried Award—created in partnership with Nazareth College—recognizing "the most interesting and exciting ideas happening in dance in New York City today." Beth Gill also received the distinction of 2011 *Time Out New York's* "Best Dance of 2011" for *Electric Midwife*.



*Kenneth Topping and Katherine Crockett in Martha Graham's Circe.
Photo by John Deane. Copyright John Deane.*

Nazareth College is proud to support our
community's newest festival.



September 19-23, 2012
www.rochesterfringe.com

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MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY

FRIDAY, JULY 20

7 P.M.

THE PEACE THEATER (A14)

Pre-performance lecture presented by the Martha Graham Dance Company

8 P.M.

CALLAHAN THEATER

Program "A"

Prelude and Revolt
Embattled Garden
Appalachian Spring

Prelude and Revolt

A suite of dances connected with narration and media that traces the emergence of Graham's unique theater and distinctive movement vocabulary from her Denishawn beginnings to the explosive imagery of "Steps in the Street."

Embattled Garden (1958)

A contemporary take on the Garden of Eden and a frankly erotic romp, this tragicomedy explores the timelessness of temptation and features sets by the noted Japanese-American sculptor Isamu Noguchi.

Appalachian Spring (1944)

Graham's beloved masterwork—"a testimony to the simple fineness of the human spirit"—featuring Noguchi sets.

SATURDAY, JULY 21

7 P.M.

THE PEACE THEATER (A14)

Pre-performance lecture presented by the Martha Graham Dance Company

8 P.M.

CALLAHAN THEATER

Program "B"

Witch Dance
Every Soul is a Circus
Lamentation Variations
Diversion of Angels

Witch Dance (1926)

Witch Dance is a seminal work of contemporary dance by the innovative German choreographer Mary Wigman. This solo encourages the audience to consider what lies behind the mask in all of us.

Every Soul is a Circus

In every woman there is the desire to be featured in a "star turn," as the apex of a triangle, and as the beloved of a duet. In the life of every woman, she is her own most appreciative spectator.

Lamentation Variations

A film of Graham is followed by three variations for the company, inspired by Graham's iconic solo and created by some of today's most noteworthy choreographers.

Diversion of Angels (1948)

An ensemble work for the company and a joyous, lyrical, abstract essay on the infinite aspects of love.

The Martha Graham Dance Company performances are sponsored by the Gouvernet Arts Fund at the Rochester Area Community Foundation; Alan Cameros; Helga and Paul Morgan.

MARTHA GRAHAM DANCE COMPANY

Martha Graham (1894–1991)

Martha Graham's revolutionary vision and artistic mastery has had a deep and lasting impact on American art and culture. "[Martha Graham] is universally understood to be the twentieth century's most important dancer, and the mother of modern dance." ("Martha Graham: About the Dancer," *American Masters* series, PBS).

Graham's influence on popular culture

Graham's creativity crossed artistic boundaries and embraced every artistic genre. She collaborated with and commissioned work from the leading visual artists, musicians, and designers of her day, including sculptor Isamu Noguchi; fashion designers Halston, Donna Karan, and Calvin Klein; and composers Aaron Copland, Samuel Barber, and Gian Carlo Menotti. Graham influenced generations of choreographers and dancers, including Merce Cunningham, Paul Taylor, Twyla Tharp, Margot Fonteyn, Rudolf Nureyev, and Mikhail Baryshnikov. She taught actors including Bette Davis, Kirk Douglas, Madonna, Liza Minelli, Gregory Peck, Tony Randall, and Joanne Woodward to utilize their bodies as expressive instruments.

The Graham technique

Graham's groundbreaking style grew from her experimentation with the elemental movements of contraction and release. By focusing on the basic activities of the human form, she enlivened the body with raw, electric emotion. The sharp, angular, and direct movements of her technique were a dramatic departure from the predominant style of the time.

Martha Graham's distinctions

During her long and illustrious career, Graham created 181 masterpiece dance compositions. In 1986, she was given the Local One Centennial Award for dance by her theater colleagues, awarded only once every 100 years, and during the Bicentennial she was granted the United States' highest civilian honor, The Medal of Freedom. In 1998, *TIME Magazine* named her the "Dancer of the Century." She was also the first dancer to perform at the White House and to act as a cultural ambassador abroad.

Martha Graham's connection to Rochester

Graham spent a pivotal year teaching at the Eastman School of Music in the 1920s, just prior to her establishment of the Martha Graham School for Contemporary Dance in New York City (the Martha Graham Dance Company was subsequently founded in 1926).

The Martha Graham Dance Company

The Martha Graham Dance Company has been a leader in the development of contemporary dance since its founding. Today, the company continues to foster Graham's spirit of ingenuity. It is embracing a new programming vision that showcases masterpieces by Graham, her contemporaries, and their successors alongside newly commissioned works by contemporary artists inspired by Graham's legacy. With programs that unite the work of choreographers across time within a rich historical and thematic narrative, the company is actively working to create new platforms for contemporary dance and multiple points of access for audiences.

Janet Eilber, Artistic Director, Martha Graham Dance Company

For more about Eilber, see page 20.

MASTER CLASSES

Master Classes are free and open to the public; however, pre-registration is required.

Please contact Lindsay Chassé to register: 585-389-2180 or lchasse7@naz.edu.

SATURDAY, JULY 14

5:30-7 p.m.

George Hall Dance Studio
Adult Master Class—Jon Lehrer,
Artistic Director, LehrerDance

Style: LehrerDance
Skill level: Intermediate/Advanced
Class capacity: 25-30

The class will engage the students' entire physicality, integrating the approach and fluidity of modern dance with the excitement and energy of jazz dance to achieve a more efficient and engrossing way of movement and expression. Experience the style we describe as "organic athleticism," and see why *Dance Magazine* states, "LehrerDance is on the cusp of jazz/modern fusion."



LehrerDance
Photo by Nate Benson

MONDAY, JULY 16

5:30-7 p.m.

George Hall Dance Studio
Adult Master Class—Beth Gill

Style: Contemporary
Skill level: Intermediate/Advanced
Class capacity: 20

Choreographer Beth Gill will lead three Master Classes during the Nazareth College Arts Center Dance Festival. Each class will have a different focus and approach to performing and making dances.

This is a technique class designed to get us moving with clearer intention and more specificity in our bodies.

TUESDAY, JULY 17

5:30-7 p.m.

George Hall Dance Studio
Adult Master Class—Beth Gill

Style: Contemporary
Skill level: Intermediate/Advanced
Class capacity: 20

Choreographer Beth Gill will lead three Master Classes during the Nazareth College Arts Center Dance Festival. Each class will have a different focus and approach to performing and making dances.

This is a composition class in which we will focus on creating, observing, discussing, and editing dance phrase material.

MASTER CLASSES

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18

5:30-7 p.m.

**George Hall Dance Studio
Adult Master Class—Beth Gill**

Style: Contemporary

Skill level: Intermediate/Advanced

Class capacity: 20

Choreographer Beth Gill will lead three Master Classes during the Nazareth College Arts Center Dance Festival. Each class will have a different focus and approach to performing and making dances.

This is an improvisation class that will use a variety of original and found scores as prompts to get us moving, seeing each other, and discussing our experiences.

THURSDAY, JULY 19

5:30-7 p.m.

**George Hall Dance Studio
Adult Master Class—Daystar/
Rosalie Jones, Founder and
Artistic Director, Daystar:
Contemporary Dance-Drama
of Indian America**

Style: "Transitional"

Native American dance

Skill level: Intermediate

Class capacity: 20

The Daystar Master Class will teach the basic techniques of two indigenous intertribal dance forms first as native cultural dance and second as a viable component of the modern dance vocabulary. The class will lead into an exploration of how these forms can be extended into new choreographic possibilities as "team" dances and as solo/duet/trio sequences.

FRIDAY, JULY 20

4-6 P.M.

**George Hall Dance Studio
Adult Master Class—
Martha Graham Dance Company**

Style: Graham technique

Skill level: Intermediate/Advanced

**Previous study of the Graham
technique is not required.**

Class capacity: 25

This workshop offers an insider look at the famed physical vocabulary created by Martha Graham. Led by a top Graham artist, the Master Class is designed to give students insight into Graham's innovations and her concept of "contraction and release," the foundations of this unique form of physical expression. The class will include phrases and movements from the repertory that will be presented by the Martha Graham Dance Company in its Dance Festival performances.



Christophe Jeannot and Miki Orihara in Martha Graham's Deaths and Entrances. Photo: John Deane/ Copyright: John Deane.

DANCING ON THE GRASS

Bring a picnic dinner to campus and enjoy performances by some of the region's favorite companies, presented on an outdoor stage. Free and open to the public.

DANCING ON THE GRASS I TUESDAY, JULY 17, 6-8 P.M.

Nazareth College — outdoor stage by Golisano Academic Center; rain space: Callahan Theater

DAYSTAR: CONTEMPORARY DANCE-DRAMA OF INDIAN AMERICA

Incorporated in 1980, the Daystar Company had a historic beginning: it was the first all-native modern dance company created in the U.S. The Daystar mission is to encourage and train Native American youth in the performing arts and to foster respect for the culture. Daystar is now a multi-ethnic, multi-generational ensemble that highlights both ancient tribal dance/drum/song and the contemporary expression of indigenous peoples living strong in the 21st century.



Above: Allegory of the Cranes, Daystar/Rosalie Jones.

Below: Allegory of the Cranes, Daystar/Rosalie Jones and Keith MacFarlane.

The Daystar Company will present a collage of contemporary indigenous dance choreographies centered around their newest dance-drama, *Allegory of the Cranes* (*Tsimakitakkitapoha... Where Are You Going?*)

Allegory of the Cranes presents "storytelling dance theatre" that is drawn from the cultural oral traditions of two indigenous cultures of the Americas: the Blackfeet peoples of the western plains and the Pueblo peoples of the southwest. The power of Ksiistsikomm (Thunder) lets loose the trickster Napi (Old Man) who leads Nitsitapiw Aakii (Alone Woman) on a journey through a desert of masked figures, in order to find her true face and identity.

Premiere: Nozhem Theatre, Peterborough, Ontario, 2011.

U.S. premiere: SUNY Brockport, March 2012, Hartwell Hall.

Artistic Director: Daystar/Rosalie Jones

Artistic director Daystar/Rosalie Jones was born on the Blackfeet Reservation in Montana and is of Pembina Chippewa ancestry. She studied with José Limón, a primary mentor, at Juilliard School, N.Y.C. Her knowledge of indigenous dance and cultural forms was acquired during a lifetime of personal study and cultural association. Rosalie Jones was the first Native American to receive a Choreographer's Fellowship from the NEA and in 2004 the Daystar Archive was established at UC-Riverside. Today, Daystar is working toward the establishment of an indigenous storytelling theatre in upstate New York.

DANCING ON THE GRASS

DANCING ON THE GRASS II WEDNESDAY, JULY 18, 6-7:30 P.M.

Nazareth College—outdoor stage by Golisano Academic Center; rain space: Callahan Theater

FLOWER CITY BALLET

Flower City Ballet will perform excerpts from world-renowned composers such as Gounod, Bizet, and Delibes. Prokofiev's immortal *Romeo and Juliet* and Tchaikovsky's beloved *White Swan Pas de Deux* will be featured.

Flower City Ballet seeks to provide students with the highest quality of classical ballet instruction. The studio offers small classes, providing students more personal attention, enabling each student the opportunity to perfect their mastery. Flower City Ballet caters to students interested in dancing for fitness or fun or to those pursuing a professional career in dance.

Artistic Director Wayne Blatt

Wayne Blatt received his ballet training from Liana Haeusler, Prima Assoluta of the National Theatre in Prague, Czechoslovakia, who was also a friend of George Balanchine. Blatt served as premier danseur of the Genesee Civic Ballet for eighteen years, dancing leading roles in many ballets, including the *Nutcracker*, *Le Beau Danube*, *Les Patineurs*, and *Swan Lake*.

Blatt is a Dance Masters of America certified dance teacher and has more than 40 years of teaching experience. He was the founder and artistic director for the School of Classical Ballet and is the ballet master for the Flower City Ballet. Blatt has staged countless productions throughout his career. Many of his students have continued their dance education at schools such as the Juilliard School and the Cincinnati Conservatory. Others are dancing professionally for companies such as Ballet Magnificat and Peoria Ballet.



*Flower City Ballet
principal dancers
Rebekah von Rathonyi
and Joshua Gullett.*

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

at Nazareth College

The Nazareth College departments in the visual and performing arts will present an exciting 2012-2013 season of exhibitions, concerts, and performances. Nazareth College visual and performing arts graduates establish successful careers in a variety of related fields, including education, advertising, studio art, film, creative arts therapy, theatre/theatre production, performance, and music business.

DEPARTMENT OF ART

Chair: **Ronald Netsky**

The Nazareth College Department of Art offers undergraduate programs in studio art, art education, and art history as well as graphics and illustration. The College offers graduate programs in art education and art therapy.

In the past decade, Nazareth has built two new state-of-the-art galleries to serve the College and the community. Exhibitions in the Arts Center Gallery and Colacino Gallery are free of charge and open to the public.

For information about Arts Center Gallery exhibitions and gallery hours, please go to www.naz.edu/dept/artscenter/gallery.cfm or call **585-389-5073**.

For information about Colacino Gallery exhibitions, please go to www.naz.edu/art/colacino-art-gallery or call **585-389-2532**.

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

Chair: **Dr. James Douthit**

The Nazareth College Department of Music integrates intensive studies in musicianship and performance with professional programs and the liberal arts. Students receive a unique experience that prepares them for careers in music and enables them to enjoy and share the art of music in a variety of capacities. The Department of Music presents numerous recitals and performances that are free and open to the public.

The Nazareth College Community Music Program offers year-round lessons and classes for area students ages 4-80. For more information on these activities, call **585-389-2700** or visit go.naz.edu/music-events for a complete schedule.

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE ARTS

Chair: **Lindsay Reading Korth**

The Nazareth College Department of Theatre Arts' play season has often been listed among the top ten nationally by *The Princeton Review*. This year will feature four productions: *Mad Forest*, *Ordinary Days*, *Plaza Suite*, and *The Threepenny Opera*. Like every year, all the roles, scenery, costumes, and lighting will be designed and built by our faculty and students. Very reasonably priced, these evenings can be magical and will give the audience a chance to see and support young talent.



**When the community works
together, the community works.**

When community members speak about supporting the arts, we respond to their call for making the possible actual. Valuing artistic diversity within our neighborhoods helps to unite communities, creating shared experiences and inspiring excellence.

Bank of America is proud to support the Nazareth College Arts Center Dance Festival for its leadership in creating a successful forum for artistic expression.

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Top to bottom, left to right: Ballet Revolución, photo: ©BB Production; Just Imagine; Anonymous 4; Cashore Marionettes; Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia, Guess How Much I Love You, photo: Margo E. Gesser.

SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

- Internationally renowned contemporary dance from some of the most sought-after companies
- Wonderful family programs, including a performance by a master marionette maker; three popular musicals presented by the Rochester Children's Theatre; and an adaptation of a beloved classic, performed by one of the country's most acclaimed children's theatre companies
- A range of musical programs, from a one-man John Lennon tribute to authentic African drumming, and from sacred medieval music to the pipes and drums of an elite military group
- Special events, including a remarkable illusionist and his breathtaking, state-of-the-art magic; New Year's Eve with the politically based satire of The Capitol Steps; and a powerful presentation of letters written by soldiers serving in Afghanistan and Iraq

Visit artscenter.naz.edu
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