

College of Lake County Dance Department
Presents



Fear No Art

2021 (Virtual) Festival

April 23 and 24

Director's Notes

The College of Lake County Department of Dance is proud to present the virtual reboot of the 22nd Annual Fear No Art Festival after being cancelled last year due to the pandemic crisis. Each year a variety of artistic disciplines including music, dance poetry, and the visual arts are showcased in Fear No Art. This festival plays an important role in providing support to our students and community members in a variety of ways. Our art is our expression and our way of connecting to the world. As artists we have had to reimagine the possibilities of how to create and share our work. The path may be different for each artist along the way, but the power to inspire and change lives in the journey remains the same. I am proud of the participants for their courage and generosity. I look forward with enduring hope that the arts continue to foster an appreciation across all art forms throughout our communities. Thank you for coming to the performance and for your continued support.

Please join us after the performance for a conversation with the artists. You may put your questions to the artists in the Q/A.

–Valerie Alpert, artistic director

For more information about upcoming
College of Lake County Performing Arts Events,
visit www.clcillinois.edu/campus-life/arts.

 Find us on Facebook:
College of Lake County Dance Department

Program

Ache

Choreographer/Performer/Videographer:
Christine Chernoff

Music: *Where Is My Mind* by Maxence Cyrin (Pixies)

Notes: There has been a lot of loss in this last year. This dance is about the heaviness of grieving.

Dare to Dream

Choreographer/Performer/Videographer: Becka Nieder
Music: *Dream* by Bishop Briggs

Emilia Dvorak

Artist/Videographer: Emilia Dvorak
Music: *Sad Day* by Blacmange

The Battle of the Force

Choreographers/Performers: Jennifer Blake, Cora Schultz
Music: *Dark Side Light Side* by Royish Good Looks
Videographers: Jennifer Blake, Cora Schultz

Notes: A long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away.... war rages as two Jedi Masters battle. This struggle will travel through multiple worlds and spans many years, yet it is the most important battle of their lives. This battle will decide once and for all who will rule the galaxy and which side of the force is truly strongest. Who will win?

Viral

Performer/Writer/Videographer: Mike Chernoff
Notes: Just a few words before we all get sucked down the internet rabbit hole.

Daemonium

Choreographer/Performer /Videographer:
Frances Skurski
Music: *Bite of Me* by Niki Demar

Notes: In the process of preparing for these performances I had been struggling with my first concept. I was trying to bring more light into my life with the project, but then I found, I had plenty of light within me and needed to let out the dark. That is what you will witness happening within this piece, letting the darkness go.

The Blooming of Peonies

Artist/Videographer: Kimberly Cochrane
Music: *Bang!* by AJR

Notes: My past few years have been a long winding road—for some time I struggled to try and see what was ahead through the fog, potholes, and speed bumps. However, I have found solace through my creative passions; some I have been forced to give up but have recently acclaimed, others I clung to and used to find the beauty in such a dark place. Predominantly consisting of digital paintings,

photography, drawings, and small video segments *The Blooming of Peonies* is a compiled series of works that follows my journey down this seemingly never ending road.

My Last Goodbye

Choreographer/Performer: Cora Schultz
Music: *The Last Goodbye* written by Billy Boyd, performed by Peter Hollens
Videographers: Cora Schultz, Karen Inman

Notes: This work is about saying goodbye. As I move into a new phase of my life, I must say goodbye to things I have to leave behind. This is my way of saying goodbye and thank you to everyone who has been there through the ups and downs. But it is not just my story; I believe that everyone will be able to relate because we have all said goodbye to people and things, this past year especially.

Dance with Me

Choreographer/Performers: Jill McCrae, Quebec (Lusitano Gelding)
Music: *Stealth of Cats*
Videographer: Lisa Diersen

Piano Medley

Music: *Hollywood's Bleeding* by Post Malone;
Wicked Games by The Weeknd;
Pursuit of Happiness by Kid Cudi
Performer: Giselle Leon

Bailemos

Choreographer: Nelson C Arizmendi
Music: *Mamacita* by Ozuna and the Black Eyed Peas
Performers: Lyndy Garcia, Monse Rosiles, Jasmine Mayhem, Julio Sarabia, Luis Luna, Nelson C Arizmendi
Videographer: Alex Paz Photography

Notes: This work contains mature themes and may not be suitable for children.

Leave it On

Choreographer/Performer/Videographer:
Christine Chernoff
Poem Writer/Performer: Michael Chernoff

Notes: I don't know how we would have gotten through the last year without the arts. This is a thank you for the opportunities to create and for all the people finding ways to do it despite the additional challenges of the pandemic.

Together We Rise

Choreographer/Performer: Lamaiya Lancaster
Music: *Rise Up* by Andra Day
Poem: *Still I Rise* by Maya Angelou
Videographers: Danielle and Kenneth Mckenzie, Michael Taylor

Artists Biographies

Nelson C Arizmendi (Choreographer) is a CLC graduate who holds an Associate in Arts. He found his passion for the art of dance through many performance opportunities at the college. Nelson has choreographed and danced in multiple CLC Dance Shows. He has also had the opportunity to study abroad and dance internationally. It was through these experiences along with his drive that led him to open up his own dance studio. Nelson wants to make a positive impact in those who come across his work. His mission is to motivate and inspire the youth through the Arts.

Jennifer Blake (Choreographer) is a second year student at College of Lake County pursuing a nursing and psychology degree. After taking a dance class for fun at College of Lake County, she fell in love with the teachers and the atmosphere and decided to continue taking classes. Since being at College of Lake County she has taken ballet 1 and 2 and modern dance 1. This will be her first choreographed work. Jennifer is excited to have been given the opportunity to choreograph a piece. She hopes you enjoy it along with the rest of the show!

Christine Chernoff (Choreographer) earned her Associates in Arts degree in dance from the College of Lake County in 2010. In 2018, she performed with L-Theory Collective in their show titled *Elevate* and in their *2020 Summer Dance Showcase, a Virtual Dance Concert*. Most recently, she performed in the College of Lake County's *2020 Virtual Winter Dance Concert* with her husband Mike. Her dream is to open her own dance studio and focus on teaching Ballet, Jazz and Modern dance to adults. She is grateful to have this opportunity and to be in the company of so many talented artists.

Mike Chernoff (Poet) graduated from the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign with a degree in Creative Writing in 1997. His poem *Independence Day Parade* was published in *Atrocious Poets'* magazine *I Don't want to Go Back to Normal* in Summer of 2020, and his poem *Ingrained* was part of the *As it Happens* Visual Art and Poetry exhibit in the Old Woodstock Courthouse last November. He continues to post on his website ChernoffWriting.com, and he is looking forward to doing a dance poetry collaboration with his wife Christine and *Atrocious poets* later in 2021.

Kimberly Cochrane (Artist) fell in love with the arts at a very young age—growing up in a creative family afforded her opportunities to dabble in activities such as dance, drawing, photography, writing, even elementary school band. Her creative endeavors provide chances to express herself in unique ways—developing opportunities to share a piece of herself with others. Through the sharing of personal experiences in her works she hopes to make a difference in the lives of others—to forge a connection with them and provide inspiration by showing anything is truly possible.

Emilia Dvorak (Artist) is an artist who attended CLC and graduated from Illinois State University with a bachelor's degree in acting. She is inspired to create by music, film, religious imagery, the supernatural, nature, anatomy, fashion, and of course, deadlines. The rest of her time is spent bartending at a craft brewery/restaurant, where she indulges in her other two passions: drinking and food service. She plans on relocating to Chicago this spring. Once she has survived the pandemic, she is interested in collaborating with other artists using dance, visual art, fashion and theatre.

Lamaiya Lancaster (Choreographer) received diverse training at San Diego School for Creative & Performing Arts and Fort Wayne Dance Collective and earned her B.A. in Cultural Studies (Columbia College, Chicago), M.A. in Adult/Community Education and Executive Development for Public Service (Ball State University). She created the Summer Dance Showcase-Hawaii, presented on adult learning theories, dance education and diversity in dance at regional, national, and international conferences. She presented on the history of American Social Dance at universities throughout China. She is an adjunct dance faculty at College of Lake County, a certified Yoga and Zumba instructor and Co-Founder/Principal Choreographer of L-Theory Collective with a dedication to inclusion through community engagement in the art of dance.

Giselle Leon (Pianist) began teaching herself to play the piano at 11 years old. She then took lessons from 12-15 years old and last performed at Waukegan High School's 2016 Variety Show. After not playing for a few years, she decided to pick it back up and enrolled in a piano class at CLC during spring semester 2021. In addition to playing the piano, Giselle has a passion for dancing and enjoys staying active. She is currently in a Contemporary class at CLC and takes Hip Hop at Talent Forum. She hopes to continue following her love for piano and dance throughout her life.

Jill McCrae (Choreographer) is a professional horse trainer and instructor. She owns and operates McCrae Farm in Grayslake, a teaching and training facility for beginner to advanced riders and horses. Jill has dedicated most of her forty year career espousing the art of French Classical Equitation, a practice originating in the royal courts of Europe in the 1700's and considered today as the purest and most harmonious method of training and riding; akin to ballet. Partnering with her horse Quebec, Jill would like to share another equine art form known as "Liberty," an intimate dance of connection by way of freedom.

Becka Nieder (Choreographer) started dancing as a toddler and continued through college, where she majored in Physical education and dance education, at NIU. She found her way back to dance in 2014, at CLC. She loves the opportunity to continue performing. She's grateful to Valerie, Lamaiya, and countless others who have helped shape her as a dancer this second time around.

Cora Schultz (Choreographer) is 17 years old and is a senior in high school. She is currently homeschooled and attending CLC part time. She has studied dance for ten years under many different teachers. She has danced at Dance Theatre of Northern Illinois but currently dances at Talent Forum and College of Lake County. She also did a summer intensive with Ballet 5:8 in 2019. She is going to attend Hope College this fall to study dance and psychology to eventually go on to graduate school to study movement therapy.

Frances Skurski (Choreographer) is a free fun-loving dancer who has performed in a variety of things from previous Prairie Spirit Dance Troupe shows to Gamma Phi Circus at Illinois State University. She has recently been finding dance to be the best way to let go of pent up emotions. She is thankful to be able to continue her own creative journey with the College of Lake County, and encourages all in our communities to explore their own creativity through movement, music, and art!

Production Staff

Artistic Director: Valerie Alpert

Dean, Communication Arts, Humanities and Fine Arts division: Sheldon Walcher

Associate Dean: James Crizer

Division Administrative Staff: Lamont Barrientos, Joan Sparacio-Cremin, Donna White

Special thanks to the following for their support

The CLC Board of Trustees, Dr. Lori Suddick, President, The Communication Arts, Humanities, & Fine Arts Division, Sheldon Walcher, Carol Dikelsky, Patricia McAnally, Terry Crews, CLC Public Relations, in addition to the family and friends of all participants.