DANCE

Dance
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Faculty & Staff List (https://www.mills.edu/faculty/dance)

The Mills College Dance Program is dynamic, multifaceted, and visionary, like the Bay Area itself. Dancers often arrive on campus as tappers, ballet dancers, hip-hop artists, musical theater practitioners, world dance dancers or improvisers. They graduate as that and more: as confident, articulate, and thinking movers situated in a global community of artists. Artistic voices become refined, minds are stretched, and hearts are made larger by the joy of learning in a community of impassioned peers and professors.

The College’s dance major is divided into three areas of concentration: dance, dance/theater and dance and digital performance. These share a group of core classes and then branch into focused study, letting students opt for a program that closely fits their performance and academic passions.

Because we are dedicated to the dancer as a whole being, the Dance Department provides a curriculum that deepens the conversation between body and mind through such courses as somatics, dance history, live and digital media, dance studies and cultures, improvisation, and composition. The Mills College Repertory Dance Company invites students to sharpen their performance skills under the guidance of gifted faculty and renowned visiting artists, while the annual Undergrad Underground gives our undergraduates the chance to curate and mount a show of their own devising. Undergraduates also get to work closely with our small, committed group of MFA and/or MA students, engage with noted members of the dance community, go on field trips and attend life-changing performances at some of the many theaters in the area. Each year the department also participates in the exciting inter-college Bay Area Dance Exchange, often hosted by Stanford University, and the American College Dance Festival, which represents colleges by region across the country.

Program Goals:

- Develop the technical, creative, and intellectual skills needed to be an original performer
- Develop the technical, creative, and intellectual skills to be a choreographer
- Develop the analytical and communication skills to contextualize dance socially, culturally, and historically
- Develop the confidence and skill for self-directed engagement in the field

Majors & Minors

Major
Dance Major—BA (https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/dance/dance-ba)

Minor
Dance Minor (https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/majors-minors/dance/dance-minor)