

**Michelle Kranicke**  
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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**1990-present: Choreographer, Founder, Artistic Director, Dancer, Zephyr Dance, Chicago, Illinois.**

- **Choreographed over 30 works for Zephyr Dance.** Work has been successfully presented and performed at such venues as: Dance Center of Columbia College, Chicago; Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, Defibrillator Gallery, Chicago, Mulberry Street Theatre, New York; Cunningham Dance Studio, New York; The Art & Culture Center of Hollywood, Hollywood, FL; Festival Concert Hall, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND; Arkansas State University, Jonesboro, AR; Margaret H'Doubler Theatre, Madison, WI; and more
- Created and produced ***Dancing Across State Lines (DASL)* from 1997-2003.** *DASL* is a regional touring initiative designed to introduce Chicago audiences to exceptional contemporary dance by smaller neighboring dance companies while boosting touring opportunities for Zephyr and guest companies.
- Created Zephyr's ***Dance is for EveryBODY (DIFE)* project in 1998.** *DIFE* is a comprehensive community outreach program based at Holstein Park under the auspices of the Chicago Park District's *Arts Partners in Residence Program*.
- **Designs, implements and oversees** all of Zephyr Dance's outreach and education programs in the Chicago Public School system.

## SPECIAL AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- **2006—Chicago Dancemakers Forum Lab Artist Award:** The Chicago Dancemakers Forum (CDF) Lab Artists Program awards grants and professional support to select artists for research and development of new directions in their work. CDF is led by a consortium comprised of two independent dance artists, the Museum of Contemporary Art, Links Hall, and The Dance Center of Columbia College Chicago.
- **2003—\$10,000 Award as part of the Chicago Community Trust's Chicago Dance Initiative** for the creation of a new work and the implementation of the *Stepping Into A Dance: Open rehearsal Series*

## CHOREOGRAPHIC COMMISSIONS

- **April 2013, FlySpace Performance Series, Jay Pritzker Pavilion, Millennium Park, Chicago, IL,** commissioned by the City of Chicago to create a new work to premiere for the *FlySpace* Consortium launch event.
- **October 2011, ALIVE Performance Series, Defibrillator Gallery, Chicago, IL,** commissioned by *ALIVE* curator Ayako Kato to create a 3-hour durational dance performance presented alongside Korean performance artist Gim Gwang Cheol.
- **January 2011, Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, IL, Guest Choreographer,** commissioned to set a work on Illinois Wesleyan University's student repertory dance company as part of Jean Kerr's evening length work, *Monkey Trail*.
- **May 2006, Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, IL, May Term Guest Artist,** commissioned to conduct a one-week dance residency for University students followed by a full concert by Zephyr Dance.
- **May 2003, Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, IL, May Term Guest Artist,** commissioned to conduct a one-week dance residency for University students followed by a full concert by Zephyr Dance.
- **January 2003, Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, IL, Guest Choreographer,** commissioned to set a work on Illinois Wesleyan University's student repertory dance company.
- **1996-2000, Chicago's Next Dance Festival,** created and performed new works annually for the Festival (CNDF was an artist-curated artist-produced festival commissioning and presenting ground-breaking contemporary choreography)
- **May 2000, Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, IL, May Term Guest Artist,** commissioned to conduct a one-week dance residency for University students followed by a full concert by Zephyr Dance.
- **March 2000, Albany Park Theatre Project Artist Residency, Chicago, IL,** commissioned to work with area teens in Chicago's Albany Park neighborhood. Created a dance piece for the theatre group based on participants' writing.
- **1999, Links Hall's Equal Footing/Earring series, Chicago, IL,** commissioned to choreograph a new dance work for the series with original music by Chicago composer Charles Kim
- **1999, Mclean County Dance Association Residency,** commissioned to set a dance work on 25 community members ranging in age from 8-78.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **2012-Present—Faculty, Teaching Artist Development Studio (TAD), Center for Community Arts Partnerships, Columbia College:** designed the curriculum and developed the syllabus for a 10-week comprehensive training program for teaching artists. Currently teach the 10-week program that provides a strong foundation of knowledge and skills for teaching in and through the arts.
- **2007-Present—Adjunct Professor, Illinois Wesleyan University:** teaching *Dance Appreciation*, an undergraduate writing intensive and in-studio humanities course focusing on understanding contemporary dance styles and choreographers.
- **2000-2011—Teaching Artist/Professional Development Facilitator/Classroom Coach for Zephyr Project M2, Oscar Mayer Elementary School**
  - use dance and movement to help enhance student understanding of mathematics and social science in primary mixed grade Montessori classrooms.
  - use dance to enhance student understanding of mathematics concepts including, but not limited to, non-proportional thinking, series and patterns and multiple representation in grades 3-6.
  - develop and lead professional development workshops for Oscar Mayer teachers focusing on guided planning of arts integrated lessons, dissecting state dance standards and reflection.
  - direct coaching of Oscar Mayer classroom teachers and arts specialists in methods of arts integration.
  - direct annual student presentations of arts integrated lessons for parents and the greater Oscar Mayer community.
- **1994-Present: Master Teacher, Arts Integrated Education:** created and taught over 30 Arts Integrated Curriculum Lessons designed to integrate dance into the core curriculum of grades K-12 in order to enhance student learning and comprehension. Examples include:
  - *5th-7th grade math concepts:* using dance to help students learn and understand patterns and proportional thinking—Otis Elementary School, Chicago, IL.
  - *2nd grade social science/economics:* facilitated students' understanding of basic economic principles through dance—Audubon Elementary School, Chicago, IL .
  - *8th grade reading comprehension in a bi-lingual classroom:* increasing comprehension of abstract ideas of imagery, idiom, metaphor, and analogy through dance—Sheridan Elementary, Elgin, IL.
  - *4th grade social science and reading comprehension:* used dance to enhance student understanding of the history of Chicago and their place in community—Audubon and Ravenswood Elementary Schools
  - *6th grade social studies:* enhanced student understanding of ancient cultures through movement—Chopin Elementary School, Chicago, IL
- **1995-2001 Dance is for EveryBODY, Chicago:** conceived, implemented and taught the *Dance is for EveryBODY (DIFE)* project, a comprehensive residency program at Holstein Park. *DIFE* projects included: *POWER Girls: Positive Image Through Dance*, a dance class for pre-teen and teenage girls designed to raise confidence and self-esteem through physical strength building, the creative process and performance. *PRIMO, After School Dance/Theatre Program* for boys and girls designed to promote self-expression, positive body-image development, teamwork and confidence building through dance and theatre learning, practice and performance. *Seniors Choice*, dance and fitness classes for older adults designed to enhance coordination and reinforce fine and gross motor skills.

## PUBLICATIONS

### **Articles:**

Michelle Kranicke & Lara Pruitt

“Are They Getting It?: Creating Dance Assessments That Honor the Creative Process”

Journal of Dance Education

Official Journal of the Dance Education Organization

Volume 12, Issue 3, 2012

Routledge

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COACHING AND CONSULTING

- **January 2014—present, Chicago Dancemakers Forum Artist Representative:** mentoring and assisting Lab Artists in their progress toward their CDF project goals, working with CDF Director to design, facilitate and evaluate Lab Artist experiences, and advocate for CDF in both the Chicago dance community and the broader cultural community.
- **June 2012—June 2014, Project Creates:** consultant coach for Columbia College's Center for Community Arts Partnerships' Project Creates, a professional development project to enhance teacher understanding of arts education and improve their skills integrating the arts into the curriculum.
- **February 2010, How Do You Know If They Get It?: Creating Assessments for Dance, Dance Center of Columbia College:** designed and led a three-week workshop to help students and professional teaching artists develop authentic assessments for dance in the classroom.
- **October-November 2010, March 2011, More Powerful Connections, Illinois Arts Council:** hired by the Illinois Arts Council to teach and facilitate four *Arts Integrated Assessment 101* training workshops and a follow-up *Arts Integrated Assessment 102* training workshop for teachers, arts educators and artists across the state of Illinois.
- **September 2008, Powerful Connections, Illinois Arts Council:** hired by the Illinois Arts Council to design, teach and facilitate a 2-day workshop based on Zephyr Dance's model of arts integrated education for teaching artists and arts educators across the state of Illinois.
- **June 2008 and June 2007, Arts Integration Teacher Training, Dance Center of Columbia College:** designed and led 4-day professional development workshops in arts integrated teaching techniques for students, alums and professional teaching artists for the Dance Center of Columbia College's summer course offerings over the course of 2 years.
- **2005—Expert Consultant, Presenter and Professional Development Facilitator, Arts Across the Curriculum, Edinburgh Scotland:** invited to present and lead professional development workshops for the kick-off of *Arts Across the Curriculum*, Scotland's country wide arts integrated education program modeled after dance and math residencies taught by Michelle Kranicke in Chicago.
- **August 2004 and August 2003, Professional Development Specialist/Coach:** trained dance artists and dance educators in methods of arts integrated education for the Tanglewood Project, a cultural partnership at Tanglewood Middle School in Greenville, South Carolina.

## MASTER CLASSES IN MODERN DANCE TECHNIQUE

- **2011—**Illinois Wesleyan University
- **2005—**Niagara County Community College, Buffalo, NY
- **2005—**Dekalb County School of the Arts, Atlanta, GA
- **2004—**Dekalb County School of the Arts, Atlanta, GA
- **2003—**Illinois Wesleyan University
- **2001—**University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin
- **2000—**Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio
- **1998—**West Shore Community College, Ludington, Michigan
- **1996—**Eastern Illinois University

## DANCE TRAINING AND EDUCATION

### **Bachelor of Arts, Political Science**

University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana

**Butoh:** Maureen Fleming, Diego Pinon

**Ballet:** Larry Long, Warren Conover, Birute Barodicaite, Emily Stein

**Modern:** Jan Erkert, Ellie Klopp, Mary Ward, Carol Walker