

Salem Dance Ensemble presents:

***Dances in the Raw* and Student Recognition Ceremony**

Harrington Gymnasium – December 7, 2025

FEELIN' IT

Choreography: Alfonzo 'Megatron' Hunt, assisted by Chad Shabazz

Performance: Francis Amster, Lilliana Bruun, Maddie Cefalo, Hailey Nuzzo, Nevaeh Scott

Music: "I Know You Feel It," Switch Villa

It All Comes To An End

Choreography: Meghan McLyman

Performance: Eliza Crook and Mackenzie Trainor

Music: "Pathos," Ludovico Einaudi and Leo Einaudi

Passion Within The Soul

Choreography and Performance: Jacob Mitchell

Music: "The Way," Zach Hemse

we'll find out when we get there

Created and performed by members of DAN 126 Dance Improvisation: Francis Amster, Maddie Cefalo, Heaven Hastings, Izzie Keller, Kerlande Michel, Jacob Mitchell, Jack Newton, Nevaeh Scott

Directed by Betsy Miller

Music: "Unisons," Michael Wall

Not in control, I am not in control, We are not in control

Choreography and Performance: Alivia Gendron

Music "Walking Man," Zoe Keating

Plundersomatics

Choreography: Jack Newton

Performance: Gwendolyn Hyde, Jacob Mitchell, Alysa Morris, Jack Newton

Music: "f.d.," Dummy Run; "Reality of Matter," The Tape-Beatles; "Happy Birthday To You," Boone Bischoff

something, something,

Choreography: Francis Amster

Performance: Heaven Hastings, Isabelle Keller, Fenrir Marcin, Quinn Plunkett, Kamdyn Sweeting

Music: "Dance Yrself Clean," LCD Soundsystem; edited by Francis Amster

All At Once

Choreography, Performance and Music: Kerlande Michel

UNDRGRD dance break

Performance by members of the UNDRGRD: Francis Amster, Jacob Mitchell, Kamdyn Sweeting

Music: TBA

Sing

Choreography and Performance: Evan Bernstein

Music: "Without a Warning," The Weeknd

Riders

Choreography: Joanne(Jojo) Caidor

Performed by members of Hip Hop Dance Ensemble: Frankie Amster, Aurora Billante, Lilliana Bruun, Sydney Collazo, Maddie Cefalo, Lucas Domegan, Michaiiah Fernandes, Alivia Gendron, VedaRuth HarveyAhmai, Jelli Jones, Sunny Liu, Julie Maguire, Molly Porter-Crean, Lili Rataj, Nevaeh Scott, Kayleigh Sheehan, Mackenzie Trainor

Music: "Gangsta's Paradise," Coolio; "Father Stretch My Hands," Kanye West; "What Up Gangsta," 50 Cent; "Drop," Timberland; "Jump Around," House of Pain; "Raise Up," Petey Pablo; editing by Joanne (Jojo) Caidor

Performances will be followed by Student Recognition Ceremony and Reception

CHOREOGRAPHER BIOGRAPHIES

Francis Amster is a sophomore dance and studio art major. He has been making choreographic work since 2022, for dance and theatrical productions. His most recent work, titled *10cm 4cm 12cm CRUSHED LUNG*, was performed in Salem Dance Ensemble's 2025 Spring Concert. He has received the SSU Presidential Arts Scholarship and the Meghan Noel Scholarship for Dance.

Evan Bernstein is a senior from Winthrop, MA with a major in media and communications and a minor in dance. They have performed with the Salem Dance Ensemble for five semesters and was a part of the Hip Hop Dance Ensemble for two. Evan choreographed a piece in 2024 titled *Push and Pull* and a piece in 2025 titled *Answer The Call*, both of which were performed at the Sophia Gordon Center as a part of Salem Dance Ensemble Concerts.

Joanne Caidor (faculty) focuses on making you feel good while doing good. Her education and training come from Dean College and UMass Boston, where she studied dance and business management. Throughout life, Joanne has been a part of cabarets, musicals, step teams, and more. Her credits involve Jean Appolon Expressions and Street Hype. Currently, she is the director of Afmohip, a hip hop, African, and modern company. She is also the lead in a Haitian folklore dance troupe known as Arc-en-ciel, focusing in Afro Haitian/West African, hip hop, modern, tap and jazz. Joanne has been featured in movies and has performed for major venues such as the Embassy in Washington, DC, Annual Independence Gala in Boston, José Mateo Ballet Theatre Annual Dance for World Community Festival, Haitian Movie Awards, Boston City Hall, The Boston Contemporary Dance Festival at the Paramount Center in Boston, World of Dance, French Festival, Prelude Dance, Performing Arts Festival, Boston University Theater, Annual Haitian Fund Conference, *Hairspray* the musical, and many more.

Alivia Gendron is from Baldwinville MA. She is a sophomore double majoring in nursing and dance with a concentration in modern/ contemporary, and a minor in biology. Alivia trained at The Dance Center in Winchendon, MA for 16 years and was also part of the competition team. She has also been part of a pre-professional dance company called Company 39 for the past three years. Alivia has had work presented in Repertory Dance Theatre (2025), and has participated in many works at Salem State through Repertory Dance Theatre, Hip Hop Dance Ensemble, Salem Dance Ensemble, and guest residencies. She is also a recipient of the Presidential Arts Scholarship.

Alfonzo 'Megatron Hunt (guest artist) was born in Mississippi, but raised in Boston, MA. A true underground street style dancer originating back as far as 1978, he is a self-taught artist who co-founded one of New England's original underground Bboy dance crews, the Floorlords, in 1981. His experiences have taken him all over the globe where he has performed, showcased, judged and competed against dancers and other underground crews. During the course of his time in the street dance scene, he has educated and trained hundreds of dancers in the moves and history of the true Hip-Hop culture, all the while respecting each dancer's own unique physical ability to incorporate into the fundamentals of the true dance styles of Hip-Hop. He has been recognized by the dance community as an "OG" and has had the pleasure to dance, perform, judge, and compete with other legends, like Poppin Pete, Boogaloo Sam, Mr. Wiggles, Buddha Stretch, Damon Frost, and Jazzy J, to name a few. He is the co-founder of Boston's popping training program called "Slaughter House," where dancers of all ages learn and train in the style of poppin, developing their foundation and skills in one of hip hop's earliest forms of street dance.

Meghan McLyman (faculty) is a professor of dance and the dance program coordinator. Salem State University recognized her passion for teaching with the 2017 Distinguished Teaching Award, and in 2018, she received an Arts Learning Distinguished Teaching and Arts Advocacy Award. She is also a recipient of a 2020 Whiting Fellowship which supported her research at ImPulsTanz in Vienna,

Austria. She has presented at conferences for the National Dance Education Organization, American College Dance Association, Somatic Dance Conference, and with TEDxSalemStateUniversity. Meghan holds degrees from Point Park University, American University, and Hollins University, is a Moving For Life Certified Teacher under Martha Eddy, and a Certified Evans Teacher under Bill Evans. She served on the board of the Massachusetts Dance Education Organization. Meghan is the co-director of Accumulation Dance and co-teacher of Moving to Connect in collaboration with Kristen Duffy Young. Find their work on Instagram @accumulation.dance and @moving_to_connect.

Kerlande Michel is a senior from Lawrence, MA with a major in dance and a minor in psychology. She previously performed in *Dances in the Raw* in 2023. Her choreography is inspired by real-life experiences, resiliency, motherhood, work and school life. She hopes to continue sharing the love of movement through an everyday life lens.

Jacob Mitchell is a sophomore dance major and has been attending SSU for 3 semesters and has been involved in the schools dance events by being a member of the UNDRGRND dance freestyle group and has performed at open mics and has been apart of the dance program since his freshman year and plans to share what he has learned to all the stages.

Jack Newton is a senior from Lowell, MA, and is pursuing a triple major in Modern/Contemporary Dance, Classical Voice, and Theatre Performance at Salem State University. He is a recipient of the Summer Artistic Development Grant, the Presidential Arts Scholarship, and the Marijane Godin Memorial Scholarship for figure skating. His choreography for the Salem Dance Ensemble includes *UNRAVELED:UNBOUND*, *March & Swing*, and *the space that held you / the shape of what's missing*. Jack was also nominated for a DASH Award by EACT for his performance in *Tuck Everlasting* at Marblehead Little Theatre in 2022.

Please join us for these upcoming events!.....

Salem Dance Ensemble Fall Concert

Saturday Dec 13 7:30pm and Sunday Dec 14 2pm

Sophia Gordon Center for the Arts

tickets: suggested donation \$10

Guest Artist Split Bill Performance: Afmohip / Barbie Diewald

Saturday Jan 13 7:30pm

Sophia Gordon Center for the Arts

Tickets: \$15 general admission/\$10 senior/students and Salem residents free with ID

This performance will feature new work and repertory by choreographers Joanne (Jojo) Caidor (Visiting Lecturer in Dance, Salem State University) and Barbie Diewald (Associate Professor in Dance, Mt. Holyoke College).