

Curriculum Vitae
SHERRY HARPER, M.F.A.

EDUCATION

M.F.A., Contemporary Dance

Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH

B.A., Dramatic Speech and Dance

Fisk University, Nashville, TN

POSITIONS & APPOINTMENTS

Faculty Dance Instructor/ Director & Dance Minor Program Coordinator (2013 – Present)
Prairie View A&M University, Prairie View, TX

- Responsibilities include instruction at the undergraduate level, student advisement, committee work, university dance productions each semester, community service events with the dance company, direct and advise the university's performing dance company (Classic Dance Ensemble), and other activities as designated.
- Classes: Ballet I & II, Jazz I & II, Tap I & II, Modern Dance I & II, Folk and Ballroom I & II, Performance, Choreography, Fundamentals of Dance, Body Mechanics, Fundamentals of Basic Movement, Aerobic Activities, University Dance Company Class

National Youth Sports Program, Adjunct Professor (CWRU) (2009 – Present)
Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH

- **Summer Contract** with Case Western Reserve University – NYSP Program
- Instruct all levels of Modern Dance, Jazz, Hip Hop, and Aerobics for ages 7 to 18 for the **National Youth Sports Program**. Held classes and drills daily with up to 35 students per class.
- Provided dance routines and choreography for all classes and dance productions. Served as a Counselor/Advisor/Dance Instructor and Production Manager

Adjunct Professor (2015 – 2017)
Lone Star College CyFair, Cypress, Texas

- Responsibilities included instruction at the undergraduate level, choreography for the department of music/theatre/dance, assisted with dance productions each semester, and other activities as designated.
- Classes: Jazz I & Jazz II (2 hour courses) and Dance Appreciation (3 hour course)

Dance Instructor/ Choreographer (2012 – 2013)
(T2I) Time to Inspire School of Arts, Snellville, GA and Atlanta, GA

- Choreographed and instructed Ballet, Tap, Jazz, and Contemporary Modern Dance for classes and public events. Provided a wide range of optional play and learning demonstrations to appeal to all children's interests; maximizing participation, productivity and enjoyment.
- Implemented dance curriculum.

Dance Instructor/ Administration (2011 – 2012)
Georgia Stars Academy of Dance and More, Stone Mountain, GA

- Instructed dance classes for ages 6 to adults in Jazz, Liturgical, Jazz/Hip Hop, Dance Aerobics, and Theatre – "Showbiz Kidz". Taught one-on-one sessions for students, choreographer for public events and publicist.
- Assisted the Director with marketing to local schools and venues.
- Served as Stage Manager during recitals

Personal Training Sales Counselor (2011 – 2012)
LA Fitness, Stone Mountain, GA

- Assisted the enrollment of club members for L.A Fitness Pro Results Personal Training by selling packages that provided introductory training assessments, tracked appointments and sales goals.

Modern Dance Instructor - Pedagogy Student (Spring 2010)
Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH

- Created and created semester syllabus for up to 25 undergraduate students.
- Taught CWRU undergraduate students in Modern Dance, teaching basic anatomy in reference to movement and dance technique, as well as strengthening and conditioning. Ensured students learned weekly routines and assigned skills sets.

Demonstrator/Ballet Instructor (Summer 2007 – 2009)
Gospel Music Workshop of America, Inc.
Cincinnati, OH and Orlando, Florida

- Performed with the GMWA Liturgical Dance Company and served as Demonstrator for Dr. Peter A. Fields, Choreographer and Instructor for GMWA.
- Taught all levels of ballet daily to 20 to 25 students.

Dance Instructor/ Counselor (Summer 2008)
Andrew Jackson - Boys and Girls Club, Nashville, TN

- Provided education, choreography and demonstrations of Modern Dance, Ballet, Jazz, Hip Hop and Aerobics to 30 to 35 boys and girls of all levels during summer program.
- Served as counselor and mentor for ages 5 to 18 years of age.

Modern Dance Instructor/Permanent Substitute Teacher, 9th – 12th grade (2007 – 2008)
Nashville School of the Arts, Nashville, TN

- Carefully observed and communicated with students through dance while developing activities relevant to their immediate needs and interests for class size of 15 to 20 students.
- Choreographed for school dance productions.
- Composed lesson plans, and implemented syllabus and schedule for Modern Dance classes.
- Successfully utilized effective oral and written communication to effectively educate students.
- Implemented classroom presentation and curriculum featuring age appropriate activities for students.
- Assisted in various classrooms throughout Nashville School of the Arts as needed.
- Ensured students learned monthly routines and assigned skills set.
- Emphasized strength training, flexibility, and discipline.

Modern Dance Instructor (2006 – 2008)
Salama Urban Ministries, Nashville, TN

- Facilitated the Performing Arts Program after school and summer programs for ages 5 to 13.
- Communicated concepts and ideas effectively to students of varied skill levels.
- Taught Modern and Liturgical Dance

Teacher's Assistant
Fisk University, Nashville, TN (2004 – 2007)

- Assisted the Department Head/Chairperson for Fisk University Dance & Theatre Department.
- Taught all levels of Ballet and Modern Dance for undergraduate students
- Graded assignments and other tasks delegated by the dance and theatre directors.

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Directing and Choreographic Experience

Dance Director (Fall 2013 – Present)

Prairie View A&M University, Prairie View, Texas

- Classic Dance Ensemble (PVAMU pre-professional collegiate dance company)
- Ballet I & II, Tap I & II, Jazz I & II, Modern I & II, Folk and Ballroom I & II
- Choreograph and perform for: Coronation Ball and Mr./Miss PV Pageants, College of Education, Health & Kinesiology Department, Student Affairs, College of Nursing, Theatre & Music Department, President Lecture Series, Student Counseling Services, Commencement, Women's Committee and as needed for the university and student engagement
- HEB Thanksgiving Day Parade (Televised and interviews with various local news stations) Fall 2017
- Urban Souls Dance Company
- Brenham Gala in conjunction with the University Choir
- Theatrical productions, TPAC: Tennessee Performing Arts Center included *The Black Nativity* and *God's Trombone*. Fisk University, Tennessee State University included *Dream Girls*, *Gospel at Colonus*, *Smokey Joe's Café*, and *West Side Story*

Director/Choreographer, Spring 2018

Mount Rose Missionary Baptist Church, Brenham, TX

- Black History Program (Dance Production)

Thesis Concert/ Post Production Thesis, Spring 2011

Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio

- Assisted full production including, lights, costumes, venues, music, set designs, sounds and choreography of dance productions.

Stage Manager, (Fall/Spring 2008- 2011)

Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH

- Assisted lights, cues, sound board operator, public relations and displays.

Mather Dance Collective (MaDaCol), Spring 2010, Fall 2009 – 2010

Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH

- Choreographer
- Assisted community with dance productions including, lights, costumes, casting members, venues, music, set designs, sounds and choreographer for dance production and rehearsals.

Choreopoem, "Why I Had To Dance", Westfield Insurance Studio Theatre at Playhouse Square, Cleveland, Ohio, Summer 2010

- **Assistant Production Manager**, (Poem By: Ntozake Shange, Choreographed/Directed by: Dianne McIntyre). Served as Dianne McIntyre's Personal Assistant during the production. Took notes for staging, blocking, researched fabrics for costumes and provided direction of cues for dancers.

Choreographer (Ballet, Modern, Liturgical Dance), 2008 - 2011

Mount Haven Missionary Baptist Church, Cleveland, Ohio

- Worked with ages 6 to adults and choreographed for monthly presentations.

Senior Thesis Concert/ Oral Defense, Fall 2006, Spring 2007

Fisk University, Nashville, Tennessee

- Produced dance production including, lights, costumes, venues, music, set designs, and choreography including dance exerts based on thesis.

FUNDED PROPOSALS AND CONFERENCES

Spring Dance Workshop (2015)

Prairie View A&M University – Classic Dance Ensemble

Black College Dance Exchange (2018)

Prairie View A&M University – College of Education, Health and Kinesiology Department and Classic Dance Ensemble

SERVICE ACTIVITIES

- Graduation Ceremony Committee (2018)
- President Lecture Series Board Committee, Black History Month (2015)
- 1st Vice President, National Board of Directors, Black College Dance Exchange Inc. (2018 – Present)
- 2nd Vice President, National Board of Directors, Black College Dance Exchange Inc. (2013 – 2017)
- Curriculum Committee, Health and Kinesiology Department (Dance 2014 – Present)
- Grade Appeal Committee, Health and Kinesiology Department
- Women’s Committee, Prairie View A&M University (2018 – Present)
- Coronation Ball Committee, PVAMU (2014 – Present)
- Judge (Miss PV Pageants)
- Judge (Auditions and Dance Competitions) Prairie View A&M University, Waller/Brenham/Houston ISD Schools (2014 – Present)

STUDENT ADVISEMENT & MENTORING

- National Youth Sports Program (2009 – Present)
- Performing Arts – Dance Outreach Programs with Waller/Hempstead/Houston ISD (2013 – Present)
- Advisor, Chi Tau Epsilon Honor Society, Pi Chapter, Prairie View A&M University (Established – September 2019 - Present)
- Dance Minor Program Director/Advisor (2013 – Present)
- Academic Advisor, Kinesiology Majors, 25 – 35 Undergraduate Students per semester (2014 – Present)
- Academic Advisor, Dance Minors, Undergraduate Students per semester (2013 – Present)
- Artistic/Executive Director and Advisor – Classic Dance Ensemble, Collegiate Dance Company (2013 – Present)
- Advisor/Coach – Panther Dolls (Spring 2021 – Present)
- Advisor – Iconic Living Legends, Hip Hop Ensemble (2016 – 2019)