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2017 Fellowship for Contemporary Dance Albuquerque, New Mexico

2017 Fellowship Selection Committee

Maggie Bergeron (Minneapolis, Minnesota)

Ariana Brawley (Beckett, Massachusetts)

Debra Cash (Boston, Massachusetts)

Jennifer Edwards (New York, New York)

Michelle Ellsworth (Boulder, Colorado)

Julie Nakagawa (Chicago, Illinois)

Erika Randall (Boulder, Colorado)

Sydney Skybetter (Providence, Rhode Island)

Julie Voigt (Minneapolis, Minnesota)

Maggie Bergeron (Minneapolis, Minnesota)

Maggie Bergeron is an organizer choreographer, dancer and teacher. She currently choreographs and directs Maggie Bergeron & Company; dances in her own work and the work of local choreographers, most recently including Angharad Davies and Chris Yon; instructs dance majors at the University of Minnesota Dance Program in pedagogy and composition courses; and teaches in the Dance Department at the Saint Paul Conservatory for Performing Artists (SPCPA), a charter school for grades 9-12 committed to pre-professional training in the arts. Maggie directed SPCPA's Dance Department for eight years and also spent nine years dancing in the choreography of Joanie Smith and Danial Shapiro as a company member of Shapiro and Smith Dance. Maggie graduated from Interlochen Arts Academy and holds a BFA in Dance from the University of Minnesota. Her choreography has been seen in Minnesota at the Southern Theater, Walker Art Center, Bryant Lake Bowl, Ted Mann Theater as a part of the Spark Festival as well as David Walsh's Opera Productions, and at the Cedar Cultural Center alongside her composer and bass-playing husband Nicholas Gaudette. Maggie's work has been seen nationally on the North Dakota Ballet Company in Grand Forks, ND; Keshet Dance Company in Albuquerque, NM; Interlochen Arts Academy in MI and the Cincinnati Conservatory for Music's Dance Program in OH. Recently Maggie premiered a new work on Momentum Dance Company in Bern, Switzerland, created a work in collaboration with poet Rebecca Dunham at the Bryant Lake Bowl, premiered an evening-length work Leaver's Ball centered on the experience of high school prom and supported by a Jerome Foundation Travel and Study Grant and performed alongside her husband in a TEDx Grand Forks talk. Maggie just wrapped up the inaugural season of Hear Here! A live music and movement festival, which premiered July 2015 in Saint Paul.

Ariana Brawley (Beckett, Massachusetts)

Company Manager at Jacob's Pillow Dance, Ariana is responsible for programming the free outdoor performance venue, Inside/Out, and leading the nightly post-show talks. The Inside/Out series offers performances by emerging and established dance companies, providing a family-friendly space which is particularly accessible to those new to dance. Since 2011, Ariana has served a variety of roles at the Pillow, including assistant to former Pillow Executive and Artistic Director, Ella Baff. Brawley graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Arizona with a BFA in Dance and BS in Communication, where she received the Virginia Robison Award for Excellence in Dance and Academics.

Debra Cash (Boston, Massachusetts)

Debra is Executive Director of Boston Dance Alliance. She has reported, taught, and lectured on dance, performing arts, design, and cultural policy for print, broadcast, and internet media. Her roles in the Boston cultural community have spanned journalism, education, consulting, and advocacy for the rights of creative professionals. A longtime consultant to the National Endowment for the Arts and New England Foundation for the Arts, Debra has served on panels and nominating committees for the Massachusetts Cultural Council, The Boston Foundation, The LEF Foundation, The Yard, Boston Center for the Arts, and the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts. She regularly presents audience engagement lectures for World Music/CRASHarts and other leading regional presenters. She is Scholar in Residence at the Bates Dance Festival and has served in that same capacity at the Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival. She is proud to be a founding member of the Leadership Council of MassCreative. Debra was a dance critic for the Boston Globe for 17 years, followed by a five year stint at WBUR, and seven as a founding Senior Contributor to *The Arts Fuse*. Debra has taught at Emerson College, the Boston Conservatory, and Northeastern. She earned her B.A. at Brandeis University and a Master's degree in Design Studies at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. Before coming to Boston Dance Alliance in 2015, she led an international research consultancy.

Jennifer Edwards (New York, New York)

Jennifer Edwards, is a facilitator, award-winning writer, a choreographer, and educator. She believes that creative practice can provide opportunities for people and organizations to know themselves on a deeper level. Jennifer has lectured and led seminars at universities, conferences, retreat centers and for organizations across the US and in Canada, Spain and Austria, on topics ranging from storytelling and arts entrepreneurship, to managing reactivity using what she calls Intentional Response. Her art-infused body-mind methods of healing from trauma, continue to help people living with cancer, HIV/ AIDS, survivors of domestic violence and sexual abuse, at-risk youth, as well as groups of senior citizens, LGBTQ-teens, artists, kids and parents. A Sister Spit Slam Champion, Jennifer's performance work has won an Indiegrl Music award (best spoken word recording, 2005), a Fresh Fruit award (best performance of a new play, 2007) and nominations from both OutMusc and Just Plain Folks (best spoken word album, "Exposed" 2005). She has performed in many interesting spaces including the windows at Grand Central Station (NYC), the streets of Shanghai, The Public Theater (NYC), Anna's Bananas (HI), Club One (Montreal), PS122 (NYC), and the steps of the Trenton Court House (NJ). Jennifer's writing has been featured in The National Museum of Women, The Mom Egg, The Leslie Lohman Gay Art Foundation Journal The Archive, Velvet Park Magazine, Dance / USA's From The Green Room, and the Huffington Post. In 2010-11, her film (series) "Grounded" was featured in Martha Stewart's Whole Living Magazine (both print on online publications), at the Solar One Festival and at SUNY Stony Brook University's Festival of the Moving Body. Most recently, she was the movement director for two off Broadway plays, "Expatriate," by Lenelle Moise (New Genre Festival, Tulsa OK; Theater Offensive, Boston MA, 2013) and "I Am The Wind," produced by The Shop (59E59, NYC, 2014). She is the creative force behind the Visiting Hours Project, which launched in January of 2014, the founder of JenEd Productions, co-founder of Edwards and Skybetter | Change Agency, and currently serves as a visiting artist at Point Park University.

Michelle Ellsworth (Boulder, Colorado)

A 2016 Guggenheim Fellow, Michelle Ellsworth makes solo performance work, performable websites, drawings, and videos. Among her honors are a Doris Duke Impact Award (2015), a NEFA National Dance Project Grant (2014), a Creative Capital Fellowship (2013), and a USA Artists Knight Fellowship in Dance (2012). She has received three National Performance Network Creation Fund Commissions (2004, 2007, and 2016). Ellsworth uses her

expansive definition of dance as well as video, text, performance sculptures, and the World Wide Web to explore topics ranging from pharmaceutical art to experimental surveillance. Consistently commingling with technology and objects, her recent works were highlighted in the New York Times' article *Best of Dance 2015* under the heading "Dances With Gadgets." Highlights in her performing career include presenting at On The Boards in Seattle (2004, 2005, 2012, 2015), The Chocolate Factory (2015), The Fusebox Festival in Austin (2013 and 2015), Abandon Normal Devices Festival in Liverpool (2013), Danspace in New York City (2012), Diverseworks in Houston (1996, 1997, 2001, 2005, 2009), Dance Theatre Workshop in New York City (1992, 1993, 1996, 2007), and Brown University (2011, 2015). Her drawings, spreadsheets, and scripts have been published in CHAIN and her screen dances have been seen around Europe and throughout the US. The New York Times has described Ellsworth's solo work as "virtuosic," and "completely winning." Ellsworth received her MFA in Dance from the University of Colorado Boulder and her BA in History and Philosophy from New York University. She has been a University of Colorado faculty member since 2000. Ellsworth is unique among the dance faculty for teaching Dance, Theatre, and Arts & Sciences Special Courses (interdisciplinary courses that combine dance, theatre, science, music and film). Ellsworth is currently working on a 7-inch recording with drummer Sean Meehan and is an Associate Professor in Dance at the University of Colorado-Boulder.

Julie Nakagawa (Chicago, Illinois)

Julie is the Artistic Director and Co-Founder of DanceWorks Chicago. From Evanston, Illinois, Julie was a featured dancer with Christopher D'Amboise's Off Center Ballet, Cleveland Ballet, and Twyla Tharp Dance. She has also performed in Ruth Page's *Nutcracker* and *Die Fledermaus*. Returning to Chicago upon her retirement from dancing, she has been especially interested in the development of dance artists and their related artistic collaborators. At the invitation of Lou Conte, Julie joined the staff of Lou Conte Dance Studio in January 1994 and rose to the position of Associate Director. In addition, she led Hubbard Street 2 from its inception in 1997 through February 2007 as the artistic director of the second company of Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, nurturing young dancers and establishing the National Choreographic Competition to provide creative opportunities for emerging dance makers. A sought-after teacher, Julie has taught classes for dance studios, university programs, and companies, nationally and internationally. She has served as a member and officer of the Board of Trustees of Dance/USA, has been a panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts Access to Artistic Excellence category, and is a member of the Citizens Committee for ChiArts. The Chicago Foundation for Women's Asian American Leadership Council has honored Julie for her work in the creative arts.

Erika Randall (Boulder, Colorado)

Erika is the Director of Dance at the University of Colorado, Boulder. She graduated from the Interlochen Arts Academy with honors and went on to attend the Juilliard School. She received her BA in Dance from the University of Washington and her MFA in Choreography from The Ohio State University. Before relocating to Colorado, she was a Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Illinois for 3 years and a Guest Lecturer at The Ohio State University and joined the faculty at the University of Colorado at Boulder in 2007. Randall is a teacher, choreographer and filmmaker who has performed with Sara Hook, David Parker and the Bang Group, Teena Custer, Michelle Ellsworth, Gabriel Masson, Rebecca-Nettl-Fiol, Esteban Donoso, the Mark Morris Dance Group and Buglisi/Foreman Dance. She is also a founding member of the Seattle born company Cava-Parker Dance whose new home is in Puebla, Mexico and she formed the Columbus Movement Movement (cm2), an organization supporting the development and visibility of contemporary dance artists in Columbus, Ohio, which was named one of Dance Magazine's "Top 25 to Watch" in 2007. Erika was part of the summer faculty at the Interlochen Arts Camp for 8 years and has been a frequent guest artist at the Interlochen Arts Academy. She teaches ballet for the Boulder Jazz Dance Workshop and has presented solo/group choreography and taught across the nation and internationally in Ecuador, Costa Rica, and Mexico. Randall co-wrote, directed, produced and choreographed, *Leading Ladies*, her first feature film which has screened in 65 festivals across the globe, including Palm Springs International Film Festival, Cannes Independent Film Festival, Starz Denver Film Festival, Sonoma International Film Festival, Outfest, and Framline. Her dancefilms, "More" and "Self Defense," created with primary film collaborator, Daniel Beahm, have screened at festivals such the Sans Souci Dance Cinema Festival, the Starz Denver Film Festival, the Florence GLBT Film Festival in Italy, and the Façade Film Festival in Plovdiv, Bulgaria. Her interest in dance, its relationship to popular culture, and its ability to impact change, is at the heart of all of her research and teaching.

Sydney Skybetter (Providence, Rhode Island)

Sydney Skybetter is a technologist, choreographer, and writer. His dances are regularly performed around the country, most recently at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the Boston Center for the Arts, Jacob's Pillow and the Joyce Theater. As a Founding Partner with the Edwards & Skybetter | Change Agency, he has consulted on issues of change management and technology for The National Ballet of Canada, Barnes & Noble, New York University and The University of Southern California among others. He lectures on everything from dance history to cultural futurism, and is a frequent speaker at Juilliard, Dance/USA, and Opera America. He is a regular contributor to The Clyde Fitch Report, serves on the faculty of The Boston Conservatory, has recently been seen as a lecturer on Dance History at Harvard University and is currently a Public Humanities Fellow at Brown University. He produces shows at Joe's Pub and OBERON with DanceNOW[NYC], recently received a RISCA Fellowship in Choreography from the State of Rhode Island, was the first to get the word "Frack" in print at Dance Magazine.

Julie Voigt (Minneapolis, Minnesota)

Julie Voigt is Senior Program Officer, Performing Arts, at the Walker Art Center, an internationally recognized multidisciplinary center for contemporary art in Minneapolis, MN. The Walker houses one of the largest museum-based contemporary performing arts departments in the country, commissioning/presenting 40-50 events/year by local, national, and global dance, music, and performance creators. Voigt has over 25 years of experience in arts administration, program management, artist-centered activities, and developmental- and community-based residencies, working with community partners and national and international organizations to connect artistic invention across disciplines. She has served on numerous panels and advisory and policy committees/boards. Her broad experience includes budget co-development/oversight, project management, contracts/legal agreements, visas/immigration and tax requirements, grants, fundraising, and community partnerships/artist residencies.