

## JUNIOR COMMITTEE

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### Who We Are

The Dance/NYC Junior Committee (JComm) is a proactive working committee of emerging leaders in the field. As a project of Dance/NYC, we initiate significant projects in research, advocacy, and career development while strengthening each member's relationship to the dance community. JComm is an incubator for the next generation of dance leadership and serves as a catalyst for innovation and invention in the dance field. We generate ideas through dialogue and we move those ideas into action.

### Serving a Multicultural City

JComm comprises up to 20 members, ages 21-30,\* who represent various roles within the NYC dance community. In order to more effectively represent our peer group we are working to reflect our multicultural city within our own membership. Diverse perspectives are necessary to prepare a new generation of dance leadership for the difficult challenges facing the field. We use principles of community organizing as a framework for addressing how to meaningfully enact change around the issues we find most pressing. We are actively seeking applicants who are dedicated to moving issues of equity and inclusion in dance from an ideological discussion into action. We encourage those who identify as ALAANA (African, Latina/o/x, Asian, Arab, and Native American), disabled, and/or LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer) to apply.

### INTENTIONS

- Serve as a liaison for our demographic in the wider dance community
- Provide a forum for dialogue among a diversity of perspectives in our field
- Foster professional development in our constituency
- Generate ideas that will serve our common goals and those of Dance/NYC

### ACTIONS

- Facilitate communication among and with our peer group
- Raise awareness of available resources and opportunities
- Organize events that address relevant issues
- Consult regularly with Dance/NYC

### EFFECTS

- Strengthen and unite a community of professional artists and administrators
- Serve as a catalyst for innovation and invention in our work
- Re-energize our peer group in a challenging field
- Help Dance/NYC better serve our demographic

### HISTORY

The Dance/NYC Junior Committee (known formerly as the Youth Advisory Committee) was the brainchild of former Dance/NYC Executive Director Michelle Burkhart. The committee was created in the autumn of 2007 as a counterpart to Dance/NYC's Advisory Board to advocate specifically for young professionals in dance and to serve as a liaison between Dance/NYC and its younger constituents. Initially representing New York City's 19-to-25 demographic, in 2007 12 members were selected randomly from a pool of applicants interested in connecting more closely with Dance/NYC.

In our first year, the Junior Committee met at first quarterly—and soon, monthly—with Dance/NYC staff, shaping initiatives that would bring younger constituents to the service organization's resources and programming. To that end, the Junior Committee first published a quarterly e-newsletter, in February of 2008, which has served over 200 subscribers.

Fiscal years 2009, 2010, and 2011 have brought a steady increase in interest in the Junior Committee. In 2010 we widened of the age bracket of members, now 21-30 years of age, to serve a broader demographic of emerging professionals and to foster exchange between members with varying levels of experience in the field. The group is comprised of performing and teaching artists, choreographers, educators and administrators.

Dance/NYC has encouraged the committee to assume internal leadership and take independent initiative while we continue to work in a close and mutually supportive partnership toward common goals. New members are welcomed annually by application.

### JOIN US

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Name:   
 Email:

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## Current and Former Members

### 2021–2022

Joan Bradford, Co-Chair  
Stephanie Rivas, Co-Chair  
Maya Simone Z., Secretary  
Anna Bjella, Communications Chair  
Abigail Linnemeyer  
Audrey Berger  
Brooke Rucker  
Catherine Messina  
Dianne Walsh  
Katherine De La Cruz  
Leila Mire  
Nia Washington-Saeed  
Portia Wells  
Sophie Visscher-Lubiniski  
Yesenia Paula

[Read more about the current committee.](#)

### 2020–2021

Ami Scherson, Co-Chair  
Linda Ryan, Co-Chair  
Anna Bjella  
Anna McDunn  
Brooke Rucker  
Danielle Iwata  
Jesse Obremski  
Joan Bradford  
John Maria Gutierrez  
Katherine De La Cruz  
Kimberleigh Costanzo  
Leila Mire  
Maya Simone Z  
Stephanie Rivas  
Veronica Jiao

### 2019–2020

Danielle Iwata, Co-Chair  
Kimberleigh Costanzo, Co-Chair  
Kelsey Kramer, Operations Coordinator  
Loren Sass, Communications Coordinator  
Ami Scherson  
Anna McDunn  
Brittany Wilson  
Debbie Mausner  
Jenée-Daria Strand  
Joy Douglas  
Linda Ryan  
Maya Simone Z.  
Nadia Khayrallah  
Rebecca Fitton, Secretary  
Veronica Jiao

### 2018–2019

Brittany Wilson  
Camille Moten, Vice-Chair  
Danielle Iwata, Committee Coordinator  
Kelsey Kramer  
Kimberleigh Costanzo  
Lauren Wingenroth, Chair  
Lindsey Silvera  
Loren Sass  
Lydia Lee  
Nadia Khayrallah, Communications Coordinator  
Rebecca Fitton  
Ryan Rockmore  
Susana Toro  
Will Noling, Secretary

### 2017–2018

Niya Nicholson, Co-Chair  
Kim Savarino, Co-Chair  
Margaret Tudor, Secretary  
Tina Hsiao-Tung Huang, Committee Operations  
Nadia Khayrallah, Co- Communications Coordinator  
Collin Ranf, Co- Communications Coordinator  
Nora Alami  
Lillian Altreuter

Katy Dammers  
Cecila Lynn-Jacobs  
Will Noling  
Sherylynn Sealy  
Lauren Wingenroth

#### 2016-2017

Donald Borrer, Chair  
Kim Savarino, Vice Chair  
Tara Sheena, Secretary  
Oceane Hooks-Camilleri, Committee Operations  
Katherine Bergstrom, Co- Communications Coordinator  
Samuel Householder, Co- Communications Coordinator  
Evvie Allison  
Amy Campbell  
Brendan Drake  
Amanda Hameline  
Henry Holmes (ry)  
Tina Hsiao-Tung Huang  
Cecilia Lynn-Jacobs  
Kate Ladenheim  
Niya Nicholson  
Alexandra Pinel  
Ella Rosewood  
Eli Tamondong  
Margaret Tudor  
Rachel Russell

#### 2015-2016

Amanda Hameline, Co-Chair  
Eli Tamondong, Co-Chair  
Nehemoyia Young, Treasurer  
Donald Borrer, Secretary  
Kate Ladenheim, Co-Communications Coordinator  
Ashley Richard, Co-Communications Coordinator  
Jessica Abejar  
Katherine Bergstrom  
Amy Campbell  
Caryn Cooper  
Oceane Hooks-Camilleri  
Samuel Householder  
Tina Hsiao-Tung Huang  
Sarah McCafferty  
Alexandra Pinel  
Jen Roit  
Kim Savarino  
Tara Sheena  
Alexander Thompson  
Margaret Tudor  
Ricarrdo Valentine

#### 2014-2015

Alexander Thompson, Chair  
Sydnie Mosley, Vice Chair  
Brighid Greene, Secretary  
Nehemoyia Young, Treasurer  
Alexandra Pinel, Communications Coordinator  
Jessica Abejar  
Ariel Asch  
Michele Kumi Baer  
Hollis Bartlett  
Amanda Hameline  
Madison Krekel  
Steph Lee  
Sydnie Liggett  
James Murray  
Alex Rodabaugh  
Ella Rosewood  
Ali Rosa Salas  
Raina Sutton  
Eli Tamondong  
Ricarrdo Valentine

#### 2013-2014

Hollis Bartlett, Chair  
Alexander Thompson, Vice Chair  
Erica Frankel, Secretary  
Denae Hannah, Treasurer  
Alexandra Pinel, Communications Coordinator Michele Kumi Baer  
Michele Kumi Baer  
Mariana Castaneda Lopez  
Virginia Cromwell

Elmes Gomez  
Brigid Greene  
Charles Gushue  
John Hoobyar  
Alejandra E. Iannone  
Sydney L. Mosley  
Yasemin Ozurmerzifon  
Kaley Pruitt  
Mercedes Searer  
Raina Sutton  
Ling Tang  
Nehemoyia Young

#### 2012-2013

Leeanne G-Bowley, Chair  
Hollis Bartlett, Vice Chair  
Kaley Pruitt, Secretary  
Brigid Greene, Treasurer  
Marisa Ballaro  
Virginia Cromwell  
Erica Frankel  
Denae Hannah  
John Hoobyar  
Alejandra Iannone  
Amy Jacobus  
Maggie Lockhart  
Sydney Mosley  
William Penrose  
Gary Schaufeld  
Mercedes Searer  
Alexandra Pinel  
Alexander Thompson

#### 2011-2012

Justina Gaddy, Co-Chair  
Benn Rasmussen, Co-Chair  
Lori Byargeon, Vice Chair  
Caroline Walthall, Secretary  
Hollis Bartlett, Treasurer  
Kathleya Afanador  
Marisa Ballaro  
Eveline Chang  
Erica Frankel  
Leeanne M. G-Bowley  
Brigid Greene  
Maria Hanley  
Sydney Mosley  
Jessica Nowaski  
Kaley Pruitt  
Kaylen Ratto  
Nicole Savery  
Gary Schaufeld  
Kate Wilfert  
Michele Wilson  
Caitlin Yuhas

#### 2010-2011

Irfana Jetha, Chair  
Marisa Ballaro, Vice Chair  
Michele Wilson, Secretary  
Hollis Bartlett, Treasurer  
Nicole Savery, JComm Journal Online Editor  
Caitlin Yuhas, JComm Journal Online Editor  
Yasmeen Allen  
Lori Byargeon  
Eveline Chang  
Erica Frankel  
Justina Gaddy  
Ximena Garnica  
Maria Hanley  
Julia Kelly  
Benn Rasmussen  
Kaylen Ratto  
Meredith B. Robbins  
Caroline Walthall  
Adrienne Westwood

#### 2009-2010

Julia Kelly, Chair  
Eileen Farrell, Vice-Chair  
Justina Gaddy, YAC Journal Online Editor  
Marisa Ballaro

Adrienne Bryant  
Lori Byargeon  
Colleen Cashman  
Eveline Chang  
Mollie Fox  
Ximena Garnica  
Ani Javian  
Irfana Jetha  
Elizabeth Jones  
Brittany Fridenstine-Keefe  
David Sadowsky  
Lauri Taylor  
Adrienne Westwood

#### 2008-2009

Elizabeth Jones, Chair  
Marisa Ballaro  
Adrienne Bryant  
Colleen Cashman  
Loren Davidson  
Eileen Farrell  
Mollie Fox  
Justina Gaddy  
Ximena Garnica  
Ani Javian  
Julia Kelly  
Michela Marino Lerman  
Julie Potter  
Christina Rinaldi  
David Sadowsky  
Adrienne Westwood  
Emma Zurer

#### 2007-2008: the pilot year

Jonny Bateman  
Michelle Brugal  
Rebecca Chaleff  
Duke Dang  
Eileen Farrell  
Mollie Fox  
Julia Kelly  
Denise Lirano  
Betsy Miller  
Elizabeth Schulman  
Rebecca Warner

[Read more about the current committee.](#)