

Emerging Choreographer's Showcase

Emerging Choreographer's Showcase was started in 2003 by The Dance Cooperative founders after reading about a similar production in Northern California. The Showcase embodies so much of what The Dance Cooperative is about, that we have turned it into a local tradition! Over the years, many wonderful new choreographers of all ages have gotten their start with ECS, we invite you to join us for this year's event and show Wilmington your talent!

By participating in ECS, you will learn the basics of what it is like be a working choreographer by working with a mentor to create a dance piece to be presented at the showcase. This includes training and practice in choreography skills, leadership skills, musical selection, costume design, lighting and prop usage. However, you will also learn how to write your own professional bio, select photographs for advertising, and seek funding for your project.

In addition to having access to support and feedback from your chosen mentor you will also receive regular feedback, interactive suggestions, and training in a workshop format on choreography and technical production from The Dance Cooperative staff at our monthly informal showings held at the Dance Cooperative and/or Cameron Art Museum. Since seeking consult and feedback is an important part of any growing artist's creative life these showings are required for all participants and mentors. See attached informal showings schedule for specific dates.

The Dance Cooperative is available for 1 hour per week of free rehearsal space for each emerging choreographer, which must be booked in advance. Please contact Kate Muhlstein to book space. Space may also be rented for free at the Community Arts Center for an hour a week- you just have to call every week to reserve space (contact info should be inserted).

If you are interested in participating in ECS this year please complete the attached Intent to Apply and Mentor Agreement. If you need help in finding a mentor just let the Dance Cooperative staff know what kind of work you would like to focus on and we will help you find a great mentor!

Please see attached schedule for application/form deadlines.

We are looking forward to a great showcase this year so come show off your talents and grow as a choreographer with the Dance Cooperative!

ECS Intent to Apply

Name:

Date of Birth:

Phone Number:

School:

Dance School:

Intended Mentor:

Mentor's Email Address:

Mentor's Bio:

Please describe the work you are looking to create:

Number and names (if known) of Dancers:

I agree, that by signing this Intent, I will uphold all of the requirements to participate in ECS including participation in informal showings and policies regarding space rental. If I cannot attend showings at some point in the process I agree to notify The Dance Cooperative, by email or phone, and schedule a private showing with at least two Dance Cooperative Faculty.

Signature:

Date:

ECS Mentor Agreement

For Emerging Choreographer's Showcase, The Dance Cooperative is wishing to give new and inexperienced choreographers the skills that are needed in order to be an accomplished dance maker. It is not expected that they learn everything in one showcase but that they make noted progress in their skills and understanding of the art of choreography. This progress is made largely through the mentor/emerging choreographer relationship. Mentoring a choreographer is a very important and rewarding role and we hope that you will enjoy participating in this exciting process. In order to ensure that each emerging choreographer receives a quality experience we have set forth some mentor guidelines and requirements.

To qualify as a Mentor, you need to have produced your own work in a professional setting. You will be expected to meet with your choreographer at least twice between showings and attend the showings to assist and support your choreographer. You may not serve as a mentor to more than two choreographers per showcase/year so as to ensure that each emerging artist receives quality time and attention.

As a mentor you are responsible for making sure your choreographer has a general understanding of choreographic concepts, lighting usage, music selection, costume design and how to write and arrange program information inclusive of the professional bio. Please be sure to provide your choreographer with your professional choreography bio to be included with their Intent to Apply.

We also want to make sure that the participants gain an understanding of what it takes to produce their own work in the professional world which of course means advertising and funding. As part of your role as an ECS mentor, you take on the task of helping your choreographer learn the art of asking for funding and support for the arts. This is achieved through the sales of advertisements to be included in the program. It is the responsibility of the mentor to assist the emerging choreographer with selling at least one advertisement by the program submission deadline.

With any new choreography project there may come a time when the artist must decide that the work is simply not ready to be presented as planned and need to be reworked and presented at a later date. If this applies to your choreographer's work it is your responsibility to mentor them in this decision and help them understand this as part of the creative process. ECS is not a competitive showcase but an opportunity to learn and grow as an artist therefore it is part of your job as a mentor to help your choreographer realize if their work is simply not ready for presentation by the last showing and why. They will always have the opportunity to present next year and have an entire year to work on it!

We are very excited to have you be a part of nurturing our emerging choreographers!

By signing this, I agree to assist my choreographer according to the guidelines outlined above to the best of my ability. I will hold my choreographer accountable to the guidelines and requirements outlined in the intent to apply and communicate any issues to The Dance Cooperative staff as they arise.

Signature:

Date:

ECS Application Packet

Choreographer's Name:

Phone Number:

Date of Birth:

Dance School:

Choreographer's Bio:

Mentor's Name:

Mentor's Email:

Mentor's Bio:

Title of Work:

Music Selection:

Costume Design:

Length of Piece:

Photography Credit:

Number of Dancers:

Please list Names and Ages of all Dancers:

Please attach Photo Waivers for Each dancer and choreographer.

ECS 2016 Schedule

September 20th:

First Showing session: Improv and Music Workshop with Dance Cooperative Staff and Friends. Please arrive with a source of inspiration- music, a passage, some movement- and be ready to move and explore. Cameron Art Museum, 2-4pm.

October 18th:

Second Showing session: Costume and Tech Workshop and showing. Cameron Art Museum, 2-4pm.

November 8th:

Third Showing: First movement showing, Intent to Apply and Mentor bio due. Cameron Art Museum, 2pm.

December 6th:

Fourth Showing: Second movement showing, Application and Photography due. The Dance Cooperative, 2pm.

January 17th:

Fifth Showing: Third and Final movement showing, complete works due, pick up flyers and proof program information. The Dance Cooperative, 2pm.

February 6th:

Dress rehearsal at The Dance Cooperative. Time to be determined.

February 7th:

Show date! ECS will be 3pm at the Cameron Art Museum. Please arrive by 1pm for a warmup class, tech/dress run and photos.