THE LINDENWOOD UNIVERSITY DANCE PROGRAM PROUDLY PRESENTS

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LINDENWOOD THEATER 7:30pm APRIL 18620

The Lindenwood University Dance Program Presents

#### SPRING DANCE CONCERT — ...THE END

April 18 & 20, 7:30PM

The Lindenwood Theater

J. Scheidegger Center at Lindenwood University



Preparing for every future. Make your own way. Tell your own story. Our mission is humanity!

#### The Mission of the Lindenwood University Dance Program

The Lindenwood University Dance Program cultivates student success by pairing professional preparatory experiences with a diverse curriculum in dance. Our dedicated faculty guides students through opportunities to educate, entertain, and enlighten, leading to 21st century dance professionals with tools to enrich community.

Be Moved.

### A NOTE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Teaching dance has always been a rewarding experience for me, and helping guide students through their collegiate journey in dance is something I cherish deeply. This year we have fourteen seniors presenting their choreography capstone projects as well as performing in a variety of dances. Each student has a unique perspective and artistic sensibility, so it seemed best to divide the concert and allow the students time to showcase their individual talents. Please join me at the concerts as we enjoy and celebrate our seniors, their hard work and all those who helped bring these concerts to life.

#### Janet Strzelec

Professor of Dance Artistic Director, Spring Dance Concert

### A NOTE FROM THE PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Welcome to the 2024 Spring Dance Concert! As we gather to celebrate the culmination of our 2023-2024 academic dance season, I find myself filled with admiration for the exceptional talents and dedication of our graduating artists. Their presence on stage tonight marks not only the conclusion of their time here at Lindenwood but also the beginning of their journey towards making a profound impact in the world of dance and beyond. Throughout their time in our program, these 14 graduating artists have demonstrated unwavering commitment to their craft, embodying the essence of creativity and collaboration. While their performances on stage tonight are a testament to their artistry, it is their potential to influence the broader arts community that truly excites me. These graduates are poised to grace professional stages with their remarkable talents, captivating audiences with their artistry and vision. Beyond the spotlight, they will undoubtedly serve as mentors and educators, sharing their passion for dance with future generations. As leaders in the arts field, they will champion innovation, pushing boundaries and shaping the landscape of contemporary dance. Tonight, as we applaud their achievements and celebrate their accomplishments, let us also acknowledge the supporters who have helped pave their path to this moment. To these graduating artists, I extend a heartfelt congratulations as you embark on the next chapter of your journey. May you continue to shine brightly, illuminating the path for future generations of dancers and artists alike.

#### Tricia Zweier

Associate Professor of Dance Dance Program Coordinator

## Composure

Choreographer: Renee Kester

Music: "Unveiled" by Guðni Franzson, Hildur Guðnadóttir, and Skúli Sverrisson

"Prelude" by Alexandra Stréliski "Melodia (IV)" by Jóhann Jóhannsson "Return to France" by Martin Phipps

**Lighting Designer:** Austin VanWinkle **Rehearsal Director:** Tricia Zweier

**Performers:** Delainey Bailey, Makenna Blough, Sophie Blum, Hannah Hopkins, Stephanie Mantooth, Maeli McMahen, Alicia Orr, Lily Prescott, Myla Price, Taylor Tricroce, Chloe Willis,

Terrance Woods, Lexi Young

# Encourage, Empower, Embrace

Choreographer: Shelby Whitley

Music: "What Women Do Best" by Kris Bowers

"Deja Vu" by Mike Froudarakis and Alexander Leeming Froudakis

"Stay Away" by Vitamin String Quartet

**Lighting Designer:** Austin VanWinkle

**Performers:** Jintree Albers, Allie Beck, Lauren Combs, Amber Fialka, Jill George, Lauren

Head, Randi Jenkins, Lauren King, Whitney Newtown, Leah Noble, Lexi Young

Understudies: Georgia Johnson, Ava Peltier

# Mens Imperium

**Choreographer:** Logan Guerra **Music:** "Great day" by Senking

"Tv Static" by Professional Sound Effects

"Aluminum" by Travis Lake **Lighting Designer:** Austin VanWinkle

**Performers:** Jintree Albers, Delainey Bailey, Grace Ferrell, Hannah Hopkins, Carly Hughes, Minami Kikuchi, Kaitlyn Mack, Katie Major, Kloey Monthei, Alicia Orr, Myla-Ja'nai Price, Chloe Ryherd

**Understudies:** Jaelie Bott, Emma Maxey, Larisa Petro

## Swan Lake: A Collection of Variations

**Choreographer:** Miranda Payne **Music:** Pyotr Ilyich Thaikovsky

**Lighting Designer:** Austin VanWinkle

**Odette:** Ashley DeVincent **Siegfried:** Logan Guerra

**Little Swans:** Carmen Burlingame, Alette Joubert, Minami Kikuchi, Alexis Monsey

Little Swans Understudies: Lauren King, Chloe Ryherd

Note: The piece, created in DAN 39024 "Special Topics: Ballet and Contemporary Repertoire,"

is based on the original 1895 choreography by Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov.

### Game Over

Choreographer: Sarah Smith

Music: "Halo" by Martin O'Donnell and Michael Salvatori

"Dragonborn" by Jeremy Soule

"Your Precious Moon" by Aperture Science Psychoacoustic Laboratories

"Rage Awakened" by Yoko Shimomura

Edited by Zack Roth

**Lighting Designer:** Austin VanWinkle

Performers: Jaelie Bott, Kayona Brown, Sawyer Eddins, Georgia Johnson, Chariel Melendez,

Alexis Monsey, Whitney Newtown, Leah Noble, Chloe Willis, Terrance Woods

## Sakura Saku

**Choreographer:** Minami Kikuchi

Music: "Kaze No Toori Michi (from My Neighbor Totoro)" by YUKA

"Kitano Kunikara Harukanaru Daichiyori Hotaru No Theme" by Masashi Sada

**Lighting Designer:** Austin VanWinkle

**Performers:** Emily Eveland, Logan Guerra, Hannah Hopkins, Carly Hughes, Kaitlyn Mack, Alicia Orr, Jenna Parsons, Lily Prescott, Chloe Ryherd, Natalia Stuart, Taylor Tricroce, Lexi Young **Understudies:** Carmen Burlingame, Alette Joubert, Maeli McMahen, Natalie Olmstead, Julia

Van Kalker

#### INTERMISSION

# On Broadway

**Choreographers:** Janet Strzelec and the Dance Ensemble **Music:** "On Broadway" by Barry Mann and Cynthia Weil

"Sing, Sing, Sing" by Louis Prima

Lighting Designer: Austin VanWinkle

**Performers:** Delainey Bailey, Makenna Blough, Sophie Blum, Carmen Burlingame, Ashley DeVincent, Sawyer Eddins, Cambry Erdman, Logan Guerra, Lauren Head, Hannah Hopkins, Minami Kikuchi, Lauren King, Stephanie Mantooth, Maeli McMahen, Alicia Orr, Lauren Osorto, Ava Peltier, Larisa Petro, Chloe Ryherd, Terrance Woods, Lexi Young

### Eternal Echoes

Choreographer: Makenna Blough Music: "Come Away" by Son Lux "Trailing Memory" by Son Lux

"Dream State (Instrumental)" by Son Lux

"Dream State (Brighter Night) Instrumental" by Son Lux

**Lighting Designer:** Austin VanWinkle

**Performers:** Sophie Blum, Emily Eveland, Carly Hughes, Jillian Haring, Minami Kikuchi, Emma Maxey, Kaitlyn Mack, Kloey Monthei, Lily Prescott, Natalia Stuart, Taylor Tricroce, Lexi Young

Understudy: Jill George

# not that you'd even notice

Choreographers: Sophie Blum

**Music:** "you don't know what to feel anymore" by a vow "Seeing Dead Cats in Dreams" by Ricky Eat Acid

"Blue Hour" by Ruby Haunt

"no longer feeling" by marin county lighthouse keeper "Elephant" by Jason Isbell covered by Ryan Blum

Edited by Adam Donohue

Lighting Designer: Austin VanWinkle

Performers: Makenna Blough, Amber Fialka, Jill George, Maeli McMahen, Kloey Monthei,

Natalie Olmstead

**Understudies:** Lauren Osorto, Larisa Petro

**Note:** The recording of Ryan Blum (Sophie's Dad) was facilitated by MUS 38634, Music Production Practicum, under the guidance of Professor Adam Donohue and Lead Audio Technician, Tim Shackelford.

## Just Come Home

Choreographers: Allie Beck

**Music:** "Hate Me" by Blue October (Instrumental)

Lighting Designer: Austin VanWinkle

Performers: Jintree Albers, Logan Guerra, Hannah Hopkins, Carly Hughes, Katie Major,

Natalia Stuart, Julia Van Kalker, Shelby Whitley

**Understudy:** Jaelie Bott

# Inner Empowerment

**Choreographer:** Amy Gammon **Music:** "Partition" by Bevoncé

"Bossy" by Kelis feat. Too \$hort

"TOP TOE" by PARRI\$

"Like That" by Memphis Bleek "Bootylicious" by Destiny's Child "Lose My Breath" by Destiny's Child

"Finesse (Remix)" by Bruno Mars feat. Cardi B Edited by Adam Donohue and Amy Gammon

**Lighting Designer:** Austin VanWinkle

**Performers:** Jintree Albers, Jaelie Bott, Elizabeth Egley, Emily Eveland, Grace Ferrell, Jill George, Carly Hughes, Georgia Johnson, Lauren King, Kaitlyn Mack, Katie Major, Emma Maxey, Madeleine Nelson, Whitney Newtown, Leah Noble, Lauren Osorto, Myla-Ja'nai Price, Taylor Tricroce, Julia Van Kalker, Lexi Young

**Note:** This piece was created in DAN 39020, "Special Topics: Advanced Hip Hop Technique," a 3-credit course.

BOWS

ALLIE BECK is a senior at Lindenwood University receiving her Bachelor of Fine Arts in dance with an emphasis in jazz. Before college, she was a competitive dancer at Ann's Performing Arts Centre in Springfield, Missouri for six years. In high school, Allie was also a part of her high school's dance team, the Kickapoo Golden Girls, for two years. She is currently on the 8x NDA national championship team, the Lionettes. Her freshman year, they took home two national titles in hip hop and jazz. Her sophomore year, they took home a national title in jazz. Her junior year, they took home two national titles in hip hop and jazz. She also previously choreographed a piece titled, "Joviality" for Lindenwood's winter dance concert in 2022 and a piece titled, "Vanity" in Lindenwood's winter dance concert in 2023. After college, Allie hopes to pursue a career as a professional dancer.

MAKENNA BLOUGH, originally from Osage Beach, Missouri, is currently a senior at Lindenwood University. She is aiming to attain her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance with a specialization in Contemporary. Makenna has a background encompassing contemporary, ballet, modern, improv, jazz, hip hop, and ballroom dance. Makenna has graced the stages of Lindenwood University's Fall, Winter, and Spring Dance Concerts since joining the program in 2021. Not only has she performed, but Makenna has also showcased her choreographic work in the 2022 and 2023 Winter Dance Concerts, earning recognition for her junior year piece, "Slumberland," as the recipient of a Lindy Award, "Most Outstanding Choreography". In addition to her academic endeavors, Makenna fulfills roles as a choreographer for Relevé Dance Academy's Performance Company in Osage Beach, MO, and as a technique instructor at Fluid Motion Dance Academy in O'Fallon, MO. Post-graduation. Makenna aspires to delve into the professional dance arena, passionately choreographing for esteemed studios and companies, thereby leaving an indelible mark in the world of dance.

**SOPHIE BLUM**, a senior at Lindenwood University, is pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Dance with a specialization in Contemporary, along with a minor in Dance Studio Management. Blum's dance training began at the age of three at Studio C Dance, and she has remained

connected to the studio since. During her time at Lindenwood University, Sophie was a member of the Lion Line Dance Team from 2020 to 2022, during which the team achieved both jazz and hip hop titles at the Universal Dance Association Nationals in April of 2021. She has performed in various dance concerts throughout her academic years at Lindenwood, and also choreographed pieces for the Winter Dance Concerts in March 2022 and March 2023. Additionally, Sophie has represented Lindenwood University at dance conferences such as the American College of Dance Association Conference in Oklahoma (March 2023) and the Missouri Dance Organization's conference in Columbia, MO (June 2023). Post-graduation, Sophie aims to pursue opportunities within the dance industry while continuing her involvement in teaching and choreography.

**LOGAN GUERRA** is a senior at Lindenwood University, where he's dedicated to earning a BFA degree with a specialization in contemporary dance. His passion for dance extends beyond the university, as he previously trained in various styles like contemporary, ballet, jazz, hip-hop, aerial performance, and tap, both at Lindenwood and with the Alma Dance Program in his hometown of Alma, Arkansas. Logan has actively contributed to Lindenwood's dance program, showcasing his talent in the university's Fall, Winter, and Spring concerts. Notably, he had the honor of choreographing his own piece for the 2022 Fall Dance Concert, 2023 Winter Dance Concert, and the 2024 Spring Dance Concert. In addition to his university activities, Logan was a proud member of the Lionettes dance team at Lindenwood, achieving recognition as Division II jazz national champions for the 2021-2022 academic year. Further expanding his dance experience, Logan served as a company artist at Consuming Kinetics Dance Company during the 2022-23 season in St. Louis. In this role, he not only performed but also shared his expertise by teaching and choreographing for their dance concerts. After graduation, Logan looks forward to pursuing a career in dance by joining a contemporary dance company and continuing to teach dance.

**AMY GAMMON** holds a BA in Dance and a Master of Arts in Teaching with an emphasis in Dance from Lindenwood University. She is currently an adjunct professor at Lindenwood University, where she has set numerous pieces in the dance concerts, traveled with

the students to American College Dance Association teaching tap, hip hop, and yoga, and had the opportunity to choreograph Urinetown, Cinderella, and Carrie that was seen in the J. Scheidegger Center for the Arts. Amy Gammon is a co-founder of MoSTLy TAP, a St. Louis based tap dance company. Amy has earned the position as a director and convention teacher with Beyond the Stars where she travels around the United States. She has had the privilege of choreographing the opening number for Beyond The Stars Nationals, creating a piece with over one hundred dancers in under a week. She has been teaching at Performing Arts Centre for the last fourteen years in multiple genres including tap, jazz, hip hop, and contemporary and is currently the team coordinator for their competing team. Amy has had the opportunity to choreograph for Fright Fest with Six Flags St. Louis. She is a member of Dance Masters of America, a graduate at DMA's Teachers Training School earning the Bachna Scholarship, a yoga teacher through YogaSix and TNT Fitness, and is the Associate Artistic Director for The DANCE CO. of St. Charles. Amy holds a strong passion for teaching, inspiring and motivating students to achieve their goals.

**RENEE KESTER** is a choreographer, educator and director based in Los Angeles. She started breakdancing at the age of 12 with the guidance of Quest Crew and was later classically trained at Southland Ballet Academy. By 15, she was the youngest member of Sonya Tayeh's company and an original member of Westside Dance Project and Entity. Renee was scouted to be a trainee for the Washington Ballet at World Ballet competition. She then danced and toured with Houston Ballet before returning to L.A. to create the viral video, "Slip" with Phillip Chbeeb. "Slip" amassed over 20 million views and pushed Renee to choreograph several music videos, commercials (Toyota, Lenovo, Nair, and Timberland), web series "Making Moves" and dance in stage performances (VMA's and Dancing with the Stars). Renee has won best choreography at the World of Dance Awards and best choreographer for digital content at the World Choreography Awards. She has taught at colleges Princeton and LMU, and travelled the world performing, choreographing and teaching in Jamaica, Mexico, Sicily, Romania, Canada, Singapore, Slovenia and throughout the states. Renee co-founded creative training company, Playdo, in 2022. She is currently creating a feature film and performing in LA.

MINAMI KIKUCHI, a senior at Lindenwood University from Tokyo, Japan, is completing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Dance. Her dance journey began at the age of three at Lufairy Ballet, but she later shifted her focus to modern/contemporary dance under the guidance of Izumi Miyamura and Kyoko Makino. Minami then began choreographing at 15, showcasing her first original work at Jissen Girls School of Tokyo. She continued choreographing until she left Japan at age 19. In the United States, she premiered her first choreographed piece, "Invisible Things," at the 2023 Adjudication Concert of the American College Dance Association Conference. Her most recent choreographic achievement, "BODY," earned recognition at the Modern American Dance Company's Dare to Dance Festival 2024. During her time in the Lindenwood University Dance Program, she has taken advantage of opportunities to perform in the annual Informal, Fall, Winter, and Spring dance concerts. Beyond campus, she showcased her talent at the 2022 and 2023 American College Dance Association Conferences, as well as events like the St.Louis National Dance Week Festival and The Big Muddy Dance Festival. Notably, Minami delivered a solo performance at the Hiroshima-Nagasaki Peace Memorial in Boston, Massachusetts. Most recently, she trained at Urbanity Dance in Boston, Massachusetts as a part of their 2023 contemporary summer intensive. She also was an intern at Urbanity Dance during the summer of 2022-2023. She hopes to pursue her passion for dance and choreography after graduation and hopes to showcase to others that dance is a universal language.

MIRANDA PAYNE holds a BFA in Dance from Webster University, where she graduated with departmental honors while dancing professionally. Miranda is a founding company dancer of The Big Muddy Dance Company, where she danced for 12 seasons. While with The Big Muddy, Miranda worked alongside numerous world-renowned choreographers including Lou Conte, Harrison McEldowney, Kate Skarpetowska, Brian Enos, Kirven Douthit-Boyd and Norbert De La Cruz III, and she toured nationally with the company. Miranda attended daily company class with leading dance educators, and has attended open classes in Chicago, New York City, and Los Angeles. Miranda has performed with Stages St. Louis, Opera Theatre of Saint Louis, Variety Theatre, and The Shoji Tabuchi Theatre in Branson, MO. She served as Dance Captain for both Opera Theatre of Saint Louis

and Variety Theatre. Miranda has 18 years of experience working as a dance educator and choreographer; having won numerous choreography awards. It has been her immense pleasure to mentor many students that have gone on to dance in college, and pursue professional dance careers. Miranda remains on staff with The Big Muddy Dance Company: leading class, restaging company repertoire, and creating original choreography for summer intensive students. Miranda has been on the teaching staff for Regional Dance America - MidStates, as well as several other intensives throughout the Midwest. Miranda is delighted to be working as an Adjunct Professor of Dance for both Lindenwood University and Missouri Baptist University.

**SARAH SMITH** has been dancing since the age of two in a variety of styles, including, hip hop, lyrical, ballet, contemporary, and jazz. She spent the majority of her training at Steppin' Up Dance Productions, where she continues to teach hip hop and tumbling. Her Lindenwood journey originally began in 2015. After a hiatus, she returned in 2021 to complete a Bachelor of Arts in both dance and art and design. Sarah has performed in three fall dance concerts at Lindenwood. She has also set work for Synergy's informal concert. After graduation, she hopes to dance commercially, primarily doing hip hop.

JANET STRZELEC holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Dance from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and a Master of Fine Arts in Directing with a Musical Theatre emphasis from Lindenwood University. Professor Strzelec has been teaching at Lindenwood since January 1998 and served as chair of the dance department from June 2005-May 2021. She has an extensive history of teaching, directing, and choreographing in the greater St. Louis area including work with dance studios, K-12 schools, universities, and professional dance and musical theatre companies. At Lindenwood, Professor Strzelec has enjoyed teaching ballet, pointe, jazz, tap, modern, musical theatre, dance appreciation, dance composition, dance pedagogy and a variety of special topics that included a dance program study abroad trip to Paris. In addition to teaching dance courses, Strzelec has also enjoyed serving as director and/or choreographer for many, many dance concerts and musicals at Lindenwood. Professor Strzelec's performance credits include ballets, musicals, dinner theatre, television commercials, industrials, and Six Flags Show Productions.

Some of her favorite roles are Miss Adelaide (Guys and Dolls), Roxie (Chicago), Anna (the King and I), and dancing as a Friend and Wili in her favorite ballet, Giselle. Janet Strzelec has a great love for all things dance, and a great passion for sharing that love with others.

Born and raised in Kansas City, Missouri, **SHELBY WHITLEY** is a senior at Lindenwood University. She is completing her bachelor's degree in dance and is creating her first piece for the spring concert. Shelby's training includes jazz, tap, hip-hop, musical theater, and contemporary dance. She has been apart of the Lindenwood Lionettes Dance Team for four years, winning five national titles between 2021 and 2023. To display her talents she has performed at national competitions, football and basketball games. Shelby has taken advantage of the fall, winter, and spring concert opportunities offered by The Lindenwood University Dance Program. After college, she plans to seek coaching opportunities with middle or high school dance teams as well as try out for professional sports cheer squads.

Associate Professor of Dance & Dance Program Coordinator, TRICIA ZWEIER, received her MS in Kinesiology and MFA in Dance from The University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Before relocating to Missouri, Zweier performed with The Atlantic City Ballet (NJ), Flatlands Dance Theatre (TX), as well as international tours in the cruise line industry as a lead dancer and dance captain with Carnival Cruise Lines. This fall marks the start of her 13th year at LU, where she teaches mostly contemporary and jazz techniques, dance history, dance & technology, and dance science courses. She is proudly involved in the St. Louis dance community as a performer and choreographer for Leverage Dance Theater, as guest choreographer and Board Secretary for Modern American Dance Company, as a choreographer for Six Flags St. Louis Fright Fest, and as a guest teacher at local dance studios. She is also a PBT/PCT certified teacher and a Certified Yoga Teacher (CYT-200). She is an active member of The Missouri Dance Organization, The National Dance Education Organization, and The International Association for Dance Medicine and Science. Her research focuses on integrating kinesiology with dance to promote healthy training practices. www.triciazweier.com

## **PRODUCTION**

Artistic Director
Stage Manager Aeryn Richardson
Assistant Stage ManagerNadya Nabulsi
Lighting Coordinator
Lighting Board OpChariel Melendez, Maddie Young
Technical Theatre Coordinator
Technical Director
Audio Director
Lead Audio Technician/Sound Board Operator Tim Shackelford
Assistant Audio Technician Isabella Jilka, Garrett Sherman
Deck CrewEmily Eveland, Randi Jenkins, Emma Maxey, Natalie Olmstead, Shelby Whitley
"The Beginning Of" Dancer on Poster
" The End" Dancer on PosterMinami Kikuchi
Poster Photographer & DesignerBrandon Perkins

## **DANCE FACULTY**

Adjunct Instructors of Dance	Tracy Dupre, Amy Gammor
	Alicia Sunshine Gbaho, Mariko Kumanimido
	Leah Robertson, Arianna Rus
Professor of Dance	Janet Strzeled
Associate Professor of Dance	. &
Dance Program Coordinator	Tricia Zweie
Department Head - Performi	ng Arts Emily Jone
Assistant Dean - College of A	arts & Humanities Dr. Shenika Harris
Associate Dean - College of	Arts & Humanities Dr. W. Travis McMaker
Dean - College of Arts & Hur	nanities Dr. Kathi Vosevich

### **THANK YOU**

Thank you for watching Lindenwood University's Spring Dance Concert. This production would not have been possible without the support of the J. Scheidegger Center for the Arts and Lindenwood University.