FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE
CLAIRE TREVOR SCHOOL OF THE ARTS, DEPARTMENT OF DANCE

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LOOKING FOR THE NEXT STEP IN YOUR DANCE CAREER?
Pursue an M.F.A. in Dance

January 2022

Opportunities for M.F.A. candidates

WHAT: Your chance to earn a Dance M.F.A., the degree that opens doors
WHEN: Apply by January 10, 2022, and audition on February 4.
WHY: You know dance matters, and you want to keep moving ahead!
Consider pursuing an M.F.A. degree in the Dance Department at the University of California, Irvine (UCI) to secure your future in the dance world. You can expand your creativity and your potential for job security while finding fresh choreographic inspiration, presenting your work onstage, and exploring other aspects of dance from a variety of perspectives.

UCI has funding for dynamic M.F.A. candidates with significant dance backgrounds and a curiosity to learn more. Support is offered to most M.F.A. in Dance candidates, along with opportunities to work with one of the most talented undergraduate pools of dancers anywhere. Available financial aid for the two-year program comes in the form of fee fellowships, non-resident tuition fellowships, and employment as teaching associates and graduate student researchers.

Recent UCI M.F.A.s have entered diverse job markets, securing college faculty positions or jobs at private studios and conservatories. Many have started their own dance companies; are working with new movement software; pursuing dance Ph.D.’s or further health and wellness certificates and degrees; all are increasing their opportunities for freelance choreographing with newly strengthened dance “brands” and creative skills.

In their two years of study, M.F.A. students take various classroom and studio courses, with attention to connecting the mind and the body, expanding their dance literacy and their toolbox of skills. In addition to studio techniques, courses include choreography, dance analysis, musical resources, dance teaching, kinesiology, research methods, dance technology, seminar in dance history, and critical issues in dance. Ideally, you will choose a thesis topic that expands a burning question, something you are passionate about. Your research may include interviews, improvisation, teaching, dance science experiments, choreographic explorations, as well as traditional searches for written history and context for your topic. You may present a thesis concert, lecture demonstration or video project, or design an experiment related to dancer wellness. Your thesis proposal is developed in the first year, with a written component and a performance option due at the end of the second year.

We seek a diverse, enthusiastic pool of applicants with a substantial background in any kind of dance and a passion to learn. Applications for admission to the M.F.A. in September 2022 are due
by January 10, 2022. Applicants should audition for the program in person, although, in select cases, a video and skype audition is possible. The audition date is Friday, February 4, 2022.

Links to more information about the UCI Dance M.F.A. program:
http://dance.arts.uci.edu/graduate-programs-mfa-dance
http://dance.arts.uci.edu/graduate-program-details
http://dance.arts.uci.edu/applying-graduate-program-dance

For further questions, please contact:
Dance Department staff, dance@uci.edu or (949) 824-7283

Photo: by Rose Eichenbaum

About UCI Claire Trevor School of the Arts: As UCI’s creative laboratory, the Claire Trevor School of the Arts explores and presents the arts as the essence of human experience and expression, through art forms ranging from the most traditional to the radically new. The international faculty works across a wide variety of disciplines, partnering with others across the campus. National-ranked programs in art, dance, drama, and music begin with training but end in original invention. Students come to UCI to learn to be citizen-artists, to sharpen their skills and talents, and to become the molders and leaders of world culture. For more information, visit www.arts.uci.edu.

About the University of California, Irvine: Founded in 1965, UCI is the youngest member of the prestigious Association of American Universities. The campus has produced three Nobel laureates and is known for its academic achievement, premier research, innovation and anteater mascot. Led by Chancellor Howard Gillman, UCI has more than 36,000 students and offers 222 degree programs. It’s located in one of the world’s safest and most economically vibrant communities and is Orange County’s second-largest employer, contributing $5 billion annually to the local economy. For more on UCI, visit www.uci.edu.

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