

DECIDEDLY JAZZ

DANCEWORKS



Jazz Immersion'09 Summer Intensive July 19 - 25, 2009

What is Jazz Immersion?

A week-long intensive jazz experience for intermediate-advanced students & dance educators.

DJD, a full-time professional dance company, is dedicated to exploring, evolving and promoting the art of jazz dance. Jazz Immersion provides you with a seven day opportunity to delve into the unique style that DJD has created over the past 24 years.

Classes include Jazz, West African, DJD Repertoire, Swing, Rhythm Fundamentals, Creative Process, Tap and Funk Fusions.

All classes taught by DJD's co-founders, as well as past and present company members.

Calgary, Alberta, Canada | Ph: 403-245-3533 | www.decidedlyjazz.com

- Dedicated to the rich traditions and boundless future of jazz -

IMMERSION FACULTY

Vicki Adams Willis

(Artistic Director, DJD)

Vicki carries on a family tradition that began when her mother, Alice Murdoch Adams opened one of the first dance schools in Calgary in the 1920's. Vicki's passion for dance and jazz has taken her literally all over the globe. Besides teaching and choreographing for countless organizations, including the renowned School at Jacob's Pillow, she founded the Jazz Division in the Faculty of Fine Arts' Program of Dance at the University of Calgary in 1978, and co-founded Decidedly Jazz Danceworks in 1984 where she enthusiastically continues in her role as Artistic Director. She has received U of C's Superior Teacher Award, Global Television's Women of Vision Award, the City of Calgary's Community Achievement Award for the Arts, and an Alberta Centennial Medal. She has also had a U of C Fine Arts Entrance Award named in her honour, has been recognized by U of C's Women's Resource Centre, and was named one of the University of Calgary's Top 40 Alumni.

Michèle Moss Johnston

(Co-Founder, DJD)

Michèle is a co-founder of DJD as well as an active a choreographer, dancer, educator/lecturer and researcher. Since co-founding Decidedly Jazz Danceworks in 1984 Michèle continues to create for the company and continues to find great pleasure and adventure in exploring the nature of jazz. She is currently an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Fine Arts as a member of the B.A Dance program at the University of Calgary. Her most significant research areas are the West African roots of jazz and other varied traditions of the West African Diaspora. Her focus on ethnography has taken her into the field for over two decades and then back into the studio. Over the years, she has served DJD as performer, choreographer, teacher, board member, event planner, host, dance school principal, pedagogy specialist and mentor as well as associate artistic director.

Hannah Stilwell

(Co-Founder, DJD)

Hannah Stilwell is a performer, teacher and choreographer entranced by the relationship between audible and visual rhythms. Throughout her career, she has dedicated herself to the discovery of many dance forms that have fused over the past century to become jazz dance. Her work has taken her to Africa, Cuba, Jamaica, India and throughout North America. Hannah holds a B.A. from U of C where she has instructed dance since 1982, and is a founder of Decidedly Jazz Danceworks.

Joanne Baker

Joanne spent 7 years on stage with DJD and is currently the Dance School Principal and Arts in Education Coordinator. She has been a passionate teacher for 18 years and shares her love of jazz music and dance with students of all ages at the DJD School. Joanne has taught workshops and residencies across Canada and her choreography has been set on the talented youth dancers of eko dance projects and the DJD Company

Kimberly Cooper

Kimberly Cooper has seen or danced in every DJD production since it's birth in 1984. She has been dancing with the company since 1989 and has been Resident Choreographer/Artistic Associate since 2001. In 2002 she created her first full length work, Popular, that was produced by DJD for One Yellow Rabbit's High Performance Rodeo. Since then she has co-created Velvet (2003) and iBulla! a loud Cuban Jazz Experiment (2005), with DJD co-founder Hannah Stilwell and in Charcoal & Crimson (2006) on her own for DJD. Throughout this time she has continued to dance with the company. In addition to her work with DJD she has also danced and choreographed independently. Her work has been produced locally by Dancers' Studio West, the University of Calgary's Program of Dance, One Yellow Rabbit, eko dance projects, Springboard Dance, in Edmonton by Alberta Dance Alliance, and in Vancouver by Dances for small Stages. In 2002 she was named Emerging Artist of the Year by Alberta Dance Alliance. In 2004 she created the dance film Distemper with director John Albis. In 2006 the two released their next short film Methuselah, with Jason Stroh as a co-choreographer. Both films were set to music by Amon Tobin. Her latest work wovandflutter premiered in Calgary in January 2008. Kim will be creating a site specific piece in the Grain Exchange Building for the High Performance Rodeo in January 2009 called Skyscraper

Jaime Freeman Cormack

Jaime has been dancing, teaching and choreographing in the Calgary dance community for almost two decades. A former Company dancer (1994-2002), Jamie is currently a teacher and director of the Professional Training Program at the DJD School. She has lived and studied in New York City and London and has attended several jazz and swing festivals in Sweden, Boston, and Montreal.

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

(ALL CLASSES WILL BE TAUGHT AT AN INTERMEDIATE-ADVANCED LEVEL)

JAZZ - A class that combines technique with groove while exploring some of the many influences that have contributed to DJD's unique approach to jazz - a physically grounded and rhythmically propelled method that balances innovation with a deep connection to the history of the form. Participants will be placed into the appropriate level for this class. The placement class is on **July 19 at 5:45pm**

CREATIVE PROCESS - DJD's creative process is unique in that it requires invested creative participation from its artists. Many elements must align for inspiration to flow and the work to unfold; musicality, improvisation, commitment, honesty to name a few. This class will guide participants through exercises that will tap into some of these elements and reveal methodology for creating ones own choreography.

CREATION - Have you always wanted to experience what it is like to be a DJD company dancer? Plant yourself firmly into the "shoes" of company members as you learn a piece of original choreography with our Resident Choreographer, Kimberly Cooper.

DJD REPERTOIRE -The DJD style can be best expressed and showcased through its choreography. Using personal anecdotes and video, participants will be lead through dances from DJD's creatively prolific 25-year history.

GROOVE SESSIONS - DJD's creators and dancers have always added a touch of groove to help create the style we have become known for. This class has been designed to push the limits of fundamental funk/hip hop vocabulary. A fusion of jazz, 70's funk, hip hop, West African, Afro Cuban and popular dance.

RHYTHM FUNDAMENTALS/MUSIC/TAP/CORE - In an effort to share as much information as possible with Immersion participants, these workshops will touch upon fundamental theories of rhythm and music as well as introduce tap basics in it's relation to jazz. Time will also be spent introducing core exercises that will lend themselves to other classes during the week and core stability and strength in general. If you have them, please bring tap shoes or non-marking, hard-soled shoes. Previous tap experience not required! **Previous tap experience not required!** Participants will be placed into the appropriate level for this class. The placement class is on **July 19 at 5:45pm**

ROOT FORMS - Many West African and Cuban Folkloric dances, have offered endless playful movement experiments to our dancers and creators. Traditional dances, rhythms and songs from West Africa and Cuba will be taught with live drumming accompanying this high-energy class.

SWING - Focusing on vernacular dances such as the Big Apple, Shim Sham and the Jitterbug Stroll this class will teach a variety of swing jazz steps that will move across the floor and be put into a cumulative combination. Incorporating some of the history of swing dance and music, this class will also spend some time teaching couples swing/ social dance. Swing at DJD's Jazz Immersion is designed to help people understand what it means to swing musically and how to put that swing feel in the body and use it in an improvisational way.

APPLICATION FORM

(Participants must be at least **16 years** of age to attend Jazz Immersion)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov/State: _____

Country: _____ Postal/Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Birth Date: M/____ D/____ Y/_____

Have you attended Immersion before? Yes No

How did you hear about Immersion? _____

Class Schedule

Participants will be placed into the appropriate level for the **9:15-11:15 jazz class** and the **2:00-3:15 rhythm class**. The placement class is on **July 19 at 5:45pm** - the class will be preceded by an **Immersion orientation meeting at 5:00 p.m. Jazz Immersion will end at approx. 2pm on Saturday, July 25.**

Please number your **1st, 2nd & 3rd choice** in each time slot below. All classes will be taught at an Intermediate-Advanced Level

Schedule

9:15-11:15	J a z z		
11:30-1:00	Root Forms (West African/ Cuban Foloric)	Groove Sessions	Swing
2:00-3:30	Creative Process	Creation	DJD Repertoire
3:45-4:45	Rhythm Fundamentals / Core		

Classes are first come first serve. If your first choice class is full we will place you in your 2nd or 3rd choice of class and notify you of the change.

Payment (in Canadian funds)

Tuition

for professional and teachers \$450

for all others \$500

Swingin' Soiree (end of week event) \$25

Sub Total _____

Add 5% GST _____

Payment in Canadian funds TOTAL _____

Method of Payment: Visa MasterCard AmEx

(IN CANADIAN FUNDS) Cheque Money Order

Card #: _____

Expiry Date: ____ / ____

Signature:* _____

I have enclosed the following required materials:

- Resume of dance background
- Full Payment
- Season performance program or school brochure (if applying as professional or teacher)
- T-shirt Size: small medium large XL
- Did you include payment for Swingin' Soiree? If so please list any dietary restrictions: _____

Please complete application form and mail with your payment to:

Decidedly Jazz Danceworks

1514 - 4 Street S.W.,
Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2R 0Y4
Fax: (403) 245 - 3584
Email: jwillis@decidedlyjazz.com

Due July 4

JAZZ IMMERSION SHIRTS

Your very own Jazz Immersion shirt is included in your tuition so please ensure that you indicate your preferred size on the application form.

SWINGIN' SOIREE

A time to relax, gab, reload needed carbohydrates and celebrate the finish of a great week of dancing. This optional, but highly encouraged, social event (catered dinner & drinks) will take place **Friday, July 24. Cost is \$25 CDN.** Please indicate on the application whether or not you plan to attend and if you have any special dietary needs.

ACCOMODATION

Please visit: www.decidedlyjazz.com, for a list of accommodation options. Prices range from \$350-\$800/week (shared accommodation available).

Please note: It is the responsibility of the Immersion participant to arrange and book their own accommodation.

CANCELLATIONS

Cancellations must be given by written notice no later than July 10, 2009 for a refund less a \$100 deposit.