

CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING AND CINEMATIC ARTS

Boyer College of Music and Dance

## BFA Dance Concert

### *Ephemeral*

Choreography by Kieran Cooke,  
Aleah Feggins, Victoria Grimaldi,  
Sara Hicinbothem, Blake Hudson,  
Trinity McFadden, Angelina Moors,  
Kaiya Palmer and Lily Santana

*Dance performances are sponsored in part by  
Temple University's General Activities Fund and  
the Rose Vernick Fund*

Friday, April 10, 2026 at 7:30 PM  
Saturday, April 11, 2026 at 2:30 PM and 7:30 PM  
Conwell Dance Theater  
1801 North Broad Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19122



# Program

## ***Inevitable***

**Sara Hicinbothem**

Music: “Let it Happen” by Tame Impala

Dancers: Kolby Bauman, Dani McVean, Amara Baker, Adrianna Oliver,  
Kayla Bailey, Saja Faye, Dyn Garcia, Melanie Abeywardena and  
Lian Long Xuan

Lighting: Dani Sala

*“Inevitable” explores the unspoken sadness of good times ending. Joy, realization, denial, and then ultimate resignation to inevitable change.*

## ***Unlearning Gravity***

**Kieran Cooke in collaboration with dancers**

Dancers: Kieran Cooke, Michaela Delaney Guthrie, Logan Littleton, Sinai Hands, Angeliese Ribbe, Endia Banks, Xiomara Alfinez, Zhaisia Lessey, Victoria Grimaldi, Abby Pinkerton, Julia Siragusa, Lily Santana and Alicia Mears

Music: Edited by Kieran Cooke; Interviews from Octavia Butler (1995-2005), “Pink XOXO” by Camila Cabello, “Thumbs” by Sabrina Carpenter, “Ghost in the Machine” by SZA and “Attention” by Signature Tracks

Costumes: Kieran Cooke and Roni Koresh

Lighting: Laurie Benoit Mitchell

*“Unlearning Gravity” is about a group of people discovering and untethering the hidden gravitational forces keeping them in place in the system. Themes of class consciousness in tandem with human connection and control are explored throughout this journey. Supplemented by interviews from Octavia Butler, author of Parable of the Sower, it begs the question of how much longer we are willing to keep turning a blind eye to the things boiling beneath the surface.*

***Untethered Empathy***

**Victoria Grimaldi in collaboration with dancers**

Dancers: Kolby Bauman, Kieran Cooke, Aleah Feggins and Victoria Grimaldi

Music: Edited by Victoria Grimaldi; “Glimpse of Us” by Joji, “Mystery of Love” by Sufjan Stevens, “Golden Hour” by JVKE, “Through the Eyes of a Child” by Aurora

Lighting: Aleah Feggins

*“Untethered Empathy” explores the distance that can exist between receiving empathy and truly feeling it. Even when compassion is present, it can remain just out of reach, leaving a quiet sense of disconnection. This work centers on the idea that empathy should be instinctive—something we offer freely and without hesitation as a part of simply being human. It invites us to move through the world with empathy at the forefront, remembering that at its core, it costs nothing to be human.*

***Tides of Life***

**Angelina Moors in collaboration with dancers**

Dancers: Makenna Assise, Endia Banks, Saige Hollis, Julia Koban Payne, Shannon Leary, Zhaisia Lessey, Zaria Louis-Charles and Angeliessa Ribbe

Music: “Restrictus” by Mario Batovic

Lighting: Zhaisia Lessey

*“Tides of Life” is inspired by the chaoticness of life. At times, the busyness can make it feel like you are not full in control, and how that feeling can cause anxiety.*

*Intermission*

Dancers: Endia Banks, Susanna Ercole, Sinai Hands, Zhaisia Lessey, Alicia Mears, Dani Sala and Lily Santana

Music: “Change Your Perspective” by Travis Lake, “Time” by Travis Lake, “Thule” by Travis Lake, “Hypnosis” by Travis Lake, “ATI Two (Windows)” by Davidson Jaconello

Costumes: Lily Santana

Lighting: Zhaisia Lessey

*Impermanence: the state of lasting for only a limited period of time. Here today, gone tomorrow. Or was it ever really there?*

**FEEL THE LOVE**

**Aleah Feggins**

Dancers: Kayla Bailey, Kamyah Epperson, Saja Faye, Aleah Feggins, Victoria Grimaldi, Molly Lanza, Dani McVean, Bailey Moul, Serenity Styles and Shannon Leary

Music: Edited and mixed by Aleah Feggins; “SEEN” by Jay Versace, “Evergreen” by Omar Apollo, “Stand By Me” by Ben E. King, “Cobra” by Megan Thee Stallion and “Turn Up the Music” by Chris Brown

Costumes: Aleah Feggins and cast

Lighting: Aleah Feggins

*“Feel the Love” is a piece that compels the audience to use their hearts, eyes, and souls to enjoy the progression of Aleah’s Feggins’ individual creative journey, throughout her four years at Temple. The piece is composed of over three dance genres including: ballet, jazz, hip hop, and contemporary fusion.*

Dancers: Amanda Daniels, Kaiya Palmer and Kiana Sampson

Music: Excerpt by Pastor Phillip Anthony Mitchell, Yahweh instrumental  
by Jacob Agendia and Yahweh and “Flow (Live in San Francisco)”  
by Tye Tribett

Costumes: Kaiya Palmer

Lighting: Laurie Benoit Mitchell

*“Ringing In The Ears” is a piece that highlights the complexities of a new relationship in Christ as the younger generation. A journey of developing discernment, seasonal assignments and finding the balance in the worlds view of youth and the boldness required to walk in Christ. Individual stories told through movement and the discovery of community.*

### ***Unapologetically Black and Queer***

**Trinity McFadden in collaboration with dancers**

Dancers: Aerryn Toliver, Avery Norwood, Damaris Williams, Dani McVean, Dwight Hayman, Koya Jackson, MaKiya Carter, Morgan Robinson, Shacile Harrison, Zyelah Hope, Haneef Jenkins and Kolby Bauman

Music: Arranged and mixed by Sam Perez and Assistant Mixer Damaris Williams; CDM and LiloCox ft. DJ Maboku, Timbaland, KNKRT, Meghan Thee Stallion, Slow Instrumental and Cobra HA Remix

Costume Design: Trinity Amira McFadden

Projection: Benja Newna

Lighting: Damaris Williams

### ***Tenacity***

**Blake Hudson**

Dancers: Xiomara Alfinez, Endia Banks, Angelise Ribbe and Dani Sala

Music: “Think Twice (Henrik Schwarz Live Edit)” by The Detroit Experiment, “Black Forest Stomp (Gerardo Frisina Rmx)” by Hipnosis and “Lion” by KODO

Costumes: Blake Hudson

Lighting: Zhaisia Lessey and Dani Sala

*“Tenacity” challenges uniformity in ballet, making space for your own voice. When everything is dictated by tradition, how do we find our own rhythm?*

# Production Crew

Production Manager: Laurie Benoit Mitchell

Stage Manager: Cierra Woods

Backstage Crew: cedar bechar, Yihang Li, Zhaisia Lessey, Trinity  
McFadden, Alyssa Morgan, Benja Newnam, Dani Sala, Saja  
Singletary and Madison Wells-McFee

House Crew: Eduarda Melgar

Livestream: Blatino Cineninja

## Special Thanks

Thank you to Callie Fitzgibbon for taking our photos and videos and bringing our vision to life!

Special thanks to Jillian for your guidance, support, and encouragement throughout this entire process. Your mentorship has truly shaped this experience.

To Laurie, thank you for your dedication and for making this show possible. Your commitment behind the scenes has brought everything together.

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The use of photographic, audio and video recording is not permitted.

Please turn off all electronic devices.

Three hundred sixteenth, eighteenth and twenty-first performances of the 2025-2026 season.

## About the Artists

**KIERAN COOKE**, a senior dance major at Temple began his dance training 4 years ago in senior year of high school. He danced with BCPA's Competition team, before starting his undergraduate at Boyer College of Music and Dance for his Bachelor's in Fine Arts. He is trained in multiple styles including ballet, jazz, acrobatics, contemporary, lyrical, and modern. He also has been a member of Jim Bunting Dance Company based out of Koresh School of Dance from sophomore to senior year. He also was a part of In Motion Dance Team 2023-2024 and has performed in various student choreographic and thesis performances throughout his time at Temple. He continues to cultivate his training and expand his artistry with each performance.

**ALEAH FEGGINS**, a Washington D.C native, began training at age 7 with The Washington School of Ballet. Aleah trained in a wide range of styles which includes West African dances, Modern, Classical Ballet, Jazz, Hip-Hop, and Flamenco. Feggins attended Benjamin Banneker Academic High School in D.C. and graduated in 2022 which allowed her to hone in on her creative and artistic practices early. She relocated to Philadelphia to pursue her BFA in Dance at Temple University. Since relocating to Philadelphia, Aleah has had opportunities to perform in many places both on and off Temple's campus, and in many festivals such as the Philadelphia Fringe Festival and Connecticut's Juneteenth Festival. Aleah's passion for teaching has allowed her to give quality dance education to young aspiring dancers at Monarch Dance Academy along with being a recurring guest teacher at ZD Dance Academy in Lanham, MD, and other studios. Outside of being a performer and an educator, Aleah has also had the chance to choreograph many of her own works, which include Mumbaa's Free Fall music video and choreography for Shawna Moon's set for Care Free Black Girl Festival. As Aleah sets to graduate this Spring, she is focused on performing and choreographing for artists, with long-term goals of opening her own dance studio.

**VICTORIA GRIMALDI**, originally from Middletown, New Jersey, began her dance training at age four at Red Bank Ballet before continuing her education at Dance Factory USA, where she studied a range of styles, including tap, jazz, acro, hip hop, ballet, and contemporary. She competed for 12 years and graduated from Middletown High School North in 2022, continuing her dance journey at the collegiate level as a Division I dance team member while also performing in multiple thesis works. Balancing both performance and team experiences has shaped her artistic voice and passion for movement. Victoria aspires to pursue graduate studies in Dance Movement Therapy, with the goal of working with children with disabilities and collegiate dance teams.

**SAM HICINBOTHEM** is a dance choreographer, instructor, and performer. She began training at 5 years old in Bucks County, PA. She specializes in contemporary fusion styles with strong influences from jazz and modern. Sara is currently in her final year pursuing a BFA in Dance from the Boyer School of Music and Dance at Temple University, focusing on K-12 dance education and arts administration. In Spring 2025, She completed an internship with the Pennsylvania Dance Education Organization and was invited back to assist the organization with arts advocacy work throughout Pennsylvania. In 2025, she revived the Temple University Chapter of the National Honor Society for Dance Arts and proudly serves as the chapter's President. Sara has served as an assistant instructor at the Amanda Page Dance Company and is currently a lead instructor at the Contemporary Academy of Dance and the Philadelphia Dance Theatre.

**BLAKE HUDSON** is a fourth-year dance major from Newtown Square, PA, with over 18 years of ballet training. Blake has trained at prestigious institutions including the School of American Ballet, Joffrey Ballet, BalletMet, PHILADANCO, and Philadelphia Ballet. While with Philadelphia Ballet, Blake performed in George Balanchine's *The Nutcracker* for seven years. Blake teaches ballet and pointe at Bella Ballerina Dance Academy, sharing her love for classical technique and artistry with young dancers. Bringing her choreography to the Philadelphia 76ers court, Blake also coaches Philly Phresh Crew, a hip-hop dance team. Blake performed with Chocolate Ballerina's Company in *The Nutcracker Dipped in Chocolate* and appeared in the Thanksgiving Day Parade, performing in three numbers with Grammy-nominated recording artists like Cameo, Jordin Sparks, and The Four Tops. Blake is a member of the National Honor Society for Dance Arts and serves as the Social Media Manager for the Temple Dance Department. Following graduation, Blake plans to dance professionally and grow as an entrepreneur, all while creating spaces that help young dancers find their voice.

**TRINITY AMIRA MCFADDEN** is a dancer, choreographer, leader, performer, and artist born in Philadelphia, PA. She began dancing at the age of three years old and has trained with Equilibrium Dance Academy, Jason Douglas Danceadelphia, Dance for You, and The Philadelphia Dance Academy. Trinity went to John W. Hallahan Catholic Girls' High School, which was permanently closed at the end of her junior year. She then went to Saint John Neumann and Maria Goretti Catholic High School, graduating with all honors and still being able to get her Hallahan diploma. Trinity then became a part of the Temple University Dance Department to continue her love for dance. She has been a part of dance organizations such as Dare to Dance (D2D), and By Any Means Necessary (Bamn), Temple's first hip-hop dance organization, and her choreography has been showcased for Temple University's first and biggest kick-off event, such as the iconic Drag Show. Outside of Temple University, Trinity has been a part of the Creative Reaction Dance Company. A worldwide winning dance team that is led by the amazing Akia Deyvon. Creative Reaction is a professional dance company that prepares dancers for high-end competitions such as World of Dance, competitions around the country, and builds pre-professionals for the dance industry. Trinity is currently continuing her journey by being a part of The Creative Reaction Training Program. Trinity strives to be a part of the arts, which allows her to grow, learn, pursue opportunities, and get one step closer to her dream of being in the dance industry.

**ANGELINA MOORS** is a dancer, choreographer, and educator who began her journey in dance at three years old at Miss Cindy's School of Dance in Quakertown, Pennsylvania. She grew up training in ballet, jazz, modern, contemporary, and hip hop, later continuing her education at Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Arts, where her artistic voice began to take shape. Her choreography is shaped by her love of nature and human connection, using rich imagery to translate emotion and lived experience into movement. Angelina began teaching at 17 and is dedicated to creating spaces where students feel seen, supported, and free to grow. She brings warmth and intention to her classes at Miss Cindy's School of Dance, guiding dancers ages 3–5 as they build both foundational skills and confidence. In her final semester at Temple University, Angelina has continued to expand her movement practice and is working toward certification as a Pilates instructor through Balanced Body.

**KAIYA PALMER** is an artist focused on healing and preservation through movement. Based in Philadelphia, her training started at 5 years old. Training in companies and programs such as Philly Movements Dance Company, Wandering Avian Dance Experience and Grace Dance Theater incorporating Ballet, Jazz, Tap, Flamenco, Praise and Hip Hop. Alongside her mentors Ali Willingham and Kareem B. Goodwin who instilled a strengthening foundation, Kaiya began to develop as an artist. Kaiya's works heavily rely on somatic practices, weight shifting and partner/ensemble dependency. Movement that sparks yearning and learning the relationships between mind and body. As an upcoming graduate with a BFA in Dance from Temple University, she will further her education with a Doctorate in Physical Therapy to provide dancers with muscular rehabilitation that drives them as artists.

**LILY SANTANA** began her dance training at a competitive studio in her hometown of New Jersey at the age of two. She intensified her training and graduated from the pre-professional dance program at Steps on Broadway, New York City. While at Steps, she performed many repertory works at venues around NYC including The Joyce Theater. Lily has attended and performed in several intensive programs including Broadway Dance Center, Steps on Broadway, Martha Graham, Gibney, Sidra Bell and NYU Tisch's Summer Dance Festival. Lily has choreographed and performed pieces at venues throughout NYC and Philadelphia including Forza's Bloom: Emerging Artist Festival, KoDaFe Artist Festival, Spark Emerging Artist Festival, Koresh Artist Showcase & KYLD Studios Inhale Performance Series. She has worked as a dance assistant at Steps on Broadway's Pre-Professional/Academy summer intensive and battled with the Callouts, NYC as a contemporary dancer. Lily will graduate in May with a BFA in dance and a minor in Psychology at Temple University as part of their honors program. While at Temple she has performed in several MFA and BFA pieces, Student Dance Concerts and was a member and performer with the Temple Dance Ensemble. For the past three years, Lily has been a company member with the Jim Bunting Dance Company in Philadelphia and looks forward to expanding her professional career in dance performance and choreography.

## **Boyer College of Music and Dance**

The Boyer College of Music and Dance offers over 500 events open to the public each year. Students have the unique opportunity to interact with leading performers, composers, conductors, educators, choreographers and guest artists while experiencing a challenging and diverse academic curriculum. The Boyer faculty are recognized globally as leaders in their respective fields. Boyer alumni are ambassadors of artistic leadership and perform with major orchestras, opera and dance companies, teach at schools and colleges and work as professional music therapists, choreographers and composers. Boyer's recording label, BCM&D records, has produced more than thirty recordings, five of which have received Grammy nominations.

[boyer.temple.edu](http://boyer.temple.edu)

## **The Center for the Performing and Cinematic Arts**

The Center for the Performing and Cinematic Arts consists of the Boyer College of Music and Dance, School of Theater, Film and Media Arts, the George and Joy Abbott Center for Musical Theater and the Temple Performing Arts Center. The School of Theater, Film and Media Arts engages gifted students with nationally and internationally recognized faculty scholars and professionals. A hallmark of the School of Theater, Film and Media Arts is the Los Angeles Study Away program, housed at historic Raleigh Studios. The George and Joy Abbott Center for Musical Theater engages visiting performers, guest artists, set designers, playwrights and other Broadway professionals. The Temple Performing Arts Center (TPAC), a historic landmark on campus, is home to a state-of-the-art 1,200 seat auditorium and 200 seat chapel. More than 500 concerts, classes, lectures and performances take place at TPAC each year.

[arts.temple.edu](http://arts.temple.edu)

## **Temple University**

Temple University's history begins in 1884, when a young working man asked Russell Conwell if he could tutor him at night. It wasn't long before he was teaching several dozen students—working people who could only attend class at night but had a strong desire to make something of themselves. Conwell recruited volunteer faculty to participate in the burgeoning night school, and in 1888 he received a charter of incorporation for "The Temple College." His founding vision for the school was to provide superior educational opportunities for academically talented and highly motivated students, regardless of their backgrounds or means. The fledgling college continued to grow, adding programs and students throughout the following decades. Today, Temple's more than 35,000 students continue to follow the university's official motto—*Perseverantia Vincit*, or "Perseverance Conquers"—with their supreme dedication to excellence in academics, research, athletics, the arts and more.

[temple.edu](http://temple.edu)

# Boyer College of Music and Dance

## Upcoming Events

**Master's Recital: James Geng, jazz saxophone**

Saturday, April 11 at 5:30 PM

Klein Recital Hall

**Senior Recital: Carynn O'Banion, trombone**

Saturday, April 11 at 5:30 PM

Rock Hall Auditorium

**Master's Recital: TzuFan Huang, jazz vibraphone**

Saturday, April 11 at 7:30 PM

Klein Recital Hall

**World Music: Alash**

Saturday, April 11 at 7:30 PM

Temple Performing Arts Center

**Senior Recital: Nora Theberge, jazz vibraphone**

Sunday, April 12 at 5:30 PM

Klein Recital Hall

**Studio Recital: Chamber Music Students of Lambert Orkis**

Sunday, April 12 at 5:30 PM

Rock Hall Auditorium

**Senior Recital: Matthew Mazur, jazz voice**

Sunday, April 12 at 7:30 PM

Klein Recital Hall

**Studio Recital: Chamber Music Students of Lambert Orkis**

Sunday, April 12 at 7:30 PM

Rock Hall Auditorium

### **Small Jazz Ensembles**

11:00 AM Dan Monaghan Ensemble

12:30 PM Banks Sapnar Ensemble

1:15 PM Jeb Patton Ensemble

2:00 PM Kevin Hanson Ensemble

Monday, April 13

The Art of Bread Café

### **Chamber Music Recital**

Monday, April 13 at 2:30 PM

Rock Hall Auditorium

### **Chamber Music Recital**

Monday, April 13 at 4:00 PM

Rock Hall Auditorium

### **Master's Recital: Ree Randolph, soprano**

Monday, April 13 at 5:30 PM

Rock Hall Auditorium

### **Master's Recital: Chelsea Haynes, soprano**

Monday, April 13 at 7:30 PM

Rock Hall Auditorium

### **Temple University Percussion Ensemble**

Phillip O'Banion, director

Monday, April 13 at 7:30 PM

Temple Performing Arts Center

### **Small Jazz Ensemble**

11:45 AM Tim Warfield Ensemble

Tuesday, April 14

The Art of Bread Café

### **Chamber Music Recital**

Tuesday, April 14 at 4:00 PM

Rock Hall Auditorium

**Dance Studies Colloquium: Adrian Danchig-Waring (New York  
Choreographic Institute, New York City Ballet)**

Adrian Danchig-Waring in Conversation with Mark Franko  
Tuesday, April 14 at 5:00 PM  
Temple Performing Arts Center Chapel

**Master's Recital: Ashlee Terrill, soprano**

Tuesday, April 14 at 5:30 PM  
Rock Hall Auditorium

**Final Doctoral Recital: Antonello Di Matteo, clarinet**

Tuesday, April 14 at 7:30 PM  
Rock Hall Auditorium

**Cybersounds**

Tuesday, April 14 at 7:30 PM  
Temple Performing Arts Center

**Small Jazz Ensembles**

11:00 AM Banks Sapnar Ensemble  
11:45 AM Elio Villafranca Ensemble  
12:30 PM Elio Villafranca Ensemble  
1:15 PM Elio Villafranca Ensemble  
2:00 PM Elio Villafranca Ensemble

Wednesday, April 15  
The Art of Bread Café

**Chamber Music Recital**

Wednesday, April 15 at 2:30 PM  
Rock Hall Auditorium

**Master's Recital: Kathleen Stevens, viola**

Wednesday, April 15 at 5:30 PM  
Rock Hall Auditorium

**Senior Recital: Sofiya Solomyanskaya, violin**

Wednesday, April 15 at 7:30 PM  
Rock Hall Auditorium

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All events are free unless otherwise noted. Programs are subject to change without notice.

For further information or to confirm events, please call 215.204.7609  
or visit [www.boyer.temple.edu](http://www.boyer.temple.edu).