

Brandee Barnaby, M.A. in Dance

Year of Appointment at CSUF - 2020

Brandee began her professional stage career in regional theatre and national tours, then made her way to directing and choreographing for major civic light operas and Los Angeles area theatres, garnering great reviews and many awards. Recent performing credits include television and film, appearing in 2022's *Spirited*, the musical holiday film starring Ryan Reynolds, Will Farrell and Octavia Spencer, and a 2023 appearance on the *Late Show* with James Corden, alongside Niall Horan. Brandee holds a master's degree in dance and a bachelor's degree in Acting and Directing, both from Cal State University, Long Beach, and has taught tap at Chapman University for 28 years, where she advises the on-campus tap dance ensemble (CUTE) and produces a tap and rhythm show each year. In Spring, 2022, Brandee was the artistic director of Chapman's first-ever tap festival, featuring Chloe Arnold's Syncopated Ladies, Arthur Duncan and other world-renowned guest artists. Besides teaching at Chapman, she is currently on the Musical Theatre and Dance faculties at Cal State University, Fullerton. Brandee has taught at several major tap festivals, including the LA Tap Fest, Riff Dallas and most recently at the Tap Master Festival in Sao Paulo, Brazil. In her 32 years in OC public arts education, she was a founder of the Huntington Beach Union High School District's performing arts magnet school; began a high school theatre and dance program in Santa Ana USD and wrote and implemented a dance curriculum for Tustin USD. Golden West College awarded her a Pillar of Achievement for her work in arts education in Huntington Beach, and she was recognized as a Teacher of the Year for this work. A highlight of Brandee's academic career was being named *Dance Magazine's* 2015 Dance Teacher of the Year for Higher Education for her work at Chapman University. Brandee has been a proud member of Actor's Equity Association and SAG/AFTRA since 1980.

Takisha Brown, M.A. Theatre Arts

Year of Appointment at CSUF - 2023

A native to Southern California, Takisha Brown's passion for dance has led her to a professional career in the US and abroad as a performer, educator, choreographer, and arts administrator. She is formerly trained in Ballet, Jazz, Modern, and African Dance Forms. Takisha is a proud alumnus of California State University, Fullerton's Theatre & Dance department where she earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Dance. Upon completion of her degree, she went on to dance professionally with companies Underground Dance Project, Royal Caribbean productions, *Selvatico*, and several other freelance projects including works created by renowned choreographers Debbie Allen and Julio Leita. Takisha has been teaching the art of dance for twenty-five years to schools and universities in California, New York City, New Jersey, and Ohio. She has educated students of multiple ages and ability levels and particularly enjoys teaching beginners and educating them about the contributions of dance to the human experience.

In addition to her performance and educator career, Takisha has experience in Arts Administration where she worked as a Marketing/ Project Manager for modern dance company, GroundWorks DanceTheater. Takisha obtained her Master of Arts degree in Theater Arts- Administration from The University of Akron, which led her to combine her love for dance and business development. This career path led her to a successful career as the Sales Relationship Manager of California with Perform Group LLC.

Takisha returned to her love for education as an Independent Teaching Artist for Fullerton School District's All the Arts for All the Kids program. This program focuses on combining arts and academic learning for students TK-6 grade with six-week residencies. Takisha is thrilled to return to the dance department of California State University, Fullerton as faculty in dance lecture and studies. She is also a part-time faculty member in the African- American Studies department at California State University, Fullerton teaching courses focused on the African and Black diaspora within the performing arts.

Joshua D. Estrada-Romero, M.F. A. in Dance

Year of Appointment at CSUF - 2017

Born and raised in Southern California, Joshua D. Estrada-Romero began his dance training at California State University, Fullerton. He received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Dance in fall of 2008 and his M.F.A. in Dance from the University of California Irvine in 2017. His focus is on creating a cross-training movement system that combines many forms of sport training with contemporary dance that creates a language that speaks to multiple audiences.

His extensive experience in dance, music, and art evolved through his dance memberships and training with Palindrome Dance Company, RhetOracle Dance Company, BARE Dance Company, Nickerson-Rossi Dance, and Kelly Alvarez & Artists. Joshua also worked with very well-known artists of the Limón Dance Company and Erick Hawkins Dance Company, and choreographer Victor Kabaniev. He continues to perform with Tustin Dance Center in their annual Holiday Nutcracker performances as Snow King, Spanish Lead, and Arabian Lead.

Joshua is the founder and artistic director of FUSE Dance Company based in Orange, CA, whose mission is to support and foster the growth and development of the performing arts in Southern California through performances, dance education, and dance community collaboration programs. Joshua has held master classes and workshops at Ketchikan Theatre Ballet in Alaska, Round Rock Repertory in Austin TX, Cypress College, San Pedro Ballet, Long Beach City Ballet, Pomona College, Fullerton Unified High School, Anaheim High School, and many other high schools across L.A., Orange County and the Inland Empire.

Joshua holds his 200-Hour Yoga Teaching Certificate along with his certificate in Yoga Sculpt. He is also a certified Nutritional Coach through the National Academy of Sports Medicine. He is an Orange County based photographer focusing on capturing dance, movement and sports. Currently, Joshua shares his passion as an instructor/choreographer to all dance students at California State University Fullerton, Mt. San Antonio College and Santa Ana College. <https://www.fusedanceco.com/>

Macarena Gandarillas, B.F.A. in Dance

Year of Appointment at CSUF - 1996

Macarena was born in Santiago, Chile and moved with her parents to the United States at the age of five. At thirteen she received a New York Ford Foundation Ballet Scholarship, and when she was fourteen she was invited to join Yvonne Mounsey's Westside Ballet Company. A year later she studied under a full scholarship at Dance West Academy in Los Angeles, and then joined the Elle Johnson Modern Dance Company where she performed for the next three years. She received a full four-year scholarship to United States International University's School of Performing Arts BFA program. While there she danced under the tutelage of John Hart and Elaine Thomas of the Royal Ballet Company of London. She also studied jazz dance with Jack & Marge Tygett, and modern (Graham Technique) with Jean Issacs. While in her last year at University, Ms Gandarillas was commissioned to help create and choreograph a musical show (Gaslight Follies) in British Columbia, Canada. The show ran for six months and received rave reviews. She then went to New York to further her training with numerous noted teachers including Ron Field, Jo Jo Smith, Ron Fiorella and Michael Shawn. When Macarena returned to Los Angeles, she continued her studies with Lester Wilson, Bella Lewitzky, Roland Dupre, Jerry Grimes, Stephan Wenta, Joe Tremaine and Jaime Rogers to name a few. She attributes her successful career as a dancer, choreographer, and teacher to her strong background in Ballet, Modern and Jazz Dance. Dance has been the true passion in her life.

As a veteran dancer/entertainer of stage, television and film, her illustrious career spans over 25 years having danced and choreographed for numerous dance companies, musicals, and videos in the U.S. and Canada. She has performed in theaters all over the U.S., Canada and abroad. Macarena is a proud member

of SAG/AFTRA, EQUITY, and AGVA unions. She has taught for almost 3 decades at California State University Fullerton. Mrs. Gandarillas is a regular judge for the Spotlight Awards at the Music Center in Los Angeles & was named *Teacher of The Year* by Dance Teacher Magazine.

Hyoin Jun, M.F.A. in Experimental Choreography

Year of Appointment at CSUF - 2023

Hyoin has been actively working as a dancer, choreographer, and dance instructor for over a decade. Jun is currently working as a part-time lecturer in dance program of California State University, Fullerton and Fullerton College, dances for Re:borN Dance Interactive and Temecula Ballet, and choreographs and performs both nationally and internationally as an artistic director of Goblin Party, a dance performing group.

Jun obtained Experimental Choreography, an M.F.A. degree, at University of California, Riverside (UCR) in December 2017. Jun also received an M.A. degree in Physical Education in February 2014 and a B.A. degree in Dance in February 2012 from Chung-Ang University (CAU), Korea. Additionally, Jun has received a Teacher Certification of Middle and High School in the subject of Physical Education from the Ministry of Education, Korea Government, completed Classic Ballet Course certified from Boris Eifman Ballet Company, Russia, and a Pilates instructor certified from Sheppard Method Pilates.

Jun has actively attended and won in international dance competitions, including Jury Award, Sibiu International Dance Competition, Rumania (2011) in Classic Ballet category; Bronze Medal, Novosibirsk International Dance Competition, Russia (2010) in Classic Ballet category; and Gold Medal, Berlin International Dance Competition TANZOLYMP, Germany (2010) in Modern/Contemporary Dance category. Furthermore, Jun has performed on both international and local stages: Los Angeles, New York, Seattle, Seoul, Busan, Sochi and etc. including Seattle International Dance Festival, Orange County Dance Festival, So Cal Dance Invitational, and 2014 Sochi Winter Olympic Closing Ceremony on behalf of Korea National Contemporary Dance Company, at the Olympic Stadium, Sochi, Russia.

Courtney Ozovek, M.F. A. in Dance

Year of Appointment at CSUF - 2006

Courtney is a dance artist, choreographer, and educator rooted in the Los Angeles and Orange County area. She has been the founding member of BARE Dance Company, RhetOracle Dance Company, and Solevita Dance Company. Her personal work has been presented in California, Arizona, Alaska, and Guantanamo Bay, as well as in shows at Universal Studios, Disneyland, and private corporate events. She is grateful to have worked with artists such as Keith Johnson, Andrew Vaca, Rebecca Lemme, Rebecca Bryant, Colleen Thomas, Gladys Kares, Debra Noble, and Macarena Gandarillas.

Darlene O’Cadiz M.A. Theatre & Dance

Year of Appointment at CSUF - 1988

Darlene O’Cadiz has danced professionally with Dance Repertory Theatre of California State University Fullerton and The Gloria Newman Dance Theatre. Darlene has published the book *Dance and Cultural Diversity* in 2012 and a third edition in 2021 to use in the “Dance and Cultures” course at CSUF. In addition, she was acknowledged for her book and received a CSUF Author Award February 24, 2020. Dedicated to the California State University Fullerton overall, Darlene has served on several committees. Ms O’Cadiz participated in the development of the GE Pathways Pilot Program at CSUF as Leader of the Global Studies Pathway in 2014 and 2015. In the academic year of 2017/18 Darlene served as Part-time representative in the Theatre and Dance Department Faculty meetings. Darlene was nominated for the CSUF “Outstanding Lecturer Award” in 2018-19. A CSUF educational committee project she worked on in 2018/19 was to develop a course with the “Explore Core” team examining and discovering ways to implement engagement and inclusivity for those with disabilities through the study and practice of the arts

and humanities. Ms. O'Cadiz served as a committee member on the CSUF GE Assessment for Upper Division Critical Thinking 2016-2017 and the GE Assessment for Oral Communication 2021-22.

Darlene served on the board of directors for 10 years with the non-profit organization "Dance in Action" raising funds to support young dancers through scholarships and planning many DIA workshops and conventions to enlighten and inspire young talented dancers. In November 2021 Darlene conducted a "Healing Through Dance" workshop for the Garden Grove Women's Conference to aid abused women.

Dr. Daniel Manoiu, Doctorate in Musical Arts

Year of Appointment at CSUF - 2023

Daniel an award-winning pianist and composer, specializing in music for dance, film and animation. He holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in music composition and technology from the University of Miami, and a Master of Music degree in music composition from Florida International University. Among his many mentors, he has studied with Dr. Orlando Garcia, Dr. Dennis Kam and Bernard Rands.

As a pianist, he performed at world class venues, including Carnegie Recital Hall and the United Nations in New York, the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C., the San Bartolomeo Cathedral in Italy and the New World Center in Miami. Among many accolades, Dr. Manoiu is the winner of 3rd prize at the prestigious AMSA World Piano Competition in Cincinnati, OH and 1st prize at the Rivere D'Oro piano competition in Italy.

As a composer, his music was commissioned by renowned international ensembles and performers, including the New World Symphony Orchestra and the Hispanic Lyric Theater. His compositions have been performed in Germany, Italy, Romania, UK, Mexico and the United States. Daniel Manoiu composed the musical score for several feature films, and worked in the music department for TV shows for Netflix, Amazon Prime Video and STARZ.

He has collaborated extensively with distinguished choreographers on dance works for stage and screen, including original scores for Molly Lynch, Lindsay Gilmour and Dr. Ama Wray, and is currently the Principal Musician for the Dance Department at University of California Irvine and lecturer for the Theatre and Dance Department at California State University Fullerton.

Tula B. Strong, M.F.A. in Dance, M. Ed.

Year of Appointment at CSUF - 2021

Professor Strong is a Liberian-American artist, educator, and cultural producer. As a first-generation college graduate, Tula earned her MFA in Dance from UCLA, her Masters in Educational Studies from Loyola Marymount University, and her Bachelors from Princeton University. She began her career at Cal State Fullerton in Fall 2021 teaching Black Dance & Performance Studies within the Department of African American Studies. In Fall 2023, Tula expanded her work into the CSUF Department of Theatre and Dance teaching courses in Dance Studies, Dance Pedagogy, and Dance Composition.

As an artist, Tula's work focuses on weaving dance, devised theatre, and Traditional American folk music. She creates multidisciplinary performances that center the everyday and supernatural experiences of folk of color, with a specific lens on Christian 'mysticism' and anti-oppressive frameworks within Black communities. Tula has been honored to have her artistic work receive support and recognition from California Art Council's Individual Artist Fellowship, Inland Film Festival, Charlotte Black Film Festival, Blavity's BlavityTV, the National Black Arts Festival, the Caribbean Cultural Center African Diaspora Institute, San Bernardino Arts Connection's Arts Innovator Micro-Grant, Californians for the Arts - IE

Region's Artists as Second Responder Award, & Princeton University's The Louis Sudler Prize in the Arts.

Within the production capacity, Tula has served artists and organizations such as By Jade Charon Company, Kara Jenelle, CONTRA-TIEMPO, Dan Froot & Co., and the UCLA Department

of World Arts & Cultures/Dance. Alongside the efforts of LA Based Choreographer, Marianna Varviani, Tula currently co-spearheads [LA Dance Calendar](#): an online platform providing one centralized location to discover all things *DANCE* in Greater Los Angeles.

www.tulabstrong.com

Waeli Wang (she/they), M.F.A. in Dance

Year of Appointment at CSUF - 2024

Waeli is a movement artist, filmmaker, and educator. They create interdisciplinary contemporary works interweaving personal, familial, social, and artistic contexts to investigate identity. Their research explores the overlap between critical dancemaking and identity to transform and challenge unjust social relations while filling in the gaps of Asian diaspora collective memory to raise social consciousness. She is driven to make work that fuses movement/imagery, figurative/abstract, and the poetic personal.

Wang has toured internationally as a guest artist performing and teaching master classes in modern, contemporary, and aerial dance forms. Their collaborative interdisciplinary choreography and films have shown in internationally curated performances and screenings over the last decade. Her work has been presented by Movement Research Lab, WAXworks, Prelude Festival, 92Y Dance Educators Collective, and Center of Asian American Media. Additionally, they have been commissioned by Built for Collapse, Harunalee Theatre Company, Rogue Co. Dance Company, MashUp Contemporary Dance, and several university and college dance programs to build work focusing on a visceral and experimental contemporary modern dance vocabulary.

Cultivating community, experiential learning, and a dedication to justice and equity are central to her artmaking practice and teaching philosophy. They believe that incorporating critical cultural and historical perspectives on dance inside of the studio and classroom creates a rich environment in which we can honor all bodies and identities. Transformative justice and regenerative practices within education are areas that are deeply rooted in her work and how they move through the world. Teaching from a space where we can build collective power, collaboration as co-liberation.

Wang holds an MFA degree in Dance from the University of California, Irvine & a BFA in Film Studies from the University of Colorado at Boulder. They currently reside on the unceded territories of the Acjachemen, Tongva, and Kizh, also known as Irvine, California.