

#### **Ashley SK Davis**

Ashley SK Davis is a dancer, choreographer, actor, teacher, and social change artist who finds great joy in encouraging children to discover their inner artist. This focus manifests itself in her work in the art and education community in Delaware.

Ashley serves as the Executive & Artistic Director of Pieces of a Dream, Inc., a Wilmington-based

dance company whose choreographic focus explores socially meaningful and culturally relevant topics, such as domestic violence, homelessness, and the 1968 National Guard occupation of Wilmington. Ashley also heads the Pieces of a Dream Academy of Dance, the company's training arm, that provides instruction to students ages two through adult. In 2017, she served as the Assistant Artistic Director for "Same Story, Different Countries", a multi-disciplinary concert produced by the University of Delaware Department of Dance that explores the similarities between the "black experience" in the United States and South Africa. Most recently, Ashley was commissioned by the Delaware Art Museum to collaborate with artist Terrance Vann to create a piece to commemorate 1968, the occupation of Wilmington by the National Guard following the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. A Wilmington native, she earned her B.A. in philosophy at Spelman College in Atlanta, Ga., where she was active in the arts community on campus. As a member of the Spelman College Dance Theatre, she trained under Kenneth Green (Six Flags; Disney), Nathan Trice (nathantrice/RITUALS), and Alan Gartrell (Atlanta Dance Connection; Milwaukee Dance Exchange).

## **Emie Hughes**

Emie is a mixed-media artist, photographer, choreographer, dancer, and educator. She graduated with a B.A. in Dance/Theatre Arts from Dickinson College, where she won the Emil R. and Tamar Weiss Prize in the Creative Arts. After graduating, she lived and worked in NYC for 6 years in the arts, arts administration, and fundraising.



She has presented her choreographic works at venues including the Brandywine River Museum, Triskelion Arts, the EstroGenius Festival, Dixon Place, Center for Performance Research, Movement Research, and the Bowery Poetry Club. She has taught workshops in art and dance at the Brandywine River Museum, University of Hartford, and the Girls Can Do Anything! 2019 Conference, among others. Emie has enjoyed curating and assisting with the production of this evening. www.emiehughes.com



### Megan Flynn

Megan Flynn is the Artistic Director of the Philadelphiabased, Megan Flynn Dance Company (MFDC). Formed in 2015, MFDC is committed to engaging with the community through performance and dance education, including traditional theatrical stages, unique venues and public spaces. Megan earned her MFA in Dance from UC Irvine and is an Assistant Professor of Dance at Muhlenberg College. www.flynndance.org

#### **Annielille Gavino**

Annielille Gavino is a movement artist, researcher, writer, maker, and cultural worker. Dance career highlights include working with legendary choreographers such as Katherine Dunham, Donald McKayle, Baba Chuck Davis, Eleo Pomare and with companies such as Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Ensemble, Dallas Black Dance Theatre, Kun Yang-Lin/Dancers. Her choreographies have been supported by Dance Place, Painted Bride, Fleisher Art Memorial, Barnes Foundation, Bronx Academy of Arts and Dance, Small But Mighty Arts, Asian Arts Initiative, Philadelphia



Asian Performing Arts, Asian Arts Initiative, Philadelphia Asian American Film Festival, Leeway Foundation, Velocity Fund, and Mapfund.

As an interdisciplinary dance maker, she uses dance as a storytelling element for cultural connection, resistance, spiritual journeys, and community engagement. Most of Gavino's work is centered on decolonial art activism particularly from the lens of a Filipinx immigrant. Annielille is also a dance writer for thINKing Dance and also holds an MFA in Dance from Hollins University.



# Meredith Stapleton

Meredith Stapleton, MFA in Dance/Choreography from the University of Iowa, is a Philadelphia-based dance artist and educator. She is currently developing two projects; a solo investigation by the name of Trisha Frown, and a series of dances to live radio, a.k.a. @radiomoves. Meredith is enlivened by facilitating dialog within various creative communities. She is teaching at

Muhlenberg College, her alma mater. "Dance is a lens through which I reflect, refract, and absorb. I rewire the body to confuse the brain until I relocate myself on the map; I am woman, casual athlete, disaster, and polka-dot."