UNIVERSITY REPERTORY DANCE THEATRE (UREP)

UREP is Minnesota State Mankato’s student dance company. Its mission is to prepare students for professional dance careers by developing their artistic range as performers. Participants will have the opportunity to work with a variety of professional choreographers, distinguished faculty members and promising student choreographers. Auditions will be held at the beginning of each fall term. If selected from the audition, students are expected to commit to UREP for a full academic year. Selection will be based on technical skill, stylistic versatility, and creativity. Each year UREP represents the University in informal showings and fully produced dance concerts on and off campus.

The Minnesota State Mankato Dance Program is a member of the North Central Region of the American College Dance Festival Association (ACDFA) and regularly attends its annual regional conference.

The Department of Theatre & Dance at Minnesota State Mankato offers the BA, BS degrees in Dance and Theatre Arts, BFA in Acting, Musical Theatre and Design/Technology, the MA in Theatre Arts and the MFA in Acting, Directing, Musical Theatre, Scene Design, Costume Design, Lighting Design, Technical Direction, and Sound Design. It has about 120 majors and produces 18 major productions each year, including two major Dance Concerts as well as its professional Highland Summer Theatre, to a total of 40,000 patrons.
THE DANCE PROGRAM at Minnesota State University, Mankato

Minnesota is well known for its thriving and influential dance scene. Many of the nation's leading choreographers, performers, and dance educators are drawn to Minnesota for its rich history of supporting a broad spectrum of dance idioms—representing Eastern and Western voices, both traditional and avant-garde. Over the last thirty-five years, Minnesota audiences have earned a reputation for knowing excellent dance when they see it and understanding how to cultivate it with their concert attendance, critical reviews, and financial support.

The Dance Program at Minnesota State Mankato provides a unique and challenging opportunity to study dance in an academic environment, which relates directly to a broader and more practical context. Located along the Minnesota River valley in historic Mankato, students can enjoy the best of both worlds in a focused college town atmosphere within a 90-minute drive of the bustling Twin Cities cultural scene.

B.A./B.S. Degree Requirements (54 credits)
- Dance Technique/Performance (30 credits)
  - Modern Dance Technique (12)
  - Ballet Technique (8)
  - Dance Technique Electives (6)
  - Dance Repertory/Conditioning (4)
- Dance Studies (15 credits)
  - Dance Improvisation (2)
  - Dance Composition (4)
  - Movement Analysis (2)
  - Dance History (3)
  - Senior Dance Project (1)
  - Topics in Dance (3)
- Theatre Studies (9 credits)
  - Theatre Activity (3)
  - Acting for Everyone (3)
  - Theatre Technology (3)
- Designated General Education (9 credits)
  - World Dance in Cultural Perspective (3)
  - Introduction to Dance (3)
  - Intro to Music or Intro to Visual Culture (3)

Dance Minor (20 credits)
- Dance Technique (13 credits)
  - Acting for Everyone (3)
  - Intermediate Modern Dance Technique (2)
  - Intermediate Ballet Technique (2)
  - Intermediate Jazz Technique (2)
  - Intermediate Tap Technique (2)
  - Afro-Caribbean Dance Technique (2)
- Dance Studies (7 credits)
  - Dance Improvisation (2)
  - Dance History (3)
  - Dance Composition I (2)
- Designated General Education (3 credits)
  - Introduction to Dance (3)

DANCE FACULTY

Julie Kerr-Berry’s primary teaching responsibilities are contemporary dance technique, history, world dance, and pedagogy. She earned both her masters and doctorate degrees in Dance from Temple University in Philadelphia. She is a founding member of the National Dance Education Organization and Editor-in-Chief of its official journal, the “Journal of Dance Education.”

Paul Finocchiaro received his MFA degree in Theatre Performance from the University of Nevada Las Vegas and his BFA degree from the Boston Conservatory. His professional credits include national tours and a three year run of Starlight Express in Las Vegas playing ten roles. His teaching responsibilities include tap, jazz, acting, directing and voice.

Brad Garner teaches contemporary dance technique, ballet, jazz, conditioning, dance improvisation, dance composition and dance in technology. He earned his MFA degree in Dance from Arizona State University and his BFA degree from the University of Minnesota Twin Cities. He performs professionally with Keith Johnson/Dancers and co-directs Gutierrez-Garner Dance.

Sue W. Gunness is a Ballet Specialist at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter and Minnesota State Mankato. Her teaching experience includes Salt Creek Ballet Co., Chicago; Minnesota State University-Moorhead; Ballet Mistress at Continental Ballet Co., Minneapolis; and Minnesota Dance Theatre. Her teaching mentor is Elaine Werner Hutchison of the Royal Winnipeg Ballet. She has attended International Ballet conferences in Vail, CO.