



Erik A. Stern **Professor, Dance, Weber State University**

- **B.A. Biology, University of California Santa Cruz**
- **M.F.A. Dance, California Institute of the Arts**
- **Endowed Artist of College of Arts & Humanities, 1999-2002**
- **Co-artistic Director, Dr. Schaffer and Mr. Stern Dance Ensemble**
- **Designated Teaching Artist, Kennedy Center for Performing Arts Teachers in Education Program**

I'm a professional dancer and choreographer who has toured with several dance companies, including my own.

I've choreographed about eighty dances, including "Unlikely Ritual" (right) on Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company, and "A Party In His Head" (below) on two former WSU students, Josie Patterson-Halford and Rodolfo Rafael. My experience as a musician informs my choreography.



The technical, creative and scholarly aspects of dance develop creative, physical and intellectual skills. I see parallels between these skills and the types of thinking that go into other fields of study.

Some classes I teach: Modern Dance Technique, Rhythm Tap, Choreography I & II, Introduction to Dance, Music for Dance, Moving Company, Pattern Play – Movement & Mathematics

WSU dance students are supportive of each other, and are encouraged by our faculty to find the aspects of dance that capture their imagination and passion. Giving students bodies-on experience with dance is why I am passionate about mentoring student performers, teachers, choreographers, scholars and community activists.

To the right is WSU dancer Symmer Andrews (green tank top) teaching high school students as part of our outreach program Moving Company. This particular project was called DanceScienceFest – A Body in Motion, and was a collaboration between WSU dance students, Physics Professor Adam Johnston and me. We created and toured a 45-minute performance. This photo is from a workshop that grew out of the performance.



In 2012 my colleague Karl Schaffer and I gave a talk at TEDx Manhattan Beach. It was on our international work connecting mathematics and dance

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ws2y-cGoWqQ>

Karl's and my dance company has toured throughout North American and also to Europe, Asia and Australia.

With WSU Mathematics faculty Julian Chan I co-teach an interdisciplinary general education course called Pattern Play. Pattern Play is innovative because it allows WSU

students to simultaneously study Creative Arts and Mathematics.

Feel free to contact me with any questions or comments, or just to chat.

Erik A. Stern, Curriculum Vitae

Employment

Professor, Dance, Weber State University (Full Professor, April 2002)	1993-present
Co-artistic Director, Dr. Schaffer and Mr. Stern Dance Ensemble, Santa Cruz, CA	1989-present
Teaching Artist with the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts	2003-present
Interim Director, Honors Program, Weber State University	2012-2013
Tandy Beal & Co., dancer, soloist, collaborator, teacher, Felton, CA	1986-1996
California State Summer School for the Arts, Lecturer, Assistant Director	1992-1994
University of California at Santa Cruz, Lecturer, Guest Instructor	1990-1993
Cabrillo College, Lecturer, Guest Instructor, Aptos, CA	1989-1992
Humboldt State University, Visiting Faculty, Arcata, CA	1991
Mills College, Guest Choreographer, Oakland, CA	1990
Stanford University, Guest Choreographer, Palo Alto, CA	1987
Dance Accompanist (piano and percussion), universities and private studios, CA	1984-1988

Professional Exhibitions (selected)

Mudson, premiered "A Party In His Head" in semi-annual curated show, Salt Lake City, UT	Nov, 2014
Utah Regional Ballet Choreography Design Project Professional Division Award, Orem, UT	Jan, 2012
<i>Unlikely Ritual</i> , original choreography for Ririe-Woodbury Dance Company, SLC, UT	July 2009
Lecture Demonstration, Symposium on Art & Alzheimer's, Utah Museum of Fine Arts	Nov 2008
Guest Soloist, Repertory Dance Theatre (RDT), <i>Outside Blake's Window</i> , SLC, UT	April 2008
<i>Demolition Derby</i> , Gerald W. Lynch Theatre, New York City, NY	Nov 2007
Artist Residency at Appelboom, Central France	August 2006
Staged and performed in <i>Navigating Lake Bonneville</i> , Weber SU	April 2006
<i>Muscle Memories</i> , Part of RDT's LINK Series, Rose Wagner Center, SLC, UT	March 2003

Performances with Dr. Schaffer and Mr. Stern Dance Ensemble (selected)

North Dakota Council of Teachers of Mathematics STEAM conference, keynote	March 2015
Houston Arts Partners conference, keynote performance	October 2014
Gwacheon National Science Museum, Seoul, South Korea, part of Bridges 2014 & American Mathematical Society joint conferences	August 2014
Museum of Mathematics (MoMath), Manhattan, NY	September 2013
University at Buffalo Schooltime Adventure Series for 1,100 K-12 students	October 2013
PULSE: Intersections of Dance and Science, Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison	October 2012
Bridges 2010 Conference Keynote Performance, Pecs, Hungary	July 2010

World Science Festival, New York University	June 2009
Keynote Performance, TIME 2000 Math Ed Conf, Queens College, Queens, NY	Nov 2008
Residency, "Imagination Celebration," Kennedy Center, Washington, D.C.	March 2003
Calgary International Children's Festival, Canada	July 2000
Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, PA	April 2003
Keynote Performance, NCTM National Conference, San Diego, CA	July 1996
Five residencies in Hawaii, (Oahu, Hawaii, Maui, Kauai)	1997-2007
Summerfest, Cowell Theater, San Francisco, CA	July 2000
Resident company, two ACDA regional meetings: University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa	March 1991
Weber State University	March 1993
Ten Home Season concerts in Santa Cruz County, CA	1987-2004
<u>Choreography created for Weber State University dance students and faculty:</u>	
Forty original dance works	1993-present
Five collaborations with Percussion Ensemble Chamber and Concert Choirs	1994-2003
Composed nine scores for dances	1992-2007
Reached over twenty thousand local young audiences through outreach concerts at WSU and on-site at schools, Northern Utah	1994-2015
Workshops & Conference Presentations (selected)	
New York University, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education and Human Development Master Class on Math Dance to combined group of graduate students	2016
43 rd Annual Meeting of the Research Council on Mathematics Learning, "Math Dance: A Study of Effectiveness," with Rachel Bachman, Orlando, FL,	2016
Association for Science Teacher Education International Conference, "Science and Dance – An Experiential Workshop: A Body in Motion," with Adam Johnston, Reno, NV	2016
New York University, Steinhardt School of Culture, Education and Human Development, Math Dance	2016
UtahPresents, A Body in Motion, physics-dance teacher workshops, Salt Lake City, UT	2015
Assoc. of Am. College & Universities, Integrative Learning Institute, WSU Team Leader	2015
Phoenix, AZ and Santa Clarita, CA, Kennedy Center Arts Integration residencies	2015
"Loopy Dances," Bridges 2014, Seoul, South Korea	2014
Keynote, WSU Arts Integration Conference	2014
National Dance Education Organization, "Deep Connections: Mathematics & Dance, Lessons from the Stage and Classroom," Miami	2013
Featured presenter, Creative Mathematical Sciences Communications with Arts, Story & Thinking!, Aug. 2-10, Charles Darwin University, Darwin, Australia	2013
Keynote and Workshops, Ohio Council of Teachers of Mathematics	2012
TEDx Manhattan Beach, CA	2012
Lead Teaching Artist at Straight A's Summer Institute, U.S. Dept. of Ed funded Arts Integration Institute, Birmingham, AL	2012
<i>Exploring the Body of Religion</i> , paper at the Second International Conference On Religion and Spirituality in Society, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada	2012

Arts Integration workshops at Bridges 2010 and Constructionism 2010, Paris, France 2010 and Pécs, Hungary	
Arts Integration math/dance workshops conducted as part of Kennedy Center Partners 2005-present In Education Program: MA, FL, MI, NJ, OH, ID, NY, UT, CA, D.C., ME, Puerto Rico	
“How Performance Changed the Dementia Debate,” National Dance Education Organization (NDEO) Annual Conference, University of Maryland	2008
Keynote Presentation, “Ultimate Relevance: Dance In The 21 st Century,” Utah Dance Education Organization, Fall Conference BYU	2008
MathDance workshops, Kennedy Center Professional Development Opportunities for Teachers Program, Washington, D.C.	2003, 2004
School Science and Mathematics Association Centennial Celebration, IL	2002
Australian/New Zealand Dance Research Forum	2001
Governor's Conference on the Arts, Honolulu, HI	2001
Exploratorium, San Francisco, CA	2001
First Lady's Arts Festival, Montgomery, AL	2001
International Dance and the Child (daCi) conference in Regina, Saskatchewan	2000
National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) meeting in San Diego, CA	1996

Courses Taught

Modern Dance Technique (all levels), Rhythm Tap (all levels), Pilates, Improvisation, Choreography I, Choreography II, Choreography Practicum, Senior Synthesis, Dance Production, Moving Company (designated Community Engaged Learning course), Introduction to Dance, Jazz Dance, Music for Dance, Dance Accompaniment, Field Experience, Teaching Creative Dance in the Elementary Schools, Techniques and Materials for Teaching Dance, The Body of Religion (created as recipient of Honors Eccles Fellow), Pattern Play: Movement and Mathematics, Rhythm and the Performing Arts, Independent Study.

Awards & Grants

“A Party In His Head” selected for gala at Northwest Region ACDA, Univ. of CO, Fort Collins	2015
Research, Scholarship & Professional Growth (RS&PG) grant for “Dance Faculty Exchange”	2014
Grants for Moving Company outreach project “Dance Science Fest – A Body In Motion” (with Physics faculty Adam Johnston)	2014
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lindquist Fellowship for Creative and Artistic Endeavors • WSU Alan E. and Jeanne N. Hall Endowment for Community Outreach Funding • RS&PG Hemingway Collaborative Award 	
Lindquist Fellowship for Creative and Artistic Endeavors for outreach project COIL	2011
Honors Eccles Fellow for new course, “The Body of Religion,” WSU	2009
Alan E. and Jeanne N. Hall Endowment for Community Outreach Grant for Moving Company 2009, to tour with WSU student to inner-city Ogden Elem. Schools	2008
First Annual Creative Leadership Award, Alzheimer’s Association, New York City Chapter	2007
Exemplary Collaboration Award, <i>Demolition Derby</i> , WSU	2007
“Table of Content” selected for performance at ACDFFA National conference, Kennedy Center	2002
National Endowment for the Arts:	
Outreach grant	2004
Arts Education and Access grants (four received)	1997-2002
Choreographic Fellowship	1994
California Arts Council, Touring and Presenting Roster selections (5 total) and Organizational Supports Grants (9 total)	1990-2003

Over thirty-five grants from WSU, state (UT & CA) and national organizations 1990-present
for Dr. Schaffer and Mr. Stern Dance Ensemble

Endowed Artist for the College of Arts & Humanities	1999-2002
Djerassi Resident Artists Fellowship, Woodside, CA	1999
Choreographer's Lab, resident choreographer, Snowbird, UT	1995
Hemingway and Lindquist grants, WSU, (10 total)	1994-present

Administrative (selected)

Festival Coordinator, American College Dance Festival Northwest 2010	2009-2010
Organizer, "Pillars of Dementia Care," daylong conference with Utah Chapter of Alzheimer's Association, centered on performance of <i>Demolition Derby</i> , SLC, UT	2007
University Planning Committee	2008-2010
Director, Dance Area, Dept. of Performing Arts, WSU	2005-2006
Member, Faculty Senate, WSU	2002-2005

Published Work (selected)

Print

- Bachman, Rachel, Stern, Erik, Chan, Julian, Berezy, Karlee, Tripp, Lance, "Math Dance: A Study of Effectiveness," 2016
Proceeding for the 43rd Annual Meeting of Research Council on Mathematics Learning
- Schaffer, Karl and Stern, Erik. "Loopy Dances," Proceedings of Bridges 2014: Mathematics, Music, Art, Architecture, Culture
- Stern, Erik. "Medicine and the Arts," *Academic Medicine*, Journal of the Association of American Medical Colleges, Vol. 84, Issue 4. April, 2009
- Schaffer, Karl and Stern, Erik. "Everyday Dance," in 2006 *ArtsEdge*, Kennedy Center online publication for teachers.
www.artsedge.kennedy-center.org/
- Schaffer, Karl and Erik Stern, with Scott Kim. *Math Dance with Dr. Schaffer and Mr. Stern*. Orders through Lulu Press, 2001

Web

www.mathdance.org

TEDx Manhattan Beach, October 2012 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ws2y-cGoWqQ>

American Mathematical Society website video article on Schaffer & Stern, "Do The Math Dance." 2008
<http://www.ams.org/dbis/AMS/stories/18053.html>

On Stern's interdisciplinary research:

Ornes, Stephen. "Math Dance," Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America, Vol. 110, No. 26, June 25, 2013

Magruder, Ella. *Dancing for Young Audiences*, Chapter 18, "Two Guys Who Dance About Math", North Carolina, McFarland, 2013.