



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS CONTACT

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GroundWorks DanceTheater Announces New Summer Program:
nextSPACE

*In this time of upheaval and in the space between doubt and renewal,
 we are open to the challenge of what is NEXT!*

Cleveland, OH (July 13, 2020) - GroundWorks DanceTheater announces **nextSPACE**, a new, interconnected summer series featuring activities in both live and virtual spaces around Cleveland and Akron. **nextSPACE** will run from July 13 - August 22.

Each week, we invite our Northeast Ohio community to journey, connect, react, and experience GroundWorks in a variety of ways. **nextSPACE** will feature virtual happy hour artist talks, outdoor and online movement classes for dancers, non-dancers, and families. Our company dancers and staff will also be posting pictures of their favorite murals in Cleveland and Akron, all culminating with novel pop-up, drive-in performances in outdoor settings.

Throughout this series, we are partnering with many local organizations and businesses, encouraging people to explore new and interesting parts of the Northeast Ohio region. Our partner organizations and venues are:

- **Cascade Park**, Akron, OH
- **Downtown Akron Partnership**
- **Dunham Tavern**, Cleveland, OH
- **Geis Property Management**
- **Lake View Cemetery**, Cleveland, OH
- **MidTown Cleveland**

GroundWorks has carefully planned and crafted all nextSpace programming to ensure the safety of all participants in strict adherence with CDC and local health authority guidelines.

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nextSPACE SUMMER SERIES

The Full Line Up for GroundWorks' nextSPACE Summer Series is below. To register for any of these programs and the most up-to-date information, visit our website:

www.groundworksdance.org/nextspace.

JOURNEY: PUBLIC ART SHARE

Journey with GroundWorks across Northeast Ohio as we explore creative space in our community through different pieces of Public Art. Each week, GroundWorks will share pictures our dancers and staff have taken of their favorite murals and other pieces from both the Cleveland and Akron areas while highlighting information about the artists and their work. Join us for this and more through our nextSPACE Summer Series.

This part of the program will be ongoing throughout. We are encouraging people to participate and share their reactions to their favorite murals around town.

CONNECT: OUTDOOR AND VIRTUAL CLASSES

Creative Process for Pre-Professional Dancers - Virtual * Pre-Registration Required

July 21, 2020 at 12 p.m.

Online Class (Zoom Required)

Creative Process is for pre-professional/professional dancers 16+ curious about composition, improvisation, inspiration, and creativity. Class will begin with a guided improvisation warm-up structured through Brain Dance, which was strategically created for non-dancers to center their brains and bodies for physical activity. This will then lead into compositional tasks used to create our most recent work. Dancers will then work in partners to explore different movement impulses and reactions through interaction, before working as a group to create several pieces to share with one another.

Class will conclude with a group discussion and reflection following a brief return to individual body and breath. The majority of class will take place seated, though there will be opportunities for full bodied movement in the warm-up and cool down.

Creative Movement for the Family * Pre-Registration Required

July 28, 2020 at 12 p.m.

Online Class

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Creative Movement for the Family is perfect for families with active bodies looking for a new group activity - no dance experience required! Bring your household around a screen and come join the GroundWorks team for 45 minutes of activities to keep you and your little ones moving together. Class will be designed with grades K-5 in mind, but students of any age and their parents/grandparents/caregivers are encouraged to join us as well! Participants can expect to move together, play together, and create together with the support of the GroundWorks instructors.

Creative Process for Pre-Professional Dancers - Outdoor * Pre-Registration Required

August 5, 2020, 3 p.m.

Lake View Cemetary; 12316 Euclid Ave, Cleveland, OH 44106

Creative Process is for pre-professional/professional dancers 16+ curious about composition, improvisation, inspiration, and creativity. Class will begin with a guided improvisation warm-up structured through Brain Dance, which was strategically created for non-dancers to center their brains and bodies for physical activity. This will then lead into compositional tasks used to create our most recent work. Dancers will then work in partners (from afar) to explore different movement impulses and reactions through interaction, before working as a group to create several pieces to share with one another. Class will conclude with a group discussion and reflection following a brief return to individual body and breath.

Class will take place outdoors on grass in a partially shaded area. Masks are required to be worn for the entirety of class (60 minutes) by all participants, please notify us of any concerns regarding masks prior to registration. Participants will be expected to comply with spatial distancing requirements on site as well. There will be no access to restrooms or a water fountain at the class location, please prepare accordingly.

Creative Movement in Cleveland - Outdoor * Pre-Registration Required

August 18, 2020 at 3 p.m.

Dunham Tavern Museum; 6709 Euclid Ave, Cleveland, OH 44103

Creative Process is for pre-professional/professional dancers 16+ curious about composition, improvisation, inspiration, and creativity. Class will begin with a guided improvisation warm-up structured through Brain Dance, which was strategically created for non-dancers to center their brains and bodies for physical activity. This will then lead into compositional tasks used to create our most recent work. Dancers will then work in partners to explore different movement impulses and reactions through interaction, before working as a group to create several pieces to share with one another. Class will conclude with a group discussion and reflection following a brief return to individual body and breath. The majority of class will take place seated, though there will be opportunities for full bodied movement in the warm-up and cool down.

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REACT: ARTIST TALKS

Happy Hour Artist Talk with David Shimotakahara

July 24, 2020 at 5 p.m.

Online **Registration Required to Join the Zoom Call*

Join GroundWorks for our virtual Happy Hour Artist Talks. We encourage you to make your favorite drink (alcoholic or non-alcoholic) and join us as David Shimotakahara, GroundWorks' Executive Artistic Director, talks about the making of his newest work "Jigsaw," and how GroundWorks is remaining creatively connected and during the pandemic. Our Education and Community Engagement Coordinator, Rebecca Burcher, will serve as our moderator and guide the conversation.

As always, there will be time towards the end for open discussion and questions from our viewers and participants. Each talk will be streamed on our Facebook and YouTube pages but for direct access to the conversation, pre-register to join the zoom call. Registration will be open a week before the talk.

Virtual Open Rehearsal of "Jigsaw"

July 31, 2020 at 2 p.m.

Online

GroundWorks invites you into an open rehearsal of David Shimotakahara's newest work "Jigsaw." While we wish we could invite you in person, we will be live streaming the rehearsal for the safety of the company and our audience members. No registration will be required for an inside view of GroundWorks rehearsal in-progress.

Happy Hour Artist Talk with Antonio Brown

August 7, 2020 at 5 p.m.

Online **Registration Required to Join the Zoom Call*

Join GroundWorks for our virtual Happy Hour Artist Talks. We encourage you to make your favorite drink (alcoholic or non-alcoholic) and join us as Antonio Brown, Artistic Director/Founder of Antonio Brown Dance, talks about his work and choreographic process, as well as his new commission with GroundWorks during the pandemic. Our Education and Community Engagement Coordinator, Rebecca Burcher, will serve as our moderator and guide the conversation.

As always, there will be a time towards the end for open discussion and questions from our viewers and participants. Each talk will be streamed on our Facebook and YouTube pages but for direct access to the conversation, pre-register to join the zoom call. Registration will be open a week before the talk

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EXPERIENCE: POP-UP DRIVE-IN PERFORMANCES

Pop-Up Drive-In Performance in Cleveland *Pre-Registration Required

August 15, 2020 at 8:30 p.m. & 10 p.m.

Rear Agora Parking Lot; Entrance off Prospect Ave.

Pop-Up Drive-In Performance in Akron *Pre-Registration Required

August 22, 2020 at 8:30 p.m. & 10 p.m.

Location TBA

Experience GroundWorks DanceTheater with new pop-up, drive-in performances. The performances will take place outside, in selected parking lots, and cars will be circled around the performers. The performance will feature the world premiere of "Jigsaw" a new duet choreographed by Executive Artistic Director, David Shimotakahara. Come prepared to participate with your headlights!

Because of the nature of the performance and the current state of the pandemic, for the safety of our patrons, dancers, and staff, we will require all audience members to arrive and view the performance in their cars. Due to the limited number of car spaces for each performance Pre-Registration is required and opens on July 20th. While there is no ticket charge, we are asking for a suggested donation of \$25 per car, and each car can have multiple people inside.

About GroundWorks DanceTheater

Now in its 22nd season, GroundWorks DanceTheater is dedicated to the development and presentation of new choreography and collaborations. The Northeast Ohio-based company performs new works by Executive Artistic Director, David Shimotakahara, as well as commissioned work by nationally & internationally acclaimed choreographers including Eric Michael Handman, Rosie Herrera, Kate Weare, Robert Moses, Ronen Koresh, Dianne McIntyre, Lynne Taylor-Corbett, Jill Sigman, Gina Gibney, David Parker, Brian Brooks, James Gregg, & many others. GroundWorks is committed to presenting unique opportunities for engaging the community through work-in-progress showings, master classes, and educational outreach to school children, college students, and senior adults.

GroundWorks DanceTheater's annual programming is made possible with funding from The National Endowment for the Arts, The Ohio Arts Council, Cuyahoga County residents through Cuyahoga Arts & Culture, The Cleveland Foundation, The George Gund Foundation, The Toby Devan Lewis Philanthropic Fund, GAR Foundation, Peg's Foundation, The Char & Chuck Fowler Family Foundation, The John P. Murphy Foundation, The Kulas Foundation, Akron Community Foundation, The Demetros Charitable Trust, The Judith Gerson Fund, Sisler McFawn, Individual Contributors & Members of the GroundWorks Board of Directors.

For more information, please visit www.groundworksdance.org or call 216-751-0088.