

MAGAZINE DANCE

THE WORLD AT YOUR FEET

MAY 2014

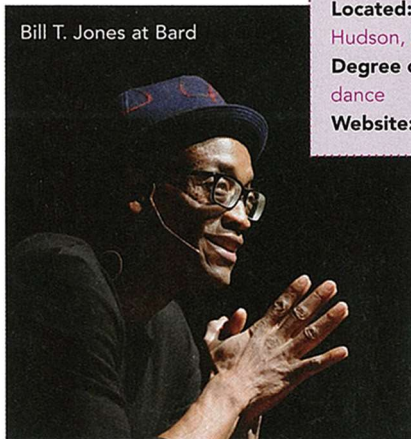
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Not Your Average Residency

Three colleges that have formed innovative partnerships with dance artists

Many colleges invite big-name choreographers or companies to spend time on campus, but a dance department residency can sometimes be a superficial affair: A troupe arrives, performs, gives a master class or two and leaves. While these visits are invaluable for the guest artists, who get access to free rehearsal space and performance venues, students can end up with only minimal exposure.

Recently, however, colleges have been reimagining the dance residency, developing partnerships that allow students to interact with residents in meaningful ways. Sometimes these programs even reach beyond the dance department, involving scholars from across the campus. (Georgia Tech doesn't offer a dance major, but that didn't stop Arts@Tech from bringing in choreographer Jonah Bokaer.) Here are three residencies that break the traditional mold. —Margaret Fuhrer



Bill T. Jones at Bard

Located: Annandale-on-Hudson, NY

Degree offered: BA in dance

Website: bard.edu

BARD COLLEGE

Resident artist: Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company (they prefer to call their relationship a “partnership”)

Period of residency: Throughout each academic year since 2009

Nature of the partnership: Current and former artists from the company and New York Live Arts teach 12 full courses a year at Bard, including upper-level technique and composition courses for majors and introductory dance courses for non-majors. BTJ/AZ is also in full residency on campus for a week, typically in May, and the company hosts additional master classes, performances and campus-wide events to supplement its course offerings.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

Resident artist: ClancyWorks Dance Company

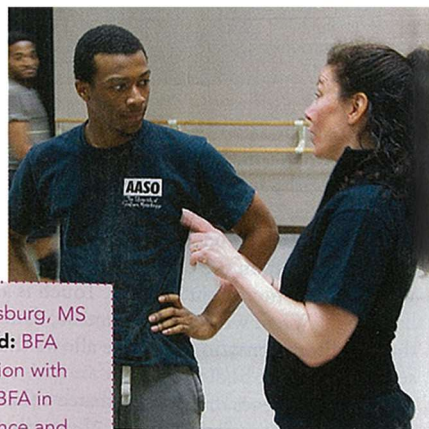
Period of residency: Two sessions in February and April, 2013

Nature of the partnership: Maryland-based ClancyWorks, led by Adrienne Clancy, has its own respected arts in education program, which made it a good fit for USM, one of the few schools to offer a BFA in dance education that includes K–12 licensure. During their USM residency, company members performed, taught master classes and created a new work with dance majors—but they also led several in-depth seminars on educational outreach and professional development for K–12 teachers.

Located: Hattiesburg, MS

Degrees offered: BFA in dance education with K–12 licensure, BFA in dance performance and choreography

Website: usm.edu



ClancyWorks' Adrienne Clancy with USM dance majors