

AJ SHARP

146 Bonito Ave, Long Beach, CA 90802 | 734-334-3564 | ajsharp8847@gmail.com | www.sharpdanceco.com

EDUCATION

- California State University Long Beach**- Long Beach, CA **2021- 2023**
Master of Fine Arts in Dance
- Oakland University**- Rochester Hills, MI **2009- 2013**
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance
- Garden City High School**- Garden City, MI **2005- 2009**
Diploma

TRAINING

- Gibney Dance Studio**- New York, NY **2013- Current**
Taken classes from Alex Springer, Xan Burley, Donnell Oakley, Jake Bone, Cameron McKinney, Hollis Bartlett, and Alexandra Beller.
- Mark Morris Dance Group**- Brooklyn, NY **2013- Current**
Taken classes from Alexandra Beller, Doug Varone, Sam Black, and Kelly Slough.
- Alexandra Beller Immediate Dances**- Brooklyn, NY **February- March 2018**
Danced for a different choreographer each week to have new choreography documented by a videographer for a reel.
- Alexandra Beller Winter ChoreoLab**- Brooklyn, NY **October- December 2015**
8-week choreography intensive utilizing feedback from Alexandra and the other choreographers in the program. The creative process culminated in a performance at the Mark Morris Dance Group.
- Doug Varone's Choreographic Intensive: The CHIN Project**- Brooklyn, NY **May- August 2015**
Invited as one of ten choreographers to be mentored by Doug Varone for his Choreography intensive. I worked closely with Doug Varone, his company dancers, and Purchase College students to explore the choreographic creative process developed by Doug. The program culminated with a curated performance at The 92nd Y in Buitenvliet Hall.
- American Dance Festival**- New York, NY **January 2013**
2-week winter intensive at the Alvin Ailey Studio. Training from Jen Nugent, Gerri Houlihan, Ishmael Houston-Jones, Elisa Clark, and Monica Bill Barnes.
- Doug Varone and Dancers Winter Workshop**- New York, NY **January 2012**
1-week winter intensive at the Gibney Dance Studio. Training from Doug Varone, Alex Springer, Natalie Desch, Julia Burrer, Hollis Bartlett, Eddie Taketa, Erin Owen, Netta Yerushalmy, and Colin Stilwell.

Doug Varone and Dancers Summer Workshop- Brockport, NY **June 2011**
 3-week summer intensive at The College at Brockport. Training from Doug Varone, Alex Springer, Natalie Desch, Julia Burrer, Hollis Bartlett, Eddie Taketa, Erin Owen, Netta Yerushalmy, and Colin Stilwell.

Great Lakes Dance Festival- Rochester Hills, MI **July 2010**
 2-week summer intensive at Oakland University. Training from Mary Bischoff, Greg Patterson, and Ray Mercer.

River North Dance Workshop- Chicago, IL **July 2010**
 2-week summer intensive at Oakland University. Training from Mary Bischoff, Greg Patterson, and Ray Mercer.

CHOREOGRAPHED PROJECTS AND RESEARCH

“all things considered”- Solo for dance on film **2020**
 Collaborated with musician, Craig Martinson, for this work.
 Virtually premiered on Halloween 2020. Brooklyn, NY.

“Quarantine Craig”- 1 performer for dance on film **2020**
 Virtually premiered in April 2020. Brooklyn, NY.

“miscellaneous episodes of being alone, together”- Duet excerpt **2019**
 The Emerging Artists Theatre Spring New Series. New York, NY.

“Changes”- Solo **2018**
 The Creators Collective Spring Party 2018. Brooklyn, NY.

“miscellaneous episodes of being alone, together”- 6 performers **2018**
 An evening-length work that premiered in tandem with the launch of SHARP Dance Co. which was co-produced with The Creators Collective.
 Berg’n. Brooklyn, NY.

“salt for sugar”- Solo **2017**
 The Creators Collective and AirBnB Experience Page. Brooklyn, NY.

“shame, shame, shame”- Duet **2017**
 WAXworks at Triskelion Arts. Brooklyn, NY.
 Ready Freddy’s in collaboration with Creators Collective. Brooklyn, NY.

“Donna”- Solo **2016- 2017**
 Creators Collective for the RESIST ACLU Fundraiser Event. Brooklyn, NY.
 Site Move Series- The Physical Plant. Queens, NY.
 Halyards Dance Event. Brooklyn, NY.
 Artist & Fleas Market. Brooklyn, NY.

“Deep, right field”- Solo **2015- 2016**
 This solo was originally created as part of Alexandra Beller’s Winter ChoreoLab in 2015.
 Mark Morris Dance Group. Brooklyn, NY.
 Triskelion Arts Summer Shake-Up 2016. Brooklyn, NY.
 White Wave Dumbo Dance Festival 2016. Brooklyn, NY.

“Other Worlds”- 6 performers **2015**

This group work was created as part of Doug Varone’s Choreographic Intensive- The CHIN Project in 2015. This work premiered in a concert curated by Doug Varone at the 92 Y in the Buitenvoerd Hall.

“Perfect. Well, not entirely perfect.”- Solo **2015**

WAXworks at Triskelion Arts. Brooklyn, NY.
Spoke the Hub’s 14th Annual Winter Follies. Brooklyn, NY.
Jennifer Muller/The Works: HATCH Series. New York, NY.
Triskelion Arts Summer Shake-Up. Brooklyn, NY.

“You can’t have your friends and eat them too.”- 7 performers **2013**

Living Proof Productions, LLC at Oakland University. Rochester Hills, MI.

COMMISSIONED CHOREOGRAPHY

“Silent Voices”- Group work for 11 performers **2019**

Oakland University. Rochester Hills, MI.
American College Dance Festival. Akron, OH.

“salt for sugar”- Solo **2017**

The Creators Collective for the AMPLIFY Artists Gallery. Brooklyn, NY

PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

Nikki and The Noise. Nicole Assanti, Choreographer. **2019**

“Deep Cuts”. Current Showcase and St. Veronica’s Church. New York, NY.

Theo Lawrence. Alex Hagney, Choreographer. **2019**

Featured dancer in Theo Lawrence’s “Worst in Me” music video.

Malacarne. Alice Gosti, Choreographer. **2018**

“Bodies of Water”. INSITU Site Specific Dance Festival. Queens, NY.

JoAnna Shaw- The Equus Project. Joanna Shaw, Choreographer. **2017**

“Mandala”. INSITU Site Specific Dance Festival. Queens, NY.

Shannon Hummel/Cora Dance. Shannon Hummel, Choreographer. **2015- 2016**

“COMMON DANCES”. Red Hook, Brooklyn.

The Median Movement. Alex Springer & Xan Burley, Choreographers. **2014**

“JACK Rally” at University Settlement. New York, NY.
I also interned for Alex Springer and Xan Burley to organize all communications in and out of the company.

UNDERGRADUATE PERFORMANCES AND WORKS

Oakland University Winter Showcase **2013**

Winter semester performance in OU’s Repertory Dance Company. Performed in works by Thayer Jonutz and Lindsay-Dietz Marchant.

Oakland University Dance Day **2013**

OU’s Dance Day brings high school students to the dance department for classes, performances, and college entry auditions. My solo “Cut” was chosen

to represent Oakland University.

- Oakland University Senior Recital** 2013
Performed my solo "Cut" as well as selected to dance in other student works.
- American College Dance Festival Association** 2013
Oakland University faculty chose my solo "Cut" to represent the university in the ACDFA adjudicated concert.
- Eisenhower Dance Ensemble December Dances** 2012
Performed Laurie Eisenhower's work "Mando Beat" with OU Repertory Dance Company.
- "Landscapes"** 2012
Collaboration concert with Oakland University's guitar majors. Choreography by Thayer Jonutz and Ali Woerner.
- Oakland University Fall Showcase** 2012
Fall semester showcase in OU Repertory Dance Company. Performed in works by Alexandra Beller, Thayer Jonutz, and Ali Woerner.
- Oakland University Winter Showcase** 2012
Winter semester performance in OU's Repertory Dance Company. Performed in works by Meg Paul and Thayer Jonutz.
- Eisenhower Dance Ensemble's "On the Move"** 2012
Performed work by Meg Paul in EDE's On the Move Concert.
- Eisenhower Dance Ensemble December Dances** 2012
Performed Laurie Eisenhower's work "Mando Beat" with OU Repertory Dance Company.
- American College Dance Festival Association** 2012
Presented my solo work "All Too Familiar" in the informal concert and performed with OU Repertory Dance Company in Dusan Tynek's "Transparent Walls" in the adjudicated concert.
- Oakland University Choreography Course** 2010- 2012
Created several works as a student at OU which include "How Many Strangers Have Pictures of You?", "Keep the Room Dark", "Regularly Recurrent", and a dance on film titled "Equilibrium".
- Oakland University Fall Showcase** 2011
Fall semester showcase in OU Repertory Dance Company. Performed in works by Dusan Tynek and Laurie Eisenhower.
- "Clarinetting with the Stars"** 2011
Chosen to perform choreography by Ali Woerner in collaboration with the

OU Music Department in the concert “Clarineting with the Stars”.

Oakland University Winter Showcase **2011**

Winter semester showcase in the OU Dance Theater Company. Performed in student works.

Oakland University Fall Semester **2010**

Fall semester performance in the OU Dance Theater Company. Performed in Works by Ali Woerner, Laurie Eisenhower, and Lisa LaMarre. Understudied for OU Repertory Dance Company piece by Daniel Gwartzman.

Flint Institute of the Arts **2010**

Hired as a performer for the Gala Event with choreography by Alexis DeCapua.

Oakland University Winter Showcase **2010**

Winter semester performance in OU Dance Theater company. Performed in student works and understudied in Eisenhower Dance Ensemble’s work “Mosaics”.

American College Dance Festival Association **2010**

Performer in “Behind Here Lies” by Ali Woerner in the adjudicated concert.

Oakland University Fall Showcase **2009**

Fall semester performance in OU Dance Theater Company. Performed in “Behind Here Lies” choreographed by Ali Woerner.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Success Academy Charter School- Brooklyn, NY **July 2019- Current**

Full time dance teacher for elementary scholars’ grades K-4th. Curated scholar performances twice a year and led staff meetings to delegate duties to supporting staff. Provided whole school support with math, reading, and phonics groups. Filled in as 2nd grade supporting teacher during Spring 2020 remote instruction.

Oakland University- Rochester Hills, MI **January 2019**

Guest Artist in Residence for 2 weeks in January. I taught college level modern/contemporary dance technique classes and choreography classes. I worked with their pre-professional Repertory Dance Company to create the piece “Silent Voices” which was later chosen to represent the university at the American College Dance Festival Association adjudicated concert.

Brooklyn Prospect Charter School- Brooklyn, NY **2016- 2019**

After school dance instructor and performance production director. I held auditions, wrote scripts, held staff meetings, delegated duties to supporting staff, choreographed for school musicals, and produced our winter and spring production performances. I also assisted with administration work and hiring of prospective after school staff. I taught jazz, hip hop, yoga, creative movement, and fitness classes for the program.

HOSH Kids- New York, NY **2015- 2019**

After school lead dance instructor for K-5th grade elementary students. I provided yoga instruction for students of special needs as well as after school instruction for schools in Brooklyn and Queens. I taught jazz, hip hop, and yoga which were shown in culminating performances each winter and spring.

UGOT Active Kids- New York, NY

2015- 2019

Dance, yoga, and music instructor this travel-based program for daycares in Brooklyn, Manhattan, and Queens.

Notes in Motion Dance Theatre- New York, NY

2013- 2019

Lead dance instructor for PS/IS 323 and PS 18 after-school program and for their in-school residencies. I taught jazz, hip hop, creative movement, ballet, and tap to pre-k- 4th grade students which were shown in culminating performances each winter and spring.

Wingspan Arts- New York, NY

2016- 2017

After school dance instructor for pre-k- 2nd grade students. I taught jazz, ballet, and hip hop which were shown in culminating performances each winter and spring.

Jacob Riis Settlement- Queens, NY

Summer 2016

Summer enrichment dance instructor for students' grade K-12th. I taught jazz, hip hop, ballet, tap, and creative movement.

Brooklyn Dance Centers II and III- Brooklyn, NY

2013- 2016

Recreational and competitive dance instructor for students 3- 18 years old. I taught jazz, pre-ballet, ballet, hip hop, modern, and competitive level technique classes. My students competed 3 times a year and performed in a winter holiday show as well as end of the year recital every June.

Educational Talent Search Program at John Jay College- New York, NY

Summer 2015

Summer dance instructor for middle school and high school students. I taught jazz, hip hop, and tap which were shown in culminating performances at the end of the summer.

Fit 4 Life NYC- New York, NY

2013- 2014

Supervising lead instructor and dance instructor for the after-school program for students in grades K-5th. I taught jazz, tap, and hip hop which were shown in culminating performances each winter and spring.

Michigan Technical Academy- Detroit, MI

2010- 2013

Dance instructor for the after- school program while I was in college. I taught hip hop and jazz to middle school students which were shown in culminating performances each winter and spring.

AWARDS

UGOT Active Kids Most Valuable Employee	2019
Oakland University Maggie Allessee Choreography Matilda Award	2013
Oakland University Maggie Allessee Summer Dance Study Scholarship	2010 – 2012
Oakland University Academic Scholarship	2009 – 2013
Oakland University Dance Department Scholarship	2009 – 2013

REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST