

OFOSUWA M. ABIOLA

Howard University | College of Fine Arts | Department of Theatre Arts
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CURRICULUM VITAE

EDUCATION

- 2016 Ph.D., History
 Major field: Senegambian Dance Systems
 Minor field: African Diaspora Dance
 Howard University, Washington, DC.
- 2010 Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies (B.I.S.)
 Major: Cultural Studies | Minors: Dance; History
 Virginia State University, Petersburg, VA

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2021 Chair, Department of Theatre Arts, Howard University, Washington, DC.
- 2020-2021 Interim Chair, Department of Theatre Arts, Howard University, Washington, DC.
- 2020 Associate Professor, Department of Theatre Arts, Howard University,
 Washington, DC.
- 2016 Assistant Professor, Department of Theatre Arts, Howard University,
 Washington, DC.

EMPLOYMENT AND PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

- 2018-2020 Coordinator, Dance Program, Department of Theatre Arts, Howard University,
 Washington, DC.
- 2018-Present Director, The Africana Theatre and Dance Collection, National Endowment for
 the Humanities (NEH) grant project, Founders Library, Howard University,
 Washington, DC.
- 2017-2020 Coordinator, Honors Program, Department of Theatre Arts, Howard
 University, Washington, DC.
- 2017-2018 Coordinator, Theatre Arts Minor Program, Department of Theatre Arts, Howard
 University, Washington, DC.

- 2013-2016 Lecturer, Department of Theatre Arts, Howard University, Washington, DC. Courses taught: Dance History I; Dance History II.
- 2014-2016 Historian, Researcher, National Park Service (NPS), Washington, DC.
- 2014 Project Curator and Research Associate for the exhibit, "Polyrhythm: The Evolution of African American Dance and its African Roots," The National Afro-American Museum and Cultural Center, Wilberforce, Ohio.
- 2013-2014 Co-Investigator, Ethnographic and Historical Project, National Park Service (NPS), Washington, DC.
- 2012-2013 Teaching Associate, Department of History, Howard University, Washington, DC. Course taught: African History I
- 2012 Archivist, Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts, United States Department of the Interior, Vienna, VA. *Created the first archives for the nation's only federal national park.
- 1996-2011 Artistic Director/Founder, Suwabi African Ballet, Norfolk, VA. *Directed/managed a company of 50 dancers and drummers, operated the dance school, conducted research and choreographed African dance ballets based on findings, wrote grants, curated seasons, created and managed budget, etc.
- 2005-2011 Director, CampRize! Dance Camp, Norfolk, VA.
- 2004-2009 Director, Stage Norfolk Theatre Company, Norfolk, VA.
- 2000-2009 Artist in Residence, Governor's School for the Arts, Norfolk, VA.
- 2000-2003 Artist-in-Residence, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA.
- 2000-2002 Lecturer, Christopher Newport University, Newport News, VA. Course taught: African Dance 101.

PUBLICATIONS

- 2021 *Fire Under My Feet: History, Race & Agency in African Diaspora Dance*. Editor. Routledge.
- 2021 "Dancing Protest: (Re)Visiting The Black Arts Movement Through the Lens of Dance." Book chapter. *Black Freedom Struggles*. Kendall Publishers.
- 2020 *Historical Perspectives on Dance in Africa*. Intelligentsia Press.

- 2019 *History Dances: Chronicling the History of Traditional Mandinka Dance*. Routledge.
- 2018 *Evoke: A Historical, Theoretical, and Cultural Analysis of Africana Dance and Theatre*. Founder/Editor-in-Chief. Digital Howard: Howard University. Peer-reviewed digital journal.
- 2017 “Bury Me Towards Africa: Nineteenth-Century African American Cemetery Rituals.” Chapter in the government white paper report, *The Last Thing That Tells Our Story: A Cultural History of the Mt Pleasant Plains Cemetery, An Historic African American Burial Ground in Washington, DC*. National Park Service (NPS), Washington, DC.
- 2014 "It Fits Like a Glove: Women and Black Consciousness in South Africa, 1901-1989." Article. *Africalogical Perspectives: Historical and Contemporary Analysis of Race and Africana Studies*, Spring Issue, 2014, pp. 77-92.
- 2012 *From Strength to Liberation*. Documentary. Director, researcher, writer. Published by the District of Columbia Public Library System, Washington, DC.

PUBLICATIONS IN PROGRESS

Unwitting Witnesses: Unearthing Narratives of African Dance in Pre-Colonial Logs.

For Every Thought There's A Dance: Historical Musings on Women, Dance, and Resistance in Africa and the Diaspora.

PRODUCTIONS: ARTISTIC AND DIGITAL WORKS

- 2020 *RITES*, Choreography. Invited to present my choreographic work *RITES* in Recife, Brazil, with 5 of my students. U.S. State Department-Smithsonian Museum joint project. March 23-29, 2020. (Postponed due to Coronavirus)
- 2020, 2019 *Nankama African Dance Conference*, Founder/Director. Scholarly Conference on African and African Diaspora dance. Ralph J. Bunch International Affairs Center, Washington, DC, February 8-9, 2020; February 9-10, 2019.
- 2016 *Grave Revelations: Cultural and Historical Narratives from the Colored Union Benevolent Association Burial Ground*. Documentary. Directed, researched, wrote the script, and narrated the documentary. Produced, by Aryzen Pictures.
- 2016 *History Dances: African Dance Systems as Methodology*. Documentary. Directed, researched, wrote the script, and narrated the documentary. Produced by, Aryzen Pictures. Visual supplement for my monograph *History Dances: Chronicling the History of Traditional Mandinka Dance* (Routledge).

- 2016 “Lamban.” Choreographed the African dance, and ceremonial reception director. *African American Women and the Law (AAWL) Conference*. Theme: “Black Women Still Rising: Ending Structural Racism, Patriarchy and Violence.” National Education Association (NEA), Washington, DC.
- 2012 *Meet the Rain at the Clouds*. Documentary. Director, researcher, writer. Presented at “Women’s History Month,” National Park Service (NPS), Washington, DC.
- 2010 “Umoja” *Suwabi African Ballet’s 14th Annual Kwanzaa Concert*. Director, producer, choreographer. The Attucks Theatre, Norfolk, VA.
- 2009, 2010 *Cultural Continuities: African Culture in the Diaspora Conference*, Founder/Director. Attucks Theatre, Norfolk, VA.
- 2009 *Once on This Island* (Musical), choreographer. Hampton Roads Academy Newport News, VA.
- 2009 “Faju,” choreography. *A Choreographer’s Showcase*. Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA.
- 2008 *Imani*. Suwabi African Ballet’s 12th Annual Kwanzaa Concert. Director, producer, choreographer. The Attucks Theatre, Norfolk, VA.
- 2007 *Nia*. Suwabi African Ballet’s 11th Annual Kwanzaa Concert. Director, producer, choreographer. The Attucks Theatre, Norfolk, VA.
- 2006 *Bena*. Choreographer. The Governor’s School for the Arts, Norfolk, VA.
- 2006 *Kuumba*. Suwabi African Ballet’s 10th Annual Kwanzaa Concert. Director producer, choreographer. The Attucks Theatre, Norfolk, VA.
- 2004-2009 *First Night at Colonial Williamsburg*, Suwabi African Ballet was commissioned annually to perform.

GRANTS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2021 FELLOWSHIP, National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), \$15,000.00, Washington, DC.
- 2020 FELLOWSHIP, Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC), \$11,000.00, Washington, DC.
- 2020 AWARD, Mary Ellen Lane Multi-Country Travel Grant Award, \$1,000.00, Washington, DC. *Awarded for top-ranked research proposal.

- 2019 GRANT, U.S. Department of Education/Center for African Studies, Howard University, \$3,000.00, Washington, DC.
- 2018 GRANT, National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), Humanities Initiatives, \$99,948.00, Washington, DC.
- 2018 AWARD, Outstanding Assistant Professor in the College of Arts and Sciences at Howard University, 2017-2018. Washington, DC.
- 2018 AWARD, Outstanding Student Advisement, Office on Research Development, Howard University, Washington, DC.
- 2018 AWARD, Junior Faculty Writing and Creative Works Summer Academy, \$500.00, Office of Faculty Development, Howard University, Washington, DC.
- 2017 GRANT, Summer Faculty Research Grant, \$10,000.00, Howard University, Washington, DC.
- 2011-2016 FELLOWSHIP, Frederick Douglas Doctoral Fellowship, \$96,000.00, Howard University, Washington, DC.
- 2012 AWARD, Special Commendation, Office of the Mayor, Washington, DC.
- 2011 FULBRIGHT, The J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship, Morocco, North Africa.
- 2011 SCHOLARSHIP, US Department of State Critical Language Scholarship, Arabic.
- 2010-2011 GRANT, Crispus Attucks Cultural Center, Norfolk, VA, rehearsal space grant, \$20,800.00.
- 2009-2010 GRANT, Crispus Attucks Cultural Center, Norfolk, VA, rehearsal space grant, \$20,800.00.
- 2010 FELLOWSHIP, George H. Benet Fellowship, Petersburg, VA, \$1,000.00.
- 2008-2009 GRANT, Crispus Attucks Cultural Center, Norfolk, VA, rehearsal space grant, \$18,000.00.
- 2008 AWARD, *Unity Award*, for innovatively utilizing African dance to facilitate conversation between diverse groups. Hampton City Council, Hampton, VA.
- 2006-2008 GRANT, Crispus Attucks Cultural Center, Norfolk, VA, rehearsal space grant, \$41,600.00.
- 2007 GRANT, Newport News Arts Council Grant, Newport News, VA, \$2,500.00

- 2006 AWARD, *Excellence in the Arts Award*, Southeast Virginia Arts Association, Norfolk, VA.
- 2005-2006 GRANT. Grant for teaching an apprentice the art of traditional African dance and culture. Virginia Foundation for the Humanities (VFH), Charlottesville, VA. \$3,000.00.
- 2005 AWARD, *Master Folk Artist Award*, Virginia Foundation for the Humanities.
- 2005 AWARD, *Outstanding Contribution to Music in the Commonwealth*, The Virginia Music Educators' Association, Norfolk, VA.
- 2004 GRANT, Friends of the Arts, Inc., Richmond, VA, \$2,700.00.
- 2003 GRANT, Hampton Arts Council, Hampton, VA, \$4,700.00.
- 1998 GRANT, The Links, Newport News, VA, \$500.00.

FEATURED SCHOLAR

- 2019 Interviewed on ABC's *Good Morning Washington* (February 7, 2019).
- 2018 *Afro-American Newspaper*, "Howard Fine Arts Professor Shows How African Dance Chronicled History." (December 15, 2018).
- 2018 *Perspectives on History*, Spotlight Scholar. American Historical Association (AHA). (December 6, 2018).
- 2018 *Dance Spirit*, "Step By Step," article. Interviewed and provided historical content for article on African American Step Dancing (April 2018 issue): p. 44-45.

FEATURED ARTIST (Abridged list)

- VFH Radio VFH Radio Productions Program, "Suwabi African Ballet." I was featured as the Founding Artistic Director of my dance company. Interview by Connie Stevens, 2007.
- NBC WAVY 10 Performance at the NTELOS Pavilion, *Suwabi African Ballet*. I was featured with my dance company, 2007.
- Book *In Good Keeping: Virginia's Folklife Apprenticeships*. Featured as a Master Artist, pp. 114-117. Published by the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, Charlottesville, VA, 2007.
- WOWI "The Morning Show." Interviewed by Cheryl Wilkerson (Radio) 2006.

- PBS “Interview with Master Folk Artist Ofosuwa Abiola.” Interviewed on PBS, aired in all US states including Hawaii, 2005.
- CBS “A Day with Suwabi African Ballet.” I was featured with my dance company on the “Ester Pierre is Everywhere” show, 2002.
- CBS “Live at Nine.” Performance, 1999.

JUDGE/ADJUDICATOR

- 2021 ADJUDICATOR AND GRANT REVIEWER, DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, *FY21 Arts and Humanities Fellowship in Dance*, Washington, DC.
- 2020 GRANT READER, National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), *Grants for Arts Projects*, Washington, DC.
- 2020 JUDGE, NAACP *ACT-SO* (Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics) *National Competitions*.
- 2019 ADJUDICATOR, John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts, *Kennedy Center Dance Lab*, Washington, DC.
- 2019 ADJUDICATOR AND GRANT REVIEWER, DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, *FY20 Arts and Humanities Fellowship in Dance*, Washington, DC.
- 2017-2019 JUDGE, National Park Service (NPS), *Frederick Douglass Oratorical Contest*, Washington, DC.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE: HOWARD UNIVERSITY

(WAC, Writing Across the Curriculum course; WRTG, Writing Intensive course)

Academic Courses

Dance History I (WAC): Africa, Antiquity to the 20th Century
 Dance History I (WAC): World Dance
 Dance History II: (WRTG) Engaging the African Diaspora, 1600 to Present
 Theatre History I (WAC): World Theatre to the 18th Century
 Performance and Identity
 African History I
 Introduction to Theatre
 Honors Thesis I, II
 Honors Directed Research I, II
 Arts, Libraries, and Archives

Dance Technique

African Dance I, II, III,
 African Dance Performance Workshop

Digital Pedagogy

2021-Present Pedagogy Website: *The History of Africana Dance*. Published website to enhance student engagement in the undergraduate courses: Dance History I; Dance History II; and Performance and Identity. www.ofosuwaabiolaphd.org.

2020-Present 100% Online Course: *Dance History I: Africa*.

2020-Present 100% Online Course: *Dance History II: African Diaspora*.

2017-2020 Pedagogy Website: *Africana Cultural History*. Published website to enhance student engagement in the undergraduate courses: Dance History; Theatre History I; Performance and Identity; and Arts, Libraries, and Archives.

Undergraduate College Courses Created

2020 Arts, Libraries, and Archives

2018 Research Methods in Dance, Theatre, and Performance

2017 Performance and Identity

OTHER ACADEMIC TEACHING EXPERIENCE

African Dance Technique (1997-2006)

Old Dominion University

Hampton University

Norfolk State University

Christopher Newport University

Thomas Nelson Community College

Governor's School for the Arts

Newport News Public School System

Hampton Public School System

EXTERNAL PH.D. DISSERTATION COMMITTEES

2021-Present *Dissertation Director*: Truly A. Bennett, "Removed Closeness: A Phenomenological Inquiry into the Black Dancing Body Across Space, Time, and Geographies." Institute for Doctoral Studies in the Visual Arts, Portland, ME.

2020-Present *Dissertation Committee Member*: Dominic King, "Phenomenology of Stepping and its potential as a Liberatory Praxis." Department of Community, Liberation, Indigenous, and Ecopsychology. Pacifica Graduate Institute, Santa Barbara, CA.

UNDERGRADUATE HONORS THESIS ADVISEMENT

2018-2019 Directed the Honors Thesis of Jaylen Wilson, "Theatre is a Weapon: The Efficacy of Theatrical Presentation as a Device for Combating Systemic Racism." Department of Theatre Arts, Howard University. Selected to present at Howard University Research Week, April 2019.

- 2017-2018 Directed the Honors Thesis of Adanna Paul, “Bound to Post-Black: Examining and Redefining Tenets of the Post-Black Art Movement.” Department of Theatre Arts, Howard University. *Won award for best presentation in Arts and Design, Howard University Research Week, April 2018.
- 2017-2018 Directed the Honors Thesis of Mary Morris, “Breaking the Cycle: An Investigation of Drama Therapy as an Intervention on the School to Prison Pipeline and At-Risk Youth.” Department of Theatre Arts, Howard University. Selected to present at Howard University Research Week, April 2018.

CONFERENCES AND INVITED TALKS

- 2020 “African Dance in the Diaspora,” invited speaker, Recife, Brazil. U.S. State Department, Washington, DC, March 23-29, 2020. (Postponed due to Coronavirus).
- 2019 HOST, talkback for the D.C. screening of the web series, *Black Enough*, Landmark’s E Street Cinema, Washington, DC, November 13.
- 2019 “Les Ballets Africains and the Restoration of Black Identity in Africa and the Diaspora,” presentation. Paper accepted in Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD) conference. November 5-9, 2019, Williamsburg, VA.
- 2018 “Performance, African Rock Art, and the History of the Earth,” paper accepted in the panel “Making People of African Origins Visible in the STEM Curriculum.” Association for Science Teacher Education (ASTE) International Conference. January 4-6, 2018, Baltimore, MD.
- 2018 “Dancing Off Blackface: Vaudeville and the Construction of Black Identity in the World War I Era.” Paper accepted in Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALAH) annual meeting and conference. October 3-7, 2018, Indianapolis, Indiana.
- 2018 “The Africana Theatre and Dance Collective” invited talk. Howard University Annual Research Week Conference 2018, Washington, DC.
- 2017 “History Restored: Reconnecting Dance to the Black Arts Movement Narrative,” presentation. Jr. Faculty Writing and Creative Works Academy, Howard University, Washington, DC.
- 2017 “Jondon/Wolosodon,” featured artist, Master Class. Lecture and workshop, Wazee African Dance and Culture, The Hampton Performing and Creative Arts Center, Hampton, VA.

- 2016 “Nangadef: August Wilson and Ritual,” discussion. The August Wilson Society, Armour J. Blackburn Center, Washington, DC.
- 2016 “2nd Annual Youth and Young Adult Hand Dance Symposium,” panel discussion, National Hand Dance Association, (NHDA) R.I.S.E. Demonstration Center, Washington, DC.
- 2015 “Authenticity in Research: Approaches and Methodologies for the Performing Arts Historian,” invited lecturer. The Annual Summer Intensives for Theatre Arts, Howard University, Washington, DC.
- 2014 “Africa, the Ring Shout, and Hand Dancing: Exposing the Ancient Foundations of DC Hand Dancing,” invited speaker in the panel, “Hand Dance Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow,” the Annual Conference of the National Hand Dance Association, Arena Stage, Washington, DC.
- 2014 "When They Stood Up: 19th-Century African American Cemetery Ritual," paper. Organization of American Historians (OAH), Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia.
- 2013 "Revelations of Africanisms: The History of Washington DC's Emancipation," paper. District of Columbia City Council Emancipation Conference, Washington, DC.
- 2013 “Research and the Arts,” invited lecturer for the course, Dance History I, Department of Theatre Arts, Howard University, Washington, DC.
- 2012 “Fortitude and the Embodiment of a Movement,” invited speaker. DC National Archives’ Commemoration of the 150th Anniversary of Emancipation in Washington, DC.
- 2012 “From Strength to Liberation,” lectured and presented my documentary as part of the city-wide Sesquicentennial Celebrations, Anacostia Library, Washington, DC.
- 2011 “African Dance and the Utility of Tradition,” invited speaker (and performance and choreography). The International Arts Festival, Chrysler Museum, Norfolk, VA.
- 2011 “Historic Vistas of African Dance,” invited speaker (and workshop). Norfolk State University Annual Dance Conference, Norfolk, VA.
- 2011 “History, Traditional African Dance, and the 21st Century,” invited speaker (and performance and choreography). Thomas Nelson Community College Annual Black History Month Conference, Hampton, VA.
- 2010 “Moving Forward: African American Dance,” invited speaker (and choreography). Norfolk State University Annual Dance Conference, Norfolk, VA.

- 2010 “Manjani: Conceptualizing the Rite of Passage in Mandinka Dance,” invited speaker. The Office of International and Intercultural Programs, Wesleyan College, Norfolk, VA.
- 2010 “A Separate Space: Historical Highlights of Gnawa Arts and Culture in Contemporary Morocco,” paper. Cross Cultural Solutions, Morocco, North Africa.
- 2009 “The State of Black Dance in America,” invited speaker and workshop. Office of Student Affairs Black History Program, Hampton University, Hampton, VA.
- 2008 “Diversifying Dance Venues,” invited speaker (and performance). National Folk Festival, National Council for the Traditional Arts, Richmond, VA.
- 2007 “Africa, America, the Arts and Inclusion,” invited speaker (and performance and choreography). America’s 400th Anniversary, Jamestown Settlement, Jamestown, VA.
- 2006 “Incorporating The Arts in the Homeschool Curriculum,” invited lecturer. Department of Education, Hampton University, Hampton, VA.
- 2005 “Kasa: Celebration through Traditional Jola Drumming,” invited speaker (and workshop). The Virginia Music Educator’s Association Annual Meeting, Norfolk, VA.

SERVICE: HOWARD UNIVERSITY

- 2021-Present MEMBER, Executive Committee, Chadwick A. Boseman College of Fine Arts
- 2021 MEMBER, Alumni, Honorary Degree, and Distinguished Faculty Committee, Chadwick A. Boseman College of Fine Arts
- 2020-2022 FINE ARTS REPRESENTATIVE (alternate). Howard University Faculty Senate
- 2020 ACTING CHAIR, Transition Team, College of Fine Arts (CoFA)
- 2019-2020 MEMBER, Executive Committee, College of Fine Arts (CoFA)
- 2019 MEMBER, Transition Team, College of Fine Arts
- 2019 MEMBER, Bylaws Committee, College of Fine Arts.
- 2019-2020 MEMBER, Executive Committee, Department of Theatre Arts
- 2019-2020 SUPERVISOR, Experiential Learning and On-Campus Placement, Howard University Student Employment Program (HUSEP), Office of Career Services.

- 2018-2019 MEMBER, CoFA Working Group, Committee for reinstating the College of Fine Arts.
- 2018 MEMBER, Department of Theatre Arts Sabbatical Committee.
- 2017-2021 MEMBER, Academic Policy, Standards, and General Education (APSAGE) Committee, College of Arts and Sciences.
- 2017-2020 CHAIR, Curriculum Committee, Department of Theatre Arts.
- 2017-2019 MEMBER, Honors Council, College of Arts and Sciences
- 2016-2019 MEMBER, Executive Committee, Department of Theater Arts.
- 2015-2020 CHAIR, Library Committee, Department of Theater Arts.
- 2019 JUDGE for poster and paper presentations, Howard University Annual Research Week.
- 2019 REVIEWER for submissions to Howard University Annual Research Week.
- 2018 MEMBER, Search Committee, Department of Theatre Arts Lighting Designer.
- 2018 JUDGE for poster and paper presentations, Howard University Annual Research Week.
- 2018 REVIEWER for submissions to Howard University Annual Research Week.
- 2017-2018 MEMBER, Honors Council, Division of Fine Arts.
- 2017-2018 CHAIR, Department Chair Search Committee, Department of Theatre Arts.
- 2014-2017 MEMBER, Curriculum Committee, Department of Theater Arts.

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

- 2021 REVIEWER, Tenure and Promotion, University of North Carolina-Charlotte, (Associate Professor).
- 2021 REVIEWER, *Arts and Humanities Research Support Program*, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI.
- 2020 REVIEWER, *Journal of the Musical Arts in Africa*. Peer-reviewed journal of the South African College of Music, University of Cape Town, South Africa.
- 2019 REVIEWER, *Arts*. Peer reviewed international journal, Basel, Switzerland.

- 2019 REVIEWER, *The Griot: The Journal of African American Studies*. Peer-reviewed academic journal.
- 2019 CONSULTANT, *BREathe Dance Project*, Fort Washington, Maryland.
- 2018 DANCE DRAMATURGE, “Trials to Freedom,” *Seals Dance Project*, Washington, DC.
- 2017-2019 CONSULTANT, *Wazee African Dance and Culture*, Hampton, VA.
- 2016-2017 HUMANITIES SPECIALIST, *National Hand Dance Association (NHDA)* Washington, DC.
- 2016 PANEL EVALUATER, Panel Discussion, 2nd Annual Youth and Young Adult Symposium, R.I.S.E. Demonstration Center, National Hand Dance Association (NHDA), Washington, DC.
- 2016 MEMBER, Planning Committee, African American Women and the Law Conference, African American Policy Forum: Center for Intersectionality and Social Policy Studies, National Education Association (NEA) Washington, DC.
- 2014 ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR, American Historical Association (AHA), Annual meeting, Washington, DC.
- 2009-2011 JUDGE, Dance Auditions, *CampRize*, Attucks Theater, Norfolk, VA.
- 2006-2008 JUDGE, Dance Presentations, Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological, and Scientific Olympics (ACT-SO), NAACP, Newport News, VA.
- 2007 TRAVEL COORDINATOR, ACT-SO (Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological, and Scientific Olympics) Gold metal finalists’ travel to final competition in Detroit, MI.
- 2004 SUWABI IN GAMBIA, organized an African dance conference for US dance artists to travel to The Gambia, West Africa, to study traditional African dance, history, and culture for three weeks, March-April, 2004.

CERTIFICATION, CONTINUED EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2020-2021 CERTIFICATION, Chairs Leadership Academy (CLA), Office of Faculty Development, Howard University, Washington, DC.
- 2020 CONFERENCE, “Specific Procedures for NAST Evaluation,” National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST), Reston, VA.

- 2020 CERTIFICATION, HU-Teach, workshops to convert face-to-face courses to 100% online format. Howard University, Washington, DC.
- 2020 CERTIFICATION, Blackboard Certified, Center for Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Assessment (CETLA), Howard University, Washington, DC.
- 2017 CERTIFICATION, Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC), Center for Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Assessment (CETLA), Howard University, Washington, DC.
- 2017 CERTIFICATE, Faculty Writing & Creative Works Summer Academy, Office of Faculty Development, Howard University, Washington, DC.
- 2015 CERTIFICATE, Preparing Future Faculty (PFF), Howard University, Washington, DC.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD)
 National Dance Education Organization (NDEO)
 West African Research Association (WARA)
 West African Research Center (WARC) Affiliated Scholar
 Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society
 American Historical Association (AHA)

FIELD WORK AND ARCHIVAL RESEARCH

Senegal, West Africa
 The Gambia, West Africa
 Morocco, Northwest Africa
 Nassau, Bahamas
 Freeport, Bahamas
 United States

LANGUAGES

French (Reading) | Wolof (Basic) | Spanish (Basic) | Arabic (Basic)

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

ORIGINAL FULL-LENGTH AFRICAN BALLETS (Abridged list)
 Choreographer, wrote the script, director, drumming arrangements, designed and made costumes

Wasalunke and the Three Virtues, 2008
Imhotep, 2006
Waters of Despair, Waters of Hope, 2004

The Voices of Shu, 2002
The Dismal Swamp, 2000
Africa: A Song of Me, 1998

MUSICALS (Abridged list)
Choreographer

Rainbow Park, 2007
Outliers II, 2006
Outliers, 2005
Once On This Island, 2004
The Wiz, 2000

COMMISSIONED TO CHOREOGRAPH SITE-SPECIFIC WORKS
(Abridged list, 2005-2011)

America's 400th Anniversary, Jamestown, VA (Commissioned by the US Government)
The Chrysler Museum
The Norfolk Botanical Garden
The Mariner's Museum
The SS Rotterdam (Holland/America cruise ship)
The Spirit of Norfolk (cruise ship)
Norfolk Zoological Museum
The Peninsula Fine Arts Center
Hampton University Museum

FESTIVAL PERFORMANCES & PRESENTATIONS
(Abridged list)

2010 Gnawa Arts, Rabat, Morocco, Northwest, Africa.
2004 Corichow Dance, Kololi, The Gambia, West Africa.
2006 Lyceum Series for Cultural Engagement, Elizabeth City, NC.
1997-2011 Newport News Folk Arts Festival, City Government, Newport News, VA.
1997-2006 African American Arts Festival (Afr-Am Festival), Norfolk, VA.
2005 National Arts Festival, Richmond, VA. (The festival toured the US)
2000-2005 Umoja Festival, Portsmouth Parks and Recreation, Portsmouth, VA.
1999 African American Festival of the Arts, Charles City, VA.

KWANZAA DANCE CONCERTS

1997-2011 Choreographed, Directed, and produced, 14 annual Kwanzaa concerts which opened on the second day of Kwanzaa, Kugichagulia (Self-determination), from 1997 to 2005, and on the first day of Kwanzaa, Umoja (Unity), from 2006 to 2011.

OTHER OVERSEAS PERFORMANCES & PRESENTATIONS

(Abridge list)

The Gambia

Morocco

Bermuda

Bahamas

Puerto Rico

St. Thomas

Senegal