



Dear UCI Dance Undergraduates and Graduates,

I hope this message finds you well! I'm excited to share key dates and updates as we begin the new academic year. I look forward to connecting with you all and am here if you have any questions or need support.

Walk & Talk

- **Friday, November 7, 2025 at 3:30 PM**
- Meet in front of the Contemporary Art Center — a great chance to connect and catch up.

Injury Prevention & Consultations

Appointments with **Dr. Ashley Wallace-Leon** began on *Thursday, Oct. 2, 10:00 AM–3:00 PM*.

- Book here: <https://calendly.com/danceptuci/30min>

Dance Office Hours

- **Monday–Friday: 9:00 AM–4:00 PM**

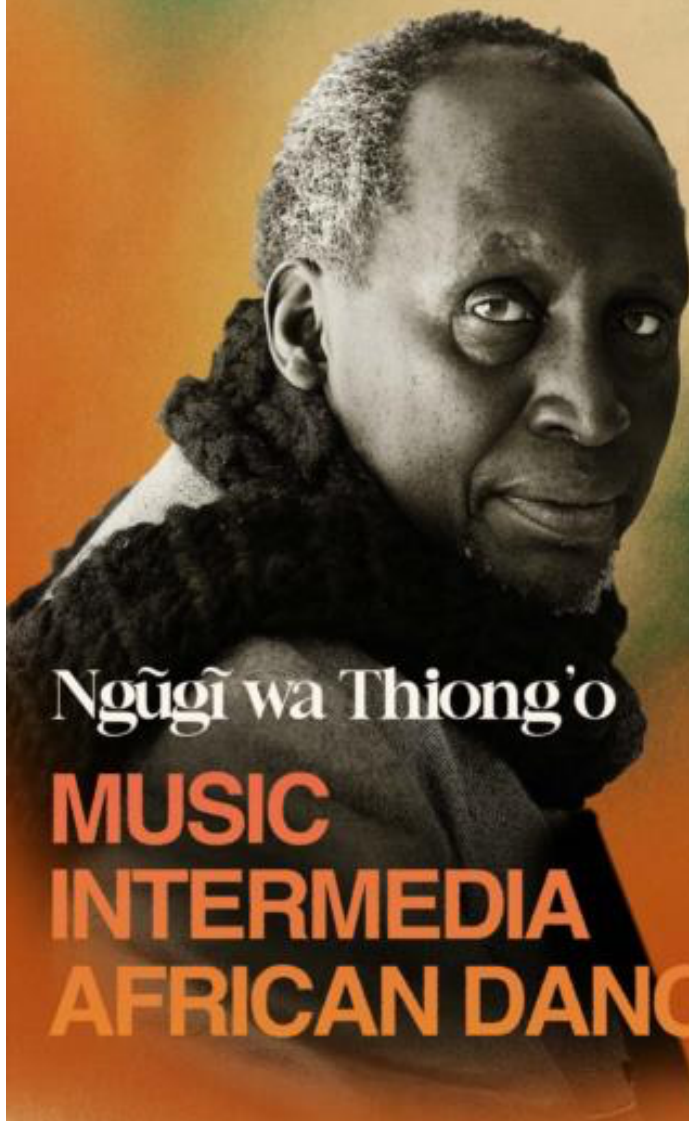
Important Upcoming Dates:

- Translating Ngũgĩ Harmabee Orality in Motion: November 14, 2025.

Translating Ngũgĩ

HARAMBEE: ORALITY IN MOTION

NOVEMBER 14 | 4:30 - 6:00 PM | PSTU 1100



Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o

**MUSIC
INTERMEDIA
AFRICAN DANCE**



S. Ama Wray



Sela Adjei



Rah Hite



Anindo Marshall



Kwame Rigi



Nani Agbell



Cyrian Reed



Nii Armah Sowah

Featuring
UCI Dance Students

UCI Claire Trevor
School of the Arts
Department of Music

UCI
Supporting
The Chancellor's Arts & Culture Initiative



UC Irvine
School of Humanities



UC Irvine
Alex Glasser Center
for the Power of MUSIC
& Social Change

UC Irvine
Office of Inclusive Excellence

- [New Slate Performance](#)- December 4-6, 2025. Please come and support your fellow dancers and colleagues.

Dance Department Scholarship Opportunity- Due on December 5, 2025, by 5 PM.

- UCI Dance Scholarship Opportunities: Scholarship Self-Nomination-[your last name], and e-mail it back to dance@uci.edu . We will not accept any late submissions. Please refer to linked form: https://zotmail.uci.edu/RTE_uploads/16/DanceScholarshipForm_2025.pdf
- Please note that funding for 4th-year students and 2nd-year MFA students will be awarded in Spring 2026. All other funding will be distributed in Fall of the 2026 academic year.

UROP Research Opportunities- Undergraduate Research Opportunities

- Please visit the UROP website for detailed information: <https://uop.uci.edu/uop-opportunities/>
- UROP has recently added new resources—please take some time to review the updated processes.
- If you plan to apply for UROP with a Dance Faculty Mentor, send your budget to your faculty mentor **and** Laura Swendson (swendson@uci.edu) **before** submitting your proposal on **November 3, 2025**. Budget pre-approval is required, so please allow at least **one week** in advance for review and approval.

Blue13 Dance Company Auditions – Paid 2-Year Contracts! Calling All Expressive Contemporary Dancers

- Blue13 Dance Company, led by acclaimed choreographer Achinta S. McDaniel, is seeking strong, versatile, and dynamic dancers for upcoming stage, film, touring, and local projects.
- What's on Offer: Paid 2-year contracts, competitive pay for rehearsals and performances, opportunities to tour and perform in high-profile events

- About Blue13: With over 20 years of groundbreaking work, Blue13 is a NEFA and NEA grant-winning company rooted in Access, Belonging, Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity (ABIDE). Recent highlights include Bollywood Express at Union Station, Soliloquy at Heritage Square, REDCAT NOW Festival, Performances in Las Vegas, the Bahamas, and the Hollywood Bowl with A.R. Rahman
- Upcoming Performance: Cleveland's Playhouse Square
- Audition Dates: Sunday, October 19, 1:00–3:00 PM, Sunday, October 26, 1:00–3:00 PM
Stomping Ground LA, 5453 Alhambra Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90032
- **Sign up here:** [Audition Form](#)

SCFTA Spring 2026 Paid Academic Internships Now Open

Applications are now open for **Paid Spring 2026 Academic Internships in arts administration** — a great opportunity to gain hands-on experience, explore career paths, and build professional connections.

Internship Areas:

American Ballet Theatre William J. Gillespie School ● Development (Operations) ● Education & Engagement ● Marketing & Communications (Administration, Creative, Data & Analytics, Graphic Design, Public Relations) ● Studio D: Arts School for All Abilities ● Theater Operations

Details:

- 120 hours over 12 weeks | **\$16.90/hr**
- Free/discounted tickets & professional development
- Must be **18+**, **authorized to work in the U.S.**, and **enrolled for college credit**
- **Fridays 2–3 PM:** Required development sessions

Apply by: Wednesday, December 10, 2025

Apply online: www.scfta.org/interns

Questions: interns@scfta.org

Guest Performers Needed – The Nutcracker

Company: Repertory Ballet San Clemente

Location: San Clemente, CA

Position Type: Paid, Guest Contract

Production Dates: December 5–6

Repertory Ballet San Clemente, a nonprofit repertory company established in San Clemente for the past eight years, is seeking one or more male guest performers for our upcoming production of *The Nutcracker*. Due to an unexpected cast change, we are urgently looking to hire experienced male dancers with strong partnering skills.

Qualifications:

- Proficient in classical ballet
- Strong partnering ability
- Professional stage experience preferred
- Reliable and available for rehearsals as scheduled prior to performance dates

Compensation:

These are well-paid guest positions. Contract details to be discussed upon inquiry.

How to Apply:

Interested dancers should contact Michael Houston, Artistic Director, at mhouston700@gmail.com

Male Guest Artist Needed – Cavalier Role in *The Nutcracker*

Company: Coastal Ballet

Location: Encinitas, CA

Position Type: Paid, Guest Contract

Production Dates: December 20–21 (Four performances)

Dress Rehearsal: December 19

Coastal Ballet, a professional ballet studio located in Encinitas and co-owned by Zuri Goldman and Catharine Grow, is seeking one or two male guest artists for the role of Cavalier in our upcoming production of The Nutcracker.

Role Requirements:

- Height: 5'11" or taller
- Strong partnering ability
- Professional or advanced pre-professional level
- Reliability and professionalism

Rehearsal Schedule:

One-hour rehearsals on Sundays

Additional rehearsals on select Saturdays approaching performance week

Compensation provided.

How to Apply:

Please contact Zuri Goldman at:

818-216-0023

zurigoldman@gmail.com

Policy Updates & Reminders

1. Do not block doors with gastroc wedges (calf blocks), trash cans, or bars — keep them in their proper homes.
2. Keep all studio doors closed; do not prop them open.
3. Use studios only with reservations (see handbook for details).
4. Avoid wearing lotion or body oils to protect flooring.

5. Keep bags at least 18 inches from fire extinguishers and exits; use designated storage to keep pathways clear.
6. **Classroom Conduct Reminder:**
If you are injured, please check in with your professor to develop an appropriate wellness and learning plan to stay current with class material. Additionally, if you are not dancing in one class due to injury, please refrain from participating in another until you are fully cleared. Take care of yourself, and if you need additional support, please reach out to the Dance Department Undergraduate Advisor to create a modified learning plan that supports your healing process.

Wellness

- Prioritize **care, repair, and recovery!**
- Stay hydrated and nourished.
- Plan ahead for a busy start to the year.
- Remember all dimensions of your wellness — your well-being comes first!

Advising

- **Undergraduates:** Contact Prof. Diefenderfer — dldiefen@uci.edu
- **Graduates:** Contact Prof. Hall — chall1@uci.edu (He will also reach out for goal-setting meetings.)

Helpful Resources

- [UCI Campus Status](#)
 - [Student Wellness Center](#)
 - [Counseling Center](#)
 - [UCI Basic Needs Center](#)
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I look forward to seeing you all soon. Let's make this an outstanding and memorable year! Please feel free to contact me if you have specific needs or concerns at ksharp@uci.edu. General questions can be directed to dance@uci.edu.

Warmly,

Dr. Sharp