

PITTSBURGH PLAYHOUSE

POINT PARK UNIVERSITY



DANCE NATION

April 28 – May 2, 2021



Steven Breese, Artistic Director
Drew Martorella, Managing Director
Kim Martin, General Manager/Producer
Antonio Colaruotolo, Associate Producer

DANCE NATION

By Clare Barron

Directed by Kelly Trumbull

Choreographed by Crystal Frazier

Video Directed by Antonio Colaruotolo

Assistant Director
Caitlin Mayernik

Dramaturg
Mary Felix

Scenic Design
Johnmichael Bohach

Costume Design
Brianna Herr

Lighting Design
Calvin Anderson

Associate Lighting Designer
Austin Eaton

Sound Design
Howard Patterson

Stage Manager
Carly Thompson

Production Manager
James Ogden II

April 28 – May 2, 2021

pittsburghplayhouse.com

Dance Nation is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.
www.concordtheatricals.com

Dance Nation received its UK premiere at the Almeida Theatre, London, September 2018. Playwrights Horizons, Inc., New York City, produced the World Premiere of *Dance Nation* in 2018 with support from an award by the National Endowment of the Arts, and a generous gift from Scott M. Delman. Special thanks to The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Trust for supporting new plays at Playwrights Horizons, and special thanks to the Time Warner Foundation for its leadership support of New Works Lab at Playwrights Horizons. *Dance Nation* was developed at the Perry-Mansfield New Works Festival, June 2015, with the Atlantic Theatre Company, and presented as part of the Contemporary American Voices Festival at Long Wharf Theatre, September 2016. *Dance Nation* was written, in part, in residence at SPACE on Ryder Farm, and received extensive workshop time and space as part of New Dramatists' Jerry A. Tishman Playwrights Creativity Fund.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

The opportunity to create *Dance Nation* at the Pittsburgh Playhouse has been the highlight of my pandemic. As theater artists and students, a large part of our world came to a screeching halt a little over a year ago. We found some place holders to fill the void (YES to virtual production!), but it is my belief that nothing can replace the experience of a group of like-minded creators sharing space, making something from nothing with only their imaginations. It is empowering, it is radical, and, after the year we've been through, it is balm for the soul.

In *Dance Nation*, playwright Clare Barron examines the formative adolescent years in the lives of a competitive dance team. In her text, she stresses how the experiences and relationships stay with the characters long after the group has disbanded. I truly believe that our experience working on *Dance Nation* will have the same effect on us. The sheer joy of making art together after a forced hiatus will stay with us long after the curtain has fallen. I hope that in witnessing our COVID-safe, in-person production, we have the same effect on you, too. I hope you see this as a light at the end of the tunnel and remember this collaborative moment as a sign that better days are soon to come.

This pandemic wasn't easy but spending time with the students and production team at Point Park University has made me incredibly excited for the future. The theater will rebound from this and come back stronger than ever before.

-Kelly Trumbull
Director, *DANCE NATION*

***Dance Nation* Dramaturg Note**

By: Mary Felix

Clare Barron's *Dance Nation* is a bold, innovative play, bringing audience members into the competitive, preteen dance world. Set in the Liverpool Dance Works studio, six girls and one boy practice for their upcoming competition with instruction from Dance Teacher Pat. Rivalry, betrayal, and jealousy arise when the team auditions for the role of Gandhi for their newest routine, a dance that will hopefully send them to nationals at Tampa Bay, Florida. When the spirit of Gandhi solo is given to the underdog Amina, prepubescent tension arises as the characters' worlds spin out of control!

Dance Nation explores coming of age, female sexuality, and ambition through the eyes of adults. Yes, although the cast is a group of preteens, Barron's character description calls for adults of various ages and backgrounds. The essence of the script encourages the performers' bodies to haunt the tween characters, as the tween characters are haunted by their future.

Barron focuses on the female experience, dating from pre-puberty to adulthood. Drawing memories from her own life, she covers everything. Periods. Relationships. Sex. Body image. Self-harm. Mental health. Sexual harassment. Friendships. Family dynamics. Drive...All through the female eye. The comedic crudeness and authenticity of Barron's writing are paired perfectly with dynamic monologues from the characters about their future endeavors. The peculiar dance routines called for in the script additionally support the characters' exploration and liberation of the female body.

This play is a demanding piece of theatre that requires audiences to explore, question, and reconstruct our current society's definition of female sexuality. The relationship each audience member has with *Dance Nation* is a clear reflection of one's attributes to the patriarch we are immersed in. The work is not meant to appear crude, repulsive, or inappropriate. Instead, the play requires a mature, progressive eye that is unafraid of the female experience.

Under the direction of Kelly Trumbull, the Pittsburgh Playhouse's production of *Dance Nation* embraces the boldness of Barron's work while adding new, exciting elements to the production. This performance has rehearsed, filmed, and aired during the COVID-19 pandemic. Casting occurred virtually, while rehearsals and tech occurred in person, following strict guidelines and protocols. As safety and the playwright's intent are top priorities of this production, Trumbull has set this performance during the pandemic as

well. The characters are just like us. They wear masks. They social distance. They feel the effects of a global pandemic.

The rehearsal process, tech, and filming of this production of *Dance Nation* were nearly as enticing as the performance you will shortly see. Utilizing the theatrical practice of etudes for each scene, Trumbull led the cast through improvisations, where conversations of the performers' childhood, present, and future arose. Implementing their discoveries and interpretations of the work, each cast member has their own story to tell. The team of *Dance Nation* tells their stories through active setting, lighting, sounds, and costumes that support the filmed, theatrical performance.

Collaboration, trust, and ambition were the key ingredients of this production. While the effects, restrictions, and limitations of the pandemic were challenging to handle, the cast, crew, and team of the Pittsburgh Playhouse's *Dance Nation* surely won the gold for this performance!

For more inside information about this production, please utilize my dramaturg hub: <https://sites.google.com/view/dramaturgydancenation/home?authuser=0>. The blogs from the hub are also on BroadwayWorld.com!

CAST

Ashlee	Emily Botnen
Luke	Ivan Bracy Jr.
Connie	Rae Dastoor
Sophia	Isabella Duran-Shedd
Vanessa/Dance Moms	Anna Hanson
Maeve	MaTia Martin
Amina	Sara Safari
Dance Teacher Pat	Bennett Speith
Zuzu	Nami Talbot

Songs

“Runnin’ Wild” by Glenn Miller, “AB Machines” by Sleigh Bells, “The Feeling Begins” by Peter Gabriel, “Demons” by Sleigh Bells, “Leg Bells” by David Byrne

Time: The Present

Trigger Warning: This production contains the use of strong language, strong sexual content, racism, sexism, verbal abuse, self-harm, suicide, depression, body shaming, graphic injuries, trauma

Special thanks to Kim Martin, April Daras, TJ Parker Young

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CAST

Emily Botnen (Ashlee) is thrilled to be returning to the Point Park stage after previously performing in *Ordinary Days* (Deb), the One Act Festivals (Leah in *Zionsville* and Axis in *A Collection of Things...*), and in student films (Illia in *Night Life* and Regina Sally in *Murder in the Rink*). She is a junior Musical Theatre major grateful now more than ever to be back in the room creating. She'd like to thank Kelly, Crystal, Caitlin, Carly, and the DN cast and crew for their vision and trust, as well as her family, boyfriend, and MT '22 for their light and love. "There had been many times I called my daughters back to zip up their coats. All the same, I knew they would rather be cold and free."

Ivan Bracy Jr. (Luke/Dance Captain) a Musical Theatre senior, is more than thrilled to dance his way out of his last year here at the Pittsburgh Playhouse. His experience at the Playhouse has been filled with nothing but joy in *Good Grief*, *Pippin*, *Bound in Before*, The PGH Gala, and *Robin Hood* among a few others. Having the opportunity to be in the theatre space in person has brought the life back into his artistic world. He plans to take his life to New York City to pursue a career in the arts professionally. Many thanks to all the creators and directors that have shaped my journey here at Point Park! Enjoy the show.

Rae Dastoor (Connie) (she/her) is a junior Acting major with a minor in psychology. She is so excited to be a part of this truly amazing show, as she has dreamed of it since the first time she read it. She would like to thank the amazing crew who made this show possible, Kelly, Caitlin, and Crystal for their vision, and her wonderful cast mates for being so honest in their work. She hopes all who watch this play are reminded of their 13-year old selves:)

Anna Hanson (Vanessa/Dance Moms) @a.hanson1 is thrilled to be part of this amazing production! She is a first-semester senior Theatre Arts major with a concentration in directing and a minor in technical theatre. Anna would like to thank her friends, family, and hermit crab, Taco, for always supporting her in all her artistic endeavors. In addition, she would like to thank Kelly, Crystal, Carly, and the rest of the team for providing such a safe and fun rehearsal space. Enjoy the show! :)

MaTia Martin (Maeve) is a sophomore Theatre Arts major from West Fargo, North Dakota. She is thrilled to be a part of *Dance Nation* this semester. Her past credits include *Climbing the Good Walls* as well as assistant stage managing *Pippin* and the One Acts Festival, all with the Pittsburgh Playhouse. In addition to being on stage, MaTia also enjoys writing and will be making her playwright debut in this year's One Acts Festival.

She would like to thank her family and friends both near and far for their endless support. Without them none of this would be possible.

Sara Safari (سارا صفري) (Amina) is delighted to be making her Pittsburgh Playhouse debut in *Dance Nation*. Sara is a sophomore Musical Theater major at Point Park University. Past credits include *David Copperfield* (Em'ly), *Spring Awakening* (Wendla), and *The Odd Couple* (Florence). She is absolutely honored to be a part of this fearless team of artists and creatives, while sharing Clare Barron's powerful story. Sara would like to thank her inspiring teachers and loving family and friends. @safari-poetry

Isabella Duran Shedd (Sophia) is a sophomore Acting major and is thrilled to be a part of this process for *Dance Nation*. Her credits include *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* (Countess), *The Melancholy Play* (Francis), *The Serpent* (Ensemble/Eve), and *Graceland* (Rootie). She would like to thank her family for always supporting her dream and encouraging her in every aspect. She would also like to thank the cast for their endless talent and inspiration. Let's go Liverpool Dance!

Bennett Speith (Dance Teacher Pat) is a junior Musical Theatre major with a double minor in music and dance. He is returning for his second mainstage show with *Dance Nation*, and he could not be happier to be with such a talented and welcoming cast and crew. Some favorite roles include Jason (*Ordinary Days*), and Randall (*Bring It On: The Musical*). Bennett would like to thank Kelly for the opportunity, his family and friends for their support, and God for their presence.

Nami Talbot (Zuzu) is a senior B.F.A acting major from Pensacola, Florida/ Atlanta, Georgia depending on which day you ask her. She is excited to breath Zuzu alive in this exhilarating, commanding, and honest production. She is thrilled to collaborate and create with such a brilliant and talented cast under the direction of the amazing Kelly Trumbull. Nami was last seen in *Through Broken Doors*, a digital exhibition through the Pittsburgh Playhouse, *Young Love/Old Love* as Old Woman in the Raymond Laine One-Acts Festival, Clare at the Pittsburgh Playwrights Theatre Company (2019) and as Victoria in Pinnacle Production's *Motherfu**er with the Hat* (2019). Much love and thanks to the "Liverpool Dance Company," our phenomenal director Kelly, Active Analysis, and their partner Keandre. You can find more at www.namitalbot.com

PRODUCTION

STEVEN BREESE (Artistic Director and Dean, Conservatory of Performing Arts) has enjoyed a national and international acting-directing-playwriting career that has spanned more than 35 years. He holds his M.F.A. from California Institute of the Arts and has acted and/or directed at some of the nation's finest theaters including the Tony Award-winning South Coast Repertory Theatre, Dallas Theater Center, the Cleveland Playhouse, American Heartland Theatre, Forum Theatre (Chicago), The Royal George Theatre (Chicago), Watertown Theatre (Dallas), Shakespeare Festival of Dallas, Ft. Worth Shakespeare in the Park, Virginia Stage Company, Virginia Shakespeare Festival, and other regional theaters/touring companies. As a playwright, Steven has completed over 25 plays including, *The Trial of Hamlet* (classical courtroom drama), *Brotherly Love* (contemporary love story), and *Actus Fidei* (historical fiction). In 2013, he published a new book on acting theory and practice entitled, ["On Acting, A Handbook for Today's Unique American Actor"](#). Prior to joining us at Point Park, Steven served as an academic dean at three separate institutions, including: Long Island University (Arts, Communications & Design), Southern Connecticut State University (Arts & Sciences), and Christopher Newport University (Arts & Humanities). His career in the educational and artistic arenas has been defined by innovation, creative vision, and an entrepreneurial approach to institutional improvement.

DREW MARTORELLA (Assistant Vice President, Managing Director) was formerly the Executive Director of UCCS Presents at the University of Colorado Colorado Springs (UCCS). There he was responsible for building support for arts and fostering community engagement through the operation of the Ent Center for the Arts and its programs including the Artists Series; Theatreworks, the region's premiere professional theater; the Galleries of Contemporary Art, and the University Center and Event Services. He was a 2013 recipient of CU's prestigious Thomas Jefferson Award and was the 2019 recipient of Drew University's Alumni Arts Award. Prior to becoming an administrator, Martorella was a professional production manager and stage manager working for regional theatres across America including the New Jersey Shakespeare Festival, New Mexico Repertory Theatre and the Mark Taper Forum. He received his M.P.A. in Non-Profit Management from the University of Colorado Colorado Springs and a B.A. in Theatre from Drew University in Madison, N.J.

KIM MARTIN (General Manager/Producer) graduated from Point Park University in 1987 where she received a B.A. in Fine, Applied and Performing Arts and graduated again in 2016 with an M.B.A. in Sports, Arts & Entertainment Management. She remained involved with the University since her undergrad and returned in 1999 as Production Stage Manager for The REP, where she also created and developed the Stage Management Program. In 2013,

she was promoted to Director of Production at the Pittsburgh Playhouse and in 2016 became Producing Director. In addition, Kim has directed, acted in, produced and stage-managed over 400 productions. Some favorites over the years include: *Playboy of the Western World*, *The Devil Inside*, *Becky's New Car*, *The Lonesome West*, *Mojo*, *Killer Joe*, *The Birthday Party*, *Glengarry Glen Ross*, *Guys & Dolls*, *Drinking in America*, *Deathtrap*, *The Dumb Waiter*, *Annie*, *La Ronde*, and *Three Sisters*.

ANTONIO COLARUOTOLO (Associate Producer/Video Director) is originally from Italy and studied lighting design and video production at the New University of Cinema and Television in the Cinecittà film studios in Rome. Antonio has designed and worked for various video productions for the Italian National Public TV (RAI), specifically in the documentary and news department. He never missed an opportunity to work in the special effects department and created video effect for short films. Thanks to lighting knowledge, he worked as lighting director and video editor for video commercials and music videos. For the Pittsburgh Playhouse he has designed the video projections for: *Pippin*, *Bound in Before*, *Much Ado About Nothing* and *The History Boys*. Antonio's video design productions include: *Florenzia en el Amazonas* (Opera Steamboat Spring Colorado) *Don Giovanni* (Undercroft Opera), *Oceano Mare*, *Mentre Piango Rido* and *Il Paese Dei Giganti* (Teatro K.O. - Italy). As lighting designer Antonio had the pleasure to design for the CSA Performance Series by the New Hazlett Theater, Pittsburgh Playhouse, Quantum Theater, PICT, Bricolage Production Company, Carnegie Stage, Youngstown State University, Slippery Rock University, Carnegie Mellon University and Steamboat Opera. For more information visit lightingbyantonio.com.

KELLY TRUMBULL (Director) is a Pittsburgh, PA based theater artist. Currently, she serves on the faculties of the University of Pittsburgh's Theatre Arts Department and Carnegie Mellon University's School of Music. Local professional credits include work with Pittsburgh Public Theater, Real/Time Interventions, Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera, City Theatre Company, Quantum Theatre, Bricolage, No Name Players, 12 Peers Theater, and more. Previously, she directed *Fancy Nancy* and *The Adventures of Nate the Great* at the Pittsburgh Playhouse as part of the Playhouse Jr. Series. She holds a BFA in Acting from Syracuse University and a master's degree in Educational Theatre in Colleges and Communities from New York University. Proud member of AEA and SAG/AFTRA. Upcoming: Directing *Men on Boats* by Jaclyn Backhaus with 12 Peers Theater. Love to Brad, Sadie, and her parents. www.kellytrumbull.com

CRYSTAL FRAZIER (Choreographer) is a native of New Jersey and holds an Associate Degree in Dance from The University of the Arts and a Master of Fine Arts degree in Choreography from Jacksonville University. Crystal is a former senior member with the world-renowned, Rennie Harris Puremovement. She has performed and taught

nationally and internationally, including the Middle East and Central Asia as a U.S. Cultural Ambassador with RHPM. She is also the former Co-Founder of “Montazh,” an all-female Hip Hop dance company based in Philadelphia. Crystal’s industry performance credits are VH-1 Fashion Awards, BET Comicview, BET Awards, Italy Tour with Kathy Sledge and many more. She was the featured dancer and choreographer for Grammy Award-winning artist, Jill Scott’s “Big Beautiful Tour”. On film, she made an appearance in the movie *Beloved* and TV show *Monk*. She was a part of Dance International Workshop Program teaching fundamentals of Hip Hop dance in Nagoya, Osaka, Fukuoka and Tokyo. Crystal’s choreography has been featured nationally and internationally for Rennie Harris RHAW, Cruzan Dance, St. Croix, University of the Arts in Taiwan, Encore Danses En Tourneau in Canada, Hip Hop Extravaganza in Bermuda, Philadelphia 76ers Dance Team, Borealis Dance and many more.

CAITLIN MAYERNIK (Assistant Director), originally from Detroit, MI, is finishing her Point Park degree with *Dance Nation*. Point Park credits: *Through Broken Doors* (Assistant Director), Bridges Theatre Co (Artistic Director), *How I Learned to Drive* with Pinnacle Productions (Director), *Gloria* with Pinnacle Productions (Actor), 15+ Point Park University films, and the Pittsburgh Playhouse Accessibility and Inclusion Committee. Other credits: Caitlin traveled to Greece in 2019 performing as Antigone in *From Antigone to Medea*, received awards in dramaturgy and acting at the 2021 Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, trained with Theatrical Intimacy Education, and currently is producing global arts events as project coordinator at Globally Curated. Thank you to Carly + team, the beautiful cast, and Kelly for this wonderful experience back in the theatre. Thank you to mentors, family, and friends for support throughout the years at Point Park. *Dance Nation* has been a dream, keep supporting intersectional stories! @caitlimay

MARY FELIX (Dramaturg) is a BFA Theatre Arts sophomore pursuing a Creative Writer minor. Mary has worked with the Pittsburgh Playhouse, Bridges Theatre Company, Point Park Cinema, and Pinnacle Productions with various roles from writer to assistant director to actress. Mary also currently writes as a student blogger for BroadwayWorld.Com. Tune into this spring's Raymond Laine One Acts Festival to see Mary's *Flying to the Brink*. Mary is thrilled to work as the dramaturg for the Pittsburgh Playhouse's production of *Dance Nation*!

JOHNMICHAEL BOHACH (Scenic Designer) is honored to be returning to design with the Pittsburgh Playhouse after previously designing the sets for *Pippin*, *Sunday in the Park with George*, *Cabaret*, *42nd Street*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *Sweet Charity*, *The Sea* and *Stone Soup*. A graduate of the University of Pittsburgh with BAs in Theatre Arts and Architectural Studies, he has designed over 150 productions in and around the Pittsburgh area. Locally, he has worked with companies such as Kinetic Theatre, Front Porch Theatricals, Prime

Stage Theatre, Pittsburgh Musical Theatre, and PICT Classic Theatre. In recent years, he has also designed for the theatre at Marietta College in Marietta, Ohio; Tibbits Opera Theatre of Coldwater Michigan; Opera Steamboat of Steamboat Springs, Colorado; and the Cockroach Theatre of Las Vegas. Recent design credits include: *Local Singles* (New Hazlett Theatre CSA); The World Premiere of *The Last Word* by Quentin Crisp; *The Playboy of the Western World* (Marietta College); *Bright Star*, *Grey Gardens*, *Violet* (Front Porch Theatricals); *Swing!*, *Frozen Jr*, *Singin' in the Rain*, the World Premiere ballet *Snow White* (Lincoln Park Performing Arts Center); *Scapino*, *The Speckled Band*, *An Octoroon*, *The Father*, *Holmes and Watson* (Kinetic Theatre); *Of Mice and Men*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *All Quiet on the Western Front*, *Perks of Being a Wallflower* (Prime Stage Theatre); *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*, *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Tibbits Opera Theatre); *Rusalka*, *Frida*, *Hansel and Gretel*, *The Enchanted Pig*, *Alcina*, *Florencia en el Amazonas*, *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, *Dido and Aeneas* (Opera Steamboat, Steamboat Springs, Colorado). *Love Love Love* (Cockroach Theatre, Las Vegas). A portfolio of his work can be seen at www.johnmichaelbohach.com

NOAH GLAISTER (Assistant Scenic Designer) is a sophomore Theatre Production design major, concentrating in scenic design. He is thrilled to be working on such an amazing show. His most recent credits include Assistant Scenic Designer for *It's A Wonderful Life*, and Assistant to the Scenic Designer for *Pippin*. He would like to thank everyone who has worked on this production and give an extra thank you to Johnmichael Bohach for being an amazing mentor during this wonderful process. Enjoy the show!

BRIANNA HERR (Costume Designer) is a senior at Point Park University who hates writing bios. Her credits include a little bit of this and a little bit of that in theatre and she has done some things in film. She has no plans for after graduation, so please don't ask her. She hopes you enjoy this performance as much as she has enjoyed working on it.

CALVIN ANDERSON (Lighting Designer) (he/him/they/them) is a lighting and projection designer as well as production manager. They have a strong pull towards the devised, the radical and the risky, while leaning towards projects with heart and trust. Favorite projects range from dance and theater to live music, opera, cabaret and drag. Career highlights include designing *The Method Gun* (Wesleyan University), *Late Night Snacks 2019* (Bearded Ladies Cabaret/ Philadelphia), *Oscar at the Crown* (The Neon Coven/ NYC), *Orchid Receipt Service* (Mirror/Fire Productions/ NYC), *Old Man and the Sea* (Pittsburgh Playhouse, PA), and *Flipzoids* (Generator Theater/ Alaska). Calvin was the Lighting Director for *Ailey II*, and Production Manager for *Do You Want a Cookie?* (Bearded Ladies Cabaret/ Philadelphia). He is the resident lighting & projection designer and production manager for FJK Dance in New York and has had the privilege to tour the

world over with various projects. Calvin is also an educator, mentor and proud member of Wingspace Theatrical Design and United Scenic Artists Local 829. #blacklivesmatter.

HOWARD PATTERSON (Sound Designer) is a Pittsburgh freelance artist. A Point Park alumnus with a bachelor's degree in Theater Sound Design, he has worked on many projects in and around Pittsburgh. Some of his recent projects include *Good Grief* and *You on the Moors Now* at the Pittsburgh Playhouse; and *Homegrown* and *Claws Out* at City Theatre. He also was Associate Sound Supervisor at Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival for two years.

CARLY THOMPSON (Stage Manager) is a junior stage management major. She is honored to be working with such a wonderful cast and production team in the making of *Dance Nation*. Thanks to Kelly, Crystal, Alicia, and her team. "Empowered women empower women." Pittsburgh Playhouse credits: *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, *Reclaiming*, One Acts Festival. Pinnacle Productions: *Gloria*. Founder/Program Director of Broadway, Here I Come Workshop at Thiel College.

OLIVIA KEIBLER (Assistant Stage Manager) is a sophomore stage management major. She is beyond excited to work on this show with talented actors! Olivia is also thankful to be part of a wonderful stage management team. She is grateful to have Carly as her Stage Manager!

ABI CEDEÑO (Assistant Stage Manager) is a freshman Stage Management major at Point Park University. She has spent several years doing theatre work within her community in Hershey, PA. Abi has previously worked on the Pittsburgh PlayLab reading series as an ASM. They are excited to be a part of their first in person production in over a year!

TEAGAN deGROEN (Production Assistant) is so excited to be a part of the *Dance Nation* team! Coming from Rhode Island, she is thrilled to work on another great production with Point Park University and the Conservatory of Performing Arts. She has worked with New Bedford Festival Theatre in Massachusetts for two years and done work within her high school and community for the past four years. She would like to thank everyone who has helped her so far in her journey and can't wait to see what comes next!

MAUREEN PENKO (Production Assistant) is a sophomore Stage Management major. She is thrilled to be working with the amazing cast and production team for *Dance Nation*. She worked as an ASM for the Pittsburgh Playhouse's production of *Ordinary Days* and also with her high school theatre. She would like to thank Kelly, Carly, Alicia, and the SM team for their support on this show, with special thanks to Kate Williams-Bernardo and the rest of the Beaumont community. Love to her parents, sisters, and Sonnet.

JAMES OGDEN II (Production Manager) received his B.F.A. in Theatre Arts from Point Park University in 2012. James joined Actors' Equity Association in 2011 and has remained a proud member since. James spent several years working with Charlotte Ballet, taking on positions from Stage Manager to Director of Artistic Operations. He traveled to China, Russia, Italy, and Turkey as the Production Supervisor for Martha Graham Dance Company. Most recently, James held the role of Production Director for Alonzo King LINES Ballet, traveling frequently to France, Germany, and Spain. Throughout his career, James also freelanced with the Kelly-Strayhorn Theater, Pittsburgh Playwrights, Elisa Monte Dance, and Complexions Contemporary Ballet. He is excited to be back in Pittsburgh and working with the company that cultivated his career.

VIDEO PRODUCTION TEAM

Theatrical AV & IT Manager	William "Buzz" Miller
Camera Operators	Katerina O. Damm
	Patrick F. Mizzoni
	Alexa N. Wildenberg
	Noah Glaister
	William "Buzz" Miller
Video Switcher Operators	Michael F. Palumbo
	Samuel L. Kronhaus
Video Editing	Antonio Colaruotolo

ADDITIONAL PRODUCTION STAFF

Assistant Choreographer	Tamia Bradford
Assistant to the Scenic Designer	Noah Glaister
Assistant to the Costume Designer	Jada Reid
Associate Lighting Designer	Austin Eaton
Assistant to the Lighting Designer	Theodore Lau
Assistant Stage Managers	Abi Cedeno
	Olivia Keibler
Production Assistants	Teagan deGroen
	Maureen Penko
Project Carpenter	Kyle O'Connor
Carpenter	Benjamin Gigliotti
Scenic Painter	Laura Valenti
Props Master	Katie Mikula-Wineman

Assistant Props Manager
Wardrobe Supervisor
A1
Deck Chief
COVID Compliance Officer
Assistant Safety Supervisor
Costume Shop Supervisor
Technical Director
Master Electrician

Emily Landis
Christen Schoenle
Emma Hodges
Matthew Gibala
Michael Petyak
AJ Robbins
Michael Montgomery
James Dworek
Jeff Sherman



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Cynthia Rauton

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the power of a great
performance.

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