

# TSIAMBWOM M. AKUCHU

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## CURRICULUM VITAE

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## EDUCATION

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- MFA** University of Montana, Acting May 2018  
Thesis: "I, Everyman"  
Committee: Pamyla Stiehl (chair), Nicole Bradley Browning, Bernadette Sweeney
- BA** Georgia Southern University, Theatre May 2015  
Minored in Film Studies

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT – ACTING, MOVEMENT & DANCE

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**Dance Exchange**, Winter Intensive  
Dance Exchange, Washington D.C. 2019

**Viewpoints**, Masterclass  
SITI Company, New York, NY. 2018

**Hip-Hop Movement Training**, Winter Intensive  
H+ Hip-Hop Dance Conservatory, New York, NY. 2018

**Commedia and Physical Theatre**, Summer Intensive  
Dell'Arte International School of Physical Theatre, Blue Lake, CA. 2017

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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**Thesis**, University of Montana Missoula 2017-2018

Advisor: Pamyla Stiehl

- I, Everyman - Individuality, Identity, and Technology, Thesis paper

**Every^Man (Alright)** 2017

Advisor: Tobin Miller Shearer

- ASUM Research and Creative Scholarship Grant
- Reflections of the Past: Hip-Hop and Black history, Research paper
- H+ Hip-Hop Conservatory Winter Intensive

**What's The Scenario: Hip-Hop Movement as Actor Technique and Training** 2017

Advisor: Bernadette Sweeney

- Dell'Arte International School of Physical Theatre Summer Intensive
- Hip-Hop Movement for the Actor Workshops

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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**CSULB**

Aug. 2021 to Present

**Assistant Professor of Dance**, Department of Dance

- Teach undergraduate and/or graduate courses in hip hop and other areas of praxis/theory/production according to expertise.
- Choreograph for department concerts. Direct department concerts and/or events.
- Participate in student recruitment and mentor graduate candidates and undergraduate dance majors or minors, including engaging in thesis supervision and providing guidance to students interested in further study or career opportunities in hip hop performance/choreography and/or pedagogy.
- Participate in service to the department, college, university, and community.

### **Street and Club Styles: DANC 499**

Advanced skills and techniques in the styles of Hip Hop Dance.

This class explored offers students the opportunity to participate in Street Dance events outside of a university/studio setting, testing their skills and engaging in the pathways of professionalization in Street Dance.

**Street and Club Styles: DANC 209/309**

Intermediate/advanced skills and techniques in the styles of Hip Hop Dance.

This class will explore floorwork techniques in street dance and advanced footwork from House dance and Bboy. We will explore the fundamentals of floorwork studying vocabulary from House and Bboy while exploring concepts for movement on the ground. We will also develop technical skills by studying footwork from House and Bboy and exploring complex rhythmic patterns through choreography. Emphasis will be placed on the individual's development within their study of hip-hop.

**Hip-Hop I: DANC 109**

**3 Semesters**

This class exposes students to beginning hip-hop dance techniques and styles. We explore the fundamentals of technical execution, movement styles, and cultural context. Emphasis is placed on the individual's development within their study of hip-hop. This requires assessment of students' skills, knowledge, and understanding. We create a foundational understanding of hip-hop movement and culture by identifying street dance styles, developing performance skills, and working towards a basic level of competency.

**Dance History: DANC 205**

**3 Semester**

Introduction to the field of dance history, emphasis on cultural and choreographic analysis of dance through writing, critical reading, archival research, and writing.

**Dance Activity (Improvisation): DANC 119**

**1 Semester**

This course explores improvisation focusing on elements of composition and freestyling from a street dance perspective.

**Dance Composition DANC 220**

**3 Semester**

Theory and practice in the basic elements of dance composition.

Colby College, Waterville

Aug. 2018 to May 2019

**Visiting Assistant Professor**, Department of Theater and Dance

- Instructor of record for undergraduate acting and dance course.
- Develop and facilitate majors/minor's performance project
- Perform in the annual Fall Performance Projects show

**Dance Forms of the African Diaspora; Hip-Hop, TD**

**2 Semesters**

In this studio-based course, students will learn movement techniques rooted in Afro-diasporic aesthetic and physical qualities including groundedness, curvilinearity, polyrhythm, syncopation, and polycentrism. Class is movement-centered, but also emphasizes understanding the historical and cultural contexts, introduces a cross-section of many

movement styles under the umbrella term Hip-hop; fundamental pillars of Hip-hop; and both "mainstream" and countercultural level aspects of Hip-hop dance and culture.

**Acting I: TD171**

**1 Semester**

This studio-based course explores the use of the body, voice, emotion, and intellect to create a theatrical character. Through close study of Stanislavski's system, students prepare monologues and scenes to articulate possible interpretations of a play script or performance clearly and effectively. In-class performances further awareness of individual and ensemble physicality in order to communicate emotion, thought, aesthetic intention, and mind-body awareness. Emphasis on analysis and concentration.

University of Montana, Missoula

Aug 2015 to May 2018

**Graduate Teaching Assistant, School of Theatre of Dance**

- Instructor of record for undergraduate courses.
- Developed and designed dance courses
- Revised syllabi to meet yearly standards

**Introduction to Theatre: THTR 101**

**1 Semester**

A lecture-style interactive introduction to the theatrical arts, fulfilling the Literary and Artistic general education requirement

**Introduction to Acting: THTR 120**

**4 Semesters**

Introductory acting course for non-majors designed to help broaden communication, presentation, and social skills. The class focuses on the craft of acting through a broad array of styles and techniques. Students develop a more articulate, responsive, and expressive identity. Students gain an extended understanding of self and of other people and a stronger sense of public presentation skills leading to better social and professional interactions.

**Introduction to Hip-Hop: DANC 108A**

**3 Semesters**

An introductory survey course designed to expose students to urban movement and art forms. The class encourages students to develop musicality, improvisational, and performance skills, as well as define their own understanding of the historical and social contexts of some street and urban dance styles.

**Intermediate Hip-Hop: DANC 291**

**1 Semester**

An advanced dance course designed to build on students' current knowledge of the movement styles and advance their technical skill through hip-hop choreography. It develops the student's musicality, improvisational skills, and performative abilities and encourages students to begin choreographing through the hip-hop dance medium as well as define their own understanding of the historical and social contexts of some street and urban dance styles.

## PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCES

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**American College Dance Association, Northwest Regional Conference**, Faculty Concert FORWARD, Always 2022

**Southeastern Theatre Conference**, Embodying History: Hip-Hop Dance as Resistance and Protest, 2021

**ACDA New England Conference**, Hip-Hop workshop, 2019

**Every^Man (Alright)**, Performance Presentation, University of Montana Black Solidarity Summit, 2018

**Reflections of the Past: Hip-Hop and Black history**, Paper Presentation, American College Dance Association Northwest Regional Conference Scholarly Panel, 2018

**Reflections of the Past: Hip-Hop and Black history**, Paper Presentation, University of Montana Graduate Research Conference, 2018

**What's-The-Scenario: Hip-Hop Movement as Actor Technique and Training**, Paper Presentation, University of Montana Graduate Research Conference, 2017.

**Don't Sweat The Technique: An Approach To Acting Through Hip-Hop**, Performance Presentation, UM Theatre & Dance Grad Seminar, 2016

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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<b>New Century Dance Project Merit Honoree</b> Choreography selected for quality of work	2024
<b>DANCENOW Festival Encore</b> Choreography selected for the festival's encore performance	2018/2019
<b>TEDx Providence</b> Chosen speaker/Performer for TEDx Providence	2018
<b>American College Dance Association National Conference</b> Choreography selected to perform at ACDA National Conference at Kennedy Center	2018
<b>American College Dance Association Northwest Regional Conference</b> Choreography selected to perform at ACDA Northwest Regional Conference	2018
<b>ASUM Research and Creative Scholarship Grant</b>	2017
<b>University of Montana Best of Graduate Research Conference Award</b> Award for best project in the Performing Arts category	2017

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AND WORKSHOPS**

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**ACDA, Baja Conference, Street Dance Workshop 2024**

- Taught 2 workshops in street dance; Bboy

**ACDA, Baja Conference, Street Dance Workshop 2023**

- Taught 2 workshops in street dance; Bboy.
- Taught 2 workshops in improvisation/freestyle.

**Santa Monica College Artist Residency, 2022**

- Taught 2 intermediate/advanced level hip hop classes at 2 hours each.
- Taught 2 choreography classes at 2 hours each.
- Re-staged group choreography for Synapse Contemporary Dance Theater.

**Marshall Fundamentals Secondary School, Guest Teaching, 2022**

- Taught street dance classes for middle and high school students

**ACDA, Northwest Conference, Street Dance Workshop 2022**

- Taught a workshop on floorwork in street dance

**DN Next Generation Teaching Artist Workshop, Western Oregon University, 2021**

- Taught a workshop on hip-hop dance fundamentals

**Empower MT Diversity Day, Keynote Speaker/Performance Presentation 2021**

- Presented a virtual performance
- Gave an artist talk

**Spelman College Geffen Visiting Artist, Hip-Hop Masterclass 2020**

- Taught a workshop on breaking and house technique

**ACDA New England Conference, Hip-Hop workshop, 2019**

- Taught a workshop on street dance technique

**Western Wyoming Community College, Artist Residency. 2019**

- Commissioned to create original choreography
- Guest taught regularly scheduled classes for residency duration

**Portland Youth Dance, Hip-Hop Masterclass, 2019**

- Freestyle and improvisation class

**CS Porter Middle School, Hip-Hop Dance Workshop, 2018**

- Taught hip-hop party dances and breaking technique

**UM Dance Days, Hip-Hop Dance Master Classes, 2017 – 2018**

- Taught commercial choreography to prospective students

**Free Cycles Community Outreach, Hip-Hop Performance Presentation, 2017**

- Interactive performance presentation

**Montana Thespian Festival, Hip-Hop Theatre Workshop, 2016 – 2018**

- Taught workshops on using elements of hip-hop for theatrical storytelling

**Hip-Hop Movement for the Actor Workshop, University of Montana School of Theatre & Dance Upper Division Classes THTR 425 Acting VII / THTR 528 Studio Training III, 2016**

**DANCE**

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<b>New Shoes Festival</b> – Highways Performance Space, LA Choreographer/Performer – ‘Alpha.Sigma.Alpha’	2024
<b>SoloDuo Dance Festival</b> - Dixon Place, NYC Choreographer/Performer – ‘Every^Man’	2024
<b>Spector Dance Festival</b> – Forest Theater, Carmel-by-the-Sea Choreographer/Performer – ‘FORWARD,Always’	2023
<b>DANCE NOW Festival</b> – Joes Pub, NYC Choreographer/Performer – ‘Earthbound’	2023
<b>SEED works in progress</b> – PiYoDa Flow, Los Angeles Choreographer/Performer – Paradigm Shift	2023
<b>UpSurge Dance Festival</b> – virtual Choreographer/Performer – ‘FORWARD, Always’	2023
<b>Rooted Rhythmic Futures</b> – Highways Performance Space, Los Angeles Choreographer Performer – ‘FORWARD, Always’	2023
<b>Synapse Dance Concert</b> – Th Broad Stage, Santa Monica Choreographer – ‘schism’	2022
<b>Arts On Site Studio Series</b> – Arts on Site NYC Choreographer/Performer – ‘Orpheus’	2022
<b>ACDA Faculty Concert</b> – Dougherty Dance Theater Choreographer/Performer – ‘FORWARD, Always’	2022
<b>E.T (Every^Man’s TIRED)</b> – Virtual Choreographer/Performer – ‘Every^man(Alright)’	2020

<b>At The River I Stand</b> – Theatre Hartford Choreographer	2020
<b>Big Sky Summer Theatre Festival</b> – Warren Miller PAC Choreographer/Performer – ‘Uber Everywhere’	2020
<b>NACHMO Atl Showcase</b> – Atlanta, GA Choreographer/Performer – ‘ <i>K3mwet3 (Revelations)</i> ’	2020
<b>DANCENOW APAP Showing</b> – New York, NY Choreographer/Performer – ‘ <i>K3mwet3 (Revelations)</i> ’	2020
<b>DANCENOW Festival Encore</b> - New York, NY Choreographer/Performer – ‘ <i>K3mwet3 (Revelations)</i> ’	2019
<b>Colby Liberal Arts Symposium</b> – Colby College Choreographer/Performer – ‘ <i>Ave Maria</i> ’	2019
<b>Colby Fringe Festival</b> – Colby College Choreographer/Performer – ‘ <i>The Discovery of Skin</i> ’ Choreographer – ‘ <i>Merm’Ried Halls</i> ’	2019
<b>The End of Men</b> (choreographer, Vanessa Anspaugh) – Portland, ME Performer	2019
<b>TEDx Providence: The Time Is Now</b> - Providence, RI Choreographer/Performer – ‘ <i>Every^Man (Alright)</i> ’	2018
<b>DANCENOW Festival Encore</b> - New York, NY Choreographer/Performer – ‘ <i>Every^Man (Alright)</i> ’	2018
<b>ACDA National Festival</b> - Washington DC Choreographer/Performer – ‘ <i>Every^Man (Alright)</i> ’	2018

## ACTING

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Orpheus	Orpheus	Arts on Site Studio Performances
Uber Everywhere	Dancer (Lorenzo)	Big Sky Summer Theatre Festival
Polaroid Stories	Orpheus	Bozeman Actor’s Theatre
Cave Canem (staged reading)	Jermichael	Actor’s Express
The Nether	Woodnut	Theater Emory



The Flick

Avery

Dramatic Repertory Company

Everyman

Everyman

UM Theatre & Dance

To Kill A Mockingbird

Tom Robinson

Montana Rep. Theatre Int'l Tour

Pinocchio

Geppetto

MCT Nat'l Tour