Dancentral
Dancentral is the student dance company at Central Connecticut State University. The company offers several dance performances each year, and hosts regional and internationally acclaimed guest artists. Dancentral also presents a variety of dance in education programs for area public schools. Dancentral has toured over 40 Connecticut schools giving lecture demonstrations and workshops promoting dance in education. While CCSU has many different dance organizations and clubs, Dancentral is the one that works the closest with the Dance Education Program.

Artist in Residency Program
The Dance Education Program is proud to host an active and acclaimed Artist in Residency Program. Over the years CCSU has brought to campus well-known artists, such as Jennifer Muller/The Works, National Dance Theatre Company of Jamaica, Merce Cunningham, Martha Graham’s Ensemble Company, Hubbard Street Chicago and many other internationally known artists and professional companies. Most recently, we have included the voices of younger dance makers with the aim to increase the needs of our diverse students.

Community Outreach
The Dance Education Program serves the public in several ways by offering community outreach programs, student participation, and dance in education programs. The Annual CT High School Dance Festival offers full days of comprehensive dance education and performance opportunities. The festival is open to interested secondary-school-aged students, dance educators, future teachers, and professionals seeking to enrich their dance experience. During the festival, a variety of dance sessions are taught by acclaimed professional dancers, such as Limón Technique, Horton Technique, Jazz, Broadway, Afro-Caribbean, Ballet, and Hip Hop. Career opportunities in the field of dance are shared through panel discussions. The festival concludes with a dance concert by the high school participants and adjudicated by the professional guest faculty.
Central Connecticut State University
Dance Education Program

The Department of Physical Education and Human Performance offers the following in the Dance Education Program:

- Bachelor of Science in Dance Education (B.S.Ed.) with Specialization in P-12 Teacher Certification (120 Credits)
- Bachelor of Science in Dance Education (B.S.Ed.) with Specialization in Entrepreneurship (120 Credits)
- Cross-Endorsement in Dance Teacher Certification (30 Credits)
- Minor in Dance (18 Credits)
- Formal Pathway to CT Dance Teacher Certification

The Dance Education Program provides performance opportunities, internships with professional companies, and community outreach programs. Students can collaborate with artists in residence, faculty, and various community partners for studio and main-stage performances throughout the academic year. The program embraces personal development and wellness, technical dance training, knowledge and skills growth, and creativity exploration and application.

Contact Us
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Dance Education Program Director
Pascal Rekoert

Dance Faculty
Lillian Cook, Cassandra Forsythe, Ingrid Howe-Green, Stephen D. Hankey, Erica Nelson, Ilker Ozbeli

Recent Guest Teachers
Lindsey Bauer, Ashley Caldeira, Lindsay Hansen, Cajai F. Johnson, Christine Kershaw-Hobson, Aubrey Lynch, Jennifer Muller, Stephanie Pope, Felipe Puleitini, Cesar Valentino

Support our dance scholars!
Donation link can be accessed through the QR code.

If you have questions about your tax-deductible gift, please contact:
Mary Beth Papallo, (860) 832-3513, mpapallo@ccsu.edu

Any contribution, large or small, makes a difference.
On behalf of our CCSU Dance Education students...
Thank you!

CCSU’s Dance Education Program is committed to uplifting and giving power to diverse voices through the arts. We acknowledge that our dance studios are located on the unceded ancestral land of the Tunxis, Quinnipiac, and Wappinger People. If you live in the United States, you will likely live and work on the stolen land of other Indigenous Peoples. We hope you will help your community learn about the land you are occupying to overcome the negative effects of settler colonialism and celebrate the rich history and traditions of Native People. Learn more at https://native-land.ca

Photos by Japil Medlock Photography