

Dance!

**Foundations of Dance
Watching and Responding to Dance**

“The truest expression of a people is in its dances and its music. Bodies never lie.”

-Agnes DeMille

World Dance

- represents the traditions, beliefs, and values of a specific community and its people
- the purpose is social in nature, to celebrate birth, death, feasts, harvests, etc.

World Dance

- Perico Ripiao (Dominican Republic)**
- La Bomba (Ashanti from West Africa, moved to Puerto Rico)**
- Der Unterwestner (Germany)**
- Kathak (Asia)**
- Bharatanatyam (India)**
- Tiriba (West Guinea)**
- Tahitian Dance (Tahiti)**

Social Dance

- Primary focus is interaction with others**
- most common with the working class and youth**
- part of every era and every community**
- nearly always accompanied with music**
- reflects issues of the time**
- Purpose is a sense of community**

Categories of Social Dance

- Alone in a Group: many people on the floor but not relating to each other
- Partners: two coupled, often holding hands
- In a Line or Line Dance: steps with repeated sequences of patterns performed in a line
- In a Circle: circled, allows people in and out, sometimes performers in the center

Historical Dance

“Dance has existed since the beginning of time- as ritual, as recreation, as spectacle.” -

Nancy Reynolds

Historical Dance

- sometimes referred to as early dance
- many notations in literature and from dance scholars exist
- early architecture and design (friezes, tapestry, etching, lithographs) support evidence that dance has always been an integral part of life
- crosses the lines as historical dance can also be categories as social dances of the time or world dances of the culture

Concert/Theatrical Dance

- dance that is performed on stage for the benefit, enjoyment, and education of an audience**
- subcategories: ballet, modern, jazz, musical theatre, tap, and cross-over styles (breaking, popping, locking, krumping)**

Concert/Theatrical Dance

- Paquita
- Consent to Gravity
- Water Study
- Ta-Da
- Technically Difficult
- Shim Sham