

ASHAYLA BYRD

DANCE ARTIST | WRITER | SCHOLAR |



PROFILE

Ashayla Byrd (she/they), is a writer, dance artist, and scholar who supports dance communities while creating brave spaces for queer and BIPOC folks to witness and be in fellowship with one another.

Ashayla specializes in **Modern, Contemporary, African, Heels, and Urban Dance.**

EDUCATION

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN DANCE
BACHELOR OF ARTS IN
ENGLISH

- CUMULATIVE GPA: 3.85
- MAY 2021

Shenandoah University (SU)

HONORS & AWARDS

2021

Outstanding Graduate
with an English Major Award
SU College of Arts and Sciences

Sigma Rho Delta Award
Terpsichore Award
SU Conservatory Dance Division

The Dean's Undergraduate Award
SU Conservatory Office

President's and Veatch Scholarships
SU President's Office

Jamal Barzinji Scholar Award ('19-'21)
SU Center of International Programs

CONTACT

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Washington, DC 20002
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[Ashayla Byrd's Website](#)

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

DanceUSA Institute of Leadership Training	MAR – OCT 2024
BIPOC Emerging Leaders Coaching Cohort	APR – JUN 2024
APAP NYC Conference	JAN 2023, 2024
BlackLight Summit Mentorship & Emerging Artist Lab	OCT 2020 – MAR 2023

ARTS ADMINISTRATION EXPERIENCE

Association of Performing Arts Professionals
Manager of Executive Affairs JUN 2023 – Present

Dance Place	
DanceAfrica DC Festival Program Manager (Contract)	FEB – JUL 2024
Presentation Administrative Assistant (Full-Time)	MAY 2023 – JUN 2023
Intern, Communications & Curation (Part-Time)	MAY 2021 – APR 2023

ARTISTIC EXPERIENCE

DANCER • SELF-EMPLOYED • WASHINGTON, DC-BASED
"Leviticus or love and to live amongst humans" | The Moore Theater, Seattle, WA
choreographed by dani tirrell and the Congregation, *presented APR 2024*

"Moving in the Spirit of Kwanzaa: Every Girl Has A Story" | Dance Place
choreographed by Mark Carter, *presented DEC 2023*

"The Light Sessions" | Dance Place
choreographed by Ronya-Lee Anderson, *presented APR 2023*

"I have a secret to tell you..." | The BlackLight Summit, Keep the Light On
choreographed by Jamison Curcio and Shanice Mason, *presented FEB 2023*

"Going Through It Twice" | Coalescence Showing
choreographed by Ashayla Byrd, *presented OCT 2022*

"Yes, And..." | The Hillwood Estate, Museum, and Gardens
choreographed by Gesel Mason, *presented JUL 2022*

"The Time Is Now" | Richmond Dance Festival
choreographed by Ana Johnson, *presented APR 2022*

"to the nth" | Crossroads Festival at Dance Loft on 14
choreographed by Dustyn Martincich & Jess Hoverson, *presented MAR 2022*

"suppress the wanted" | Transformations & Richmond Dance Festivals
choreographed by Chloe Conway, *presented NOV 2021 and FEB 2022*

Company Member, UpRooted Dance, JUN 2021 – JUN 2022

DANCE INSTRUCTOR

Dance Institute of Washington	
Summer Partnership Program: Modern	JUN – JUL 2021
Horton & Ballet Teaching Assistant	SEP 2022 – APR 2023

Dance Place, Kids on the Move Program	
Pre-, Beginner, & Intermediate Ballet	OCT 2022 – MAY 2023