GRAVITY

DANCE COMPANY

FACULTY

MEET OUR TALENTED TEAM OF INSTRUCTORS.

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Meet our dedicated faculty—passionate, experienced educators committed to inspiring, training, and empowering the next generation of dancers.

Ms. Q

Studio Owner, Artistic Director

Shiquita Sargent, known professionally as Ms. Q, is a the owner and Artistic Director of Gravity Dance Co. She is a highly sought out choreographer and dance instructor, as well as a writer, world traveler and 2x cancer survivor from Long Beach, Ca. She attended Wilson High School where she was Class President, Speech and Debate Captain, Varsity Cheer Captain, a member of 12 on campus clubs and on the dance team as a dancer/student choreographer. Upon graduating from Wilson, Ms. Q went on to dance at Disneyland while attending college and dancing professionally. She has performed and choreographed for Snoop Dogg, Keri Hilson, Jason Statham, Michael Jackson, Trey Songz and more- and has been featured in over 2 dozen TV, movie, music videos and print ads, from the hit movie "Bring it On" to ads with Target. After graduating from Wilson in 2003, she has choreographed in almost every dance show since. Having a background as a professional dancer, whilst being a dance instructor and choreographer for several local studios, she saw the need for fine-arts access, diversity and inclusivity for communities of color. From there, she founded and opened her dance studio: Gravity Dance Co. Gravity is an award winning studio that not only teaches dance, but life skills, and has toured, competed and performed all over the country for the past 13 years. Gravity won a national championship in 2022 and has been featured on Lifetime's hit show, "Dance Moms", the main stage at Nascar for two consecutive races, the LA Sparks halftime show, numerous community engagements and season one and two of ABC's hit comedy, 'Abbott Elementary' as the official dance team. She was featured by Long Beach Post Newspapers "Phenomenal Woman in business", on KTLA, CBS and FOX for her work in the community, as well as being honored by the Bixby Knolls Business Association for Women's History Month. She received the Los Angeles County 'White Rose Award' from councilwoman Janice Hahn. While traveling the world, writing, working in the community and running her studio, she shares her story of hope and survivorship along the way. She takes pride in uplifting and empowering people of all ages, especially her students.

Mr. Justin

Assistant Director/Instructor

Justin Edmonson, born in Long Beach, CA started his journey very young through the states of Arizona, Texas, and back to Arizona again. Coming from a family who is much influenced by music, the arts became the foundation of the artist he'd later become. It wasn't until coming back to California and seeing Cabrillo High School's award-winning dance team as a freshman that Justin decided to join the team until he graduated in 2007. While at Cabrillo Justin learned there was more to dance than just Hip Hop. He began to explore other genres and soon began to cultivate his interest and the art of choreography. Justin took his love for choreography a little bit more seriously while at Long Beach City College getting more into dance and choreography doing small events and shows. Studying and performing Hip-Hop, Ballet, Modern, Jazz, African, Social Dances, Dunham Technique, and Horton Technique under the tutelage of Karen McDonald, Jennifer Waters, Keisha Clark-Booth, Chris Smith, Wendi Baity, Marie Hoffman, Erin Landry, Stephanie Powell, Troy Powell, Mike Espiranza, Tiffany Billings, Frit & Frat Fuller and Pat Taylor. Justin is currently dancing his 11th season with JazzAntiqua Music & Dance Ensemble (Pat Taylor) teaching, presenting work across California, and recently starting his non-profit foundation XclusivMovement Foundation, Inc. which was conceived out of creating his dance company with high school friend Camille Bowen, in the fall of October 2012. When Justin isn't teaching or dancing, he works as a photographer and creative director with his business XclusivTradez Inc.

Mr. B’jon

Instructor

B’Jon Carter is a dancer, educator, choreographer, music producer, and creative whose career bridges the performing arts, education, and music. With extensive training across multiple styles of dance, B’Jon has developed his artistry through both performance and teaching.

His professional experiences include working with the Brooklyn Academy of Music and serving as an arts ambassador with the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Education. Through Rennie Harris Puremovement, he also had the opportunity to teach a dance workshop at Duke University, sharing his knowledge of movement and hip-hop culture with collegiate dancers.

Beyond dance, B’Jon has an extensive background in music. After interning with Alpha Pup Records in Los Angeles, he expanded his work as an A&R and music producer, contributing to projects for other artists while developing and releasing music of his own. His entrepreneurial work in the industry also includes establishing his own publishing house and record label.

As an educator, B’Jon brings together his experiences in dance, music, performance, and creative development to provide students with a well-rounded perspective on artistry and self-expression.

Mr. Chris

Instructor

Chris is an accomplished dancer, choreographer, and educator with more than 25 years of experience in jazz, contemporary, and commercial dance. He earned his B.F.A. in Dance with a concentration in Jazz from Point Park University, one of the nation's top programs for professional dance training.

Chris's performance career spans the stage and screen, with credits including Poetry In Motion Dance Company, Walt Disney World, Carnival Cruise Lines, and the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia. His dynamic presence and versatility have also taken him to theatres across the country and aboard international productions, where he's been featured in shows like The Snow Queen, Rodeohead, Jazzin', and Perfect.

As an educator, Chris has taught and choreographed for studios and conventions nationwide, sharing his passion for movement, musicality, and storytelling. He is also a respected national competition judge and co-founder of The Power of 3 Dance Convention, where he continues to mentor and inspire young dancers.

In the classroom, Chris is known for his upbeat energy, detailed technique, and commitment to helping dancers grow in both confidence and artistry. We are excited for our dancers to experience his creativity, professionalism, and genuine love for the art of dance!

Mr. Clinton

Instructor

Clinton Haddix is an energetic and passionate instructor who loves helping dancers grow stronger, more confident, and more skilled in their movement. With a background as a former elite-level cheerleader, gymnast, and acrobat, Clinton brings years of experience, discipline, and artistry into the studio.

In his acro classes, Clinton focuses on building strong foundations, teaching proper technique, and ensuring safety while guiding dancers to expand their skills. His goal is to help each student reach new levels—whether they are mastering their first cartwheel or working on advanced tricks—while also developing the strength and confidence that carry into all areas of dance.

In addition to teaching, Clinton is also a working actor. His credits include roles in The Mattachine Family, Guys Like You, and appearances in Dhar Mann Studios productions. This blend of performing and teaching allows him to share real-world experience with his students, inspiring them to pursue excellence both on stage and beyond.
Clinton is dedicated to creating a positive and supportive learning environment where dancers feel encouraged to push themselves, celebrate their progress, and find joy in every achievement.

Mr. Darrell

Instructor

Darrell Hardaway started his training at Wilson High School in Beginning Dance, where he was a student of our studio owner, Ms. Q during her teaching tenure. After being awarded the Beginning Dance Scholarship and graduating from Wilson High, Mr. Darrell began choreographing for the Wilson Dance Dept. Once he graduated from Wilson, he continued to dance and choreograph throughout college. Earning a Bachelors in Kinesiology: Dance, he took his talents and began teaching at Gravity Dance Company and schools like Burbank, John Burroughs and Wilson High. He is currently in is second year as tthe dance director at Hughes Middle School. Mr. Darrell trained under working choreographers like Shawnette Heard, Anthony Thomas, Teresa Espinosa, Rhapsody James, and Kevin Maher during his time on the Debbie Reynolds Scholarship Program. He was a scholarship student for 9 months where he trained in House, Whacking, Vogueing, Popping, Locking, and Grooves. He is the current choreographer for ABC's hit show Abbott Elementary and has worked with artists like the Pentatonix and Kat Graham. He takes pride in bringing all that he knows to Gravity, with much love and insight.

Eliot

Instructor

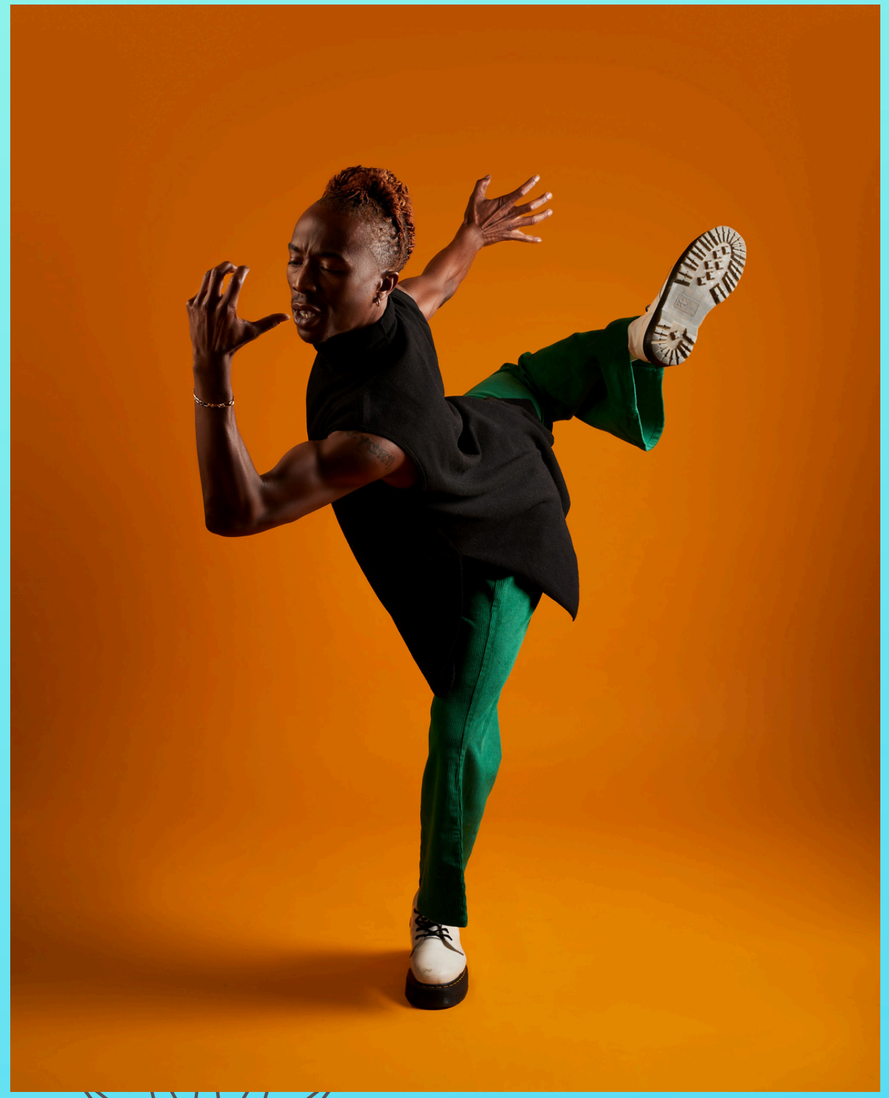
Eliot Maroney-Sutton is a Long Beach-based dancer and educator currently completing her BFA as a senior in Dance Performance at UC Irvine. With 13 years of classical training at Sacramento Ballet, Eliot has developed a strong technical foundation and versatile approach to movement.

Her performance credits include Puck in A Midsummer Night’s Dream, the Bronze Idol variation from La Bayadère, and the Nutcracker Prince in Sacramento Ballet’s The Nutcracker. She also attended the California State Summer School for the Arts at CalArts, where she received the Herb Alpert Emerging Young Artist Award and a scholarship toward her collegiate arts education.

At UC Irvine, Eliot has continue to expand her expertise in ballet, modern, contemporary, Latin, West African/Jazz fusion, and musical theatre. She has also worked with renowned choreographers Lar Lubovitch and Katarzyna Skarpetowska, performing Each In Their Own Time.

As an educator, Eliot is passionate about creating an inclusive yet rigorous classroom that encourages dancers to develop strong technique, versatility, confidence, and a lifelong love for dance.

Mr. Sherman



Instructor

Sherman DeWayne Wood began his dance training at the age of nine at Divine Dance Institute under the direction of Amanda F. Standard. He started with African and tap before expanding into modern and ballet—quickly developing a deep passion for the art form. He continued his training at Body Arts Dance Studio in Guam, and later at the prestigious Duke Ellington School of the Arts, where he studied under Charles Augins, graduating in 2011.

Sherman went on to further his education at The Ohio State University and earned his B.F.A. in Dance from Boston Conservatory at Berklee in 2015. His professional career has taken him across the globe, performing with renowned companies and productions including The Lion King Rafiki Tour, Ronald K. Brown/EVIDENCE, Spectrum Dance Theater, and Cirque du Soleil Mystère.

In addition to his concert and theatrical work, Sherman has collaborated with an impressive list of artists and creatives including Rihanna, Debbie Allen, Tom Cruise, Earth, Wind & Fire, and Young Posse, among others.

Now working as an independent artist, Sherman continues to perform, teach, and create while also assisting Christopher Huggins. His diverse training and professional experience bring a rich, dynamic perspective to his work as both a performer and educator.

Ms. Taylor

Instructor

Taylor Hardwick is a heavily trained dancer from Carson, CA, who has grown up at Gravity since the age of 7. Fondly known as “Little Q” for how much she dances, speaks, teaches, and even resembles our studio owner, Ms. Q, Taylor has carried forward the same passion and dedication she was trained under.

After performing as an advanced dance team member at Wilson High School, Taylor became both a performer and educator. She now serves as the Baby Company Team Director at Gravity and also teaches our Tiny Dancers in lyrical and hip hop. Taylor is celebrated as a phenomenal teacher whom the students truly love, known for being hands-on, engaging, and deeply committed to developing her dancers’ technique and connection to the art form.

Outside the studio, Taylor is currently pursuing a degree in nursing to serve her community through health and wellness. Her professional credits include ABC’s Abbott Elementary, numerous community and professional projects, and several national titles as a dancer. Taylor brings a world of knowledge, energy, and heart to every class she leads.

We look forward to dancing with you!