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UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA'S DANCE PROGRAM PRESENTS

THE SPRING DANCE CONCERT

April 3rd, 4th, & 5th at 8PM

in the Culbreth Theatre

**Program features works by students and dance faculty in collaboration with guest artists
Kristin Clotfelter and Katie Faulkner**

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA- March 19, 2014- The Dance Program of the Department of Drama at the University of Virginia presents its Spring Dance Concert on April 3rd, 4th, and 5th at 8 p.m. in the Culbreth Theatre.

The Spring Dance Concert offers an eclectic combination of dance, staging, original music, and improvisation. U.Va. students, faculty, and guest artists take this opportunity to present twelve pieces that investigate and reflect real world topics through the language of dance. Through movement and music, the works examine everyday life, from memories and expectations, to relationships.

The Dance Program will present the work of two guest artists: Kristin Clotfelter and Katie Faulkner, whose residencies were made possible by the U.Va. Arts Council and the Office of the Provost and Vice Provost for the Arts. Both Clotfelter and Faulkner have taught throughout the country and have performed on national and international stages. Kristin Clotfelter of Susan Marshall & Company described the development of her new piece, *My Claw is Sharp*, as a "collaborative investigation into memory, imagined landscapes and the embodiment of storytelling. By translating recurring memories from our past into movements to share with others, our stories intertwined into a collective experience of chaos and pattern, playfulness and growth, individuality and companionship." Cellist and graduate student in Composition and Computer Technologies at U.Va., Kevin Davis will perform his original composition for *My Claw is Sharp* live on stage.

Katie Faulkner, choreographer, performer, filmmaker and teacher from the Bay Area said of *wishbone*, "The piece we created during our week together is in many ways a reflection of the process of our getting to know each other. I like to work collaboratively, to let the images, ideas,

personalities, and movement styles of the dancers inform the material. The final product feels to me to be a series of these conversations, illuminating the awkward, graceful, truncated, and surprising ways we can and can't know one another in short periods of time."

From nuances in relationships, how we experience the mundane, to American teenage mythology, U.Va. students tackle a vast array of issues in their choreography. Erika Choe, whose piece *We, Rhythms in a Canvas* from last fall was recently selected to be performed in the Gala concert at the Mid-Atlantic American College Dance Festival, describes her new work *Small Memory* as an "investigation into the meaning of a quartet relationship and its evolving nature. *Small Memory's* choreographic process stems from the engagement in spatial and mental landscaping of 3 dimensional volumes."

Fourth year student, Tara Bonanno's *Shifting Lines* moves to an exercise that analyzes everyday movement, from the interesting, dull, to the nonsensical. Bonanno explains "by looking at what is familiar, the work questions the expectations of the norm and the lines we have drawn between one another, in regards to space and time." Second year student, Sage Tanguay transitions into the everyday of the past, focusing primarily on the high school structure and experience. Tanguay uses her piece, *Prompera*, to analyze the American mythos of high school and high school proms.

In addition to many choreographed numbers, the Spring Dance Concert will feature an improvisational work, led by U.Va Lecturer in Dance Brad Stoller. Stoller teaches Contact Improvisation at U.Va and his work *Ahh-Some* will have a relaxed structure, created spontaneously and freely each night. All three improvisational performances will be different, with their own unique movements and elements.

Tickets can be purchased online at www.artsboxoffice.virginia.edu, by calling 434-924-3376 or in person at the U.Va. Arts Box Office, located in the lobby of the U.Va. Drama Building. Tickets are \$10 for adults and seniors, and \$5 for U.Va. students, children, faculty, staff, and alumni association members. Free parking on performance nights is available in the Culbreth Road Parking Garage, located next to the Drama Building.