

### MEET THE DANCERS OF FALL SENIOR DANCE SHOWCASE

*The Senior Dance Showcase is the capstone event for Dance Majors. where students showcase their choreography, performance, and production talents. With over thirty dancers, musicians, designers and technicians contributing, this innovative program promises an exciting look at our up-and-coming performing artists.*



#### JENNIFER GIRTELL

*Tell us about yourself and your background in dance.* I have been dancing and singing since the age of 5. I studied at Cleo Parker Robinson and the Aurora Dance Arts and attended the Denver School of Performing Arts, the David Parsons summer intensive, and the Snowy Range Summer Dance Festival working with artists such as Jay Frankie, John Pennington and Peter Pucci. I was on the CSU Tour Dance Company for 2 years and had an amazing time. After graduation, I would love to keep choreographing as well as audition for companies and Broadway.

*What are you most excited about for the Senior Dance Showcase?* I'm excited because this is our chance to make our own show! We have the power to put our art on stage and to move people; the chance to enlighten the audience on movement and its power; the chance to feel emotions without using words and to make you feel something you didn't know you could feel.

*Tell us about one of the pieces you have choreographed for the production.* My group dance is based on my life in the last four years. Each section represents another part of me and how I got through. The dancers represent my boundaries and what I have to do to break myself of them. My solo is dedicated to my friend Rebecca who died of cancer at the age of 9. It's intense for me but I'm happy to be dancing it for her because she also used to dance.

*What do you think the audience will most enjoy at the Senior Dance Showcase?* They will gain a new awareness of the arts within the university and know that there is in fact a dance major! We have so much to offer and we have put a whole semester into this show and we ask for 2 hours of your time to perform for you and impact you.



#### RHONDA PADILLA

*Tell us about yourself and your background in dance.* I am double majoring in dance and corporate finance. I have been dancing since high school, and I hope to continue to perform and choreograph after I graduate and pursue a career in both dance and finance.

*What are you most excited about for the Senior Dance Showcase?* I am excited because we produce the whole show and it is something I have been looking forward to since my freshmen year and! We have been working really hard and it's the last thing we do for dance before we graduate.

*Tell us about one of the pieces you have choreographed for the production.* The inspiration for my group piece is the daily struggles a person faces, what ever they may be. It starts out in the morning when trying to start your day and getting out of bed. . The second section depicts the part of your

day where you must work as a team with individuals whether you get along with them or not. The third section is about your means of transportation, followed by an expression of the relaxation/venting period. The last section is the reflection period. This is the period where you think about your day and you do it all over again the next day.

*What do you think the audience will most enjoy at the Senior Dance Showcase?* I think they will love the high performance quality, brilliant choreography, and dynamics of the show, which change dramatically throughout each of our pieces.

#### ANDREA PALESH

*Tell us about yourself and your background in dance.* I am double majoring in dance and fashion merchandising, and I've been dancing since the age of three. I am currently a teacher and choreographer at Colorado Academy of the Arts and Colorado State University, and after I graduate I hopes to continue performing, choreographing, and teaching.

*What are you most excited about for the Senior Dance Showcase?* I am excited because I am working with truly talented and creative choreographers who push themselves to deliver original material. The dancers act in a professional manner, which makes the show process smooth and fun at the same time.

*Tell us about one of the pieces you have choreographed for the production.* The trio that I choreographed for myself and the two other seniors is called *Feeling is Believing*. It is about choice and how each choice made directs our life down a unique path. When faced with a difficult decision one must feel which one is the best and go with your gut instinct. Jennifer and Rhonda represent my two different choices and I am blind folded because I can't "see" which choice to pick, therefore I have to "feel" which one is the best.

*What do you think the audience will most enjoy at the Senior Dance Showcase?* They will go through a variety of visual and audial stimulation reflecting the distinct feelings and expressions of the dancers. It will give them the opportunity to escape the realities of everyday life and immerse themselves in live art. Since modern dance is so abstract, the audience can interpret the meaning of the dances anyway they want, or simply look at the pure beauty of movement.



**Buy Tickets to the Senior Dance Showcase on December 6 and 7**

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