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## BFA in Dance program presents annual Spring Showcase

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## **BFA in Dance program presents annual Spring Showcase**

When Ivy Patterson came from Massachusetts six years ago to enroll in the LINES Ballet BFA in Dance program at Dominican, she was thrilled with the opportunity to meet and work with LINES Ballet founder and artistic director Alonzo King.

“He’s oddly intimidating,” Patterson said back in 2012. “He’s a nice guy, but he’s scary. But just seeing him is motivation in itself. That’s mind-blowing.”

Even more today. King, famed choreographer, has been honored with a prestigious Doris Duke Artist Award, presented annually by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. He is one of 20 remarkable performing artists who will receive \$275,000 in flexible, multi-year funding as an investment in and celebration of their ongoing contributions to the fields of contemporary dance, theatre and jazz.

“It certainly highlights Alonzo’s international prestige and regard, and that reflects on the LINES educational programs,” says Marina Hotchkiss, director of [Dominican's LINES Ballet BFA in Dance program](#). “I think the award also will bring even more awareness to the BFA program.”

King is certainly an inspiration to many, especially Ivy, who is trying to make her mark as a choreographer as well. Her piece “Agnus Burns,” which debut at BFA in Dance’s Senior Projects in February, was revived for the annual Spring Showcase in 2015. Ivy named the piece after her great grandmother’s cousin, a woman, Ivy says, “I never had the opportunity to meet, but whose history, intelligence, bravery and sense of humor is reflected perfectly in the piece.”

“Agnus Burns” was performed again at the [BFA in Dance’s Spring Showcase](#) in Angelico Hall. Ivy’s work was featured alongside choreographers such as Gregory Dawson and Arturo Fernandez. She credited music composed by Jonny Greenwood as being a strong influence in the piece. She also cited the efforts and talent of her fellow classmates Brianna Wilson, Rebecca Lillich, Anna Krumpos, Alexis Gravenites, and Marissa Head who danced to it.

In addition, Ivy is inspired by “things that are haunting and beautiful” such as the fog rising on her family’s home in Western Massachusetts, pieces of her family’s history or even a pool of still water inviting one to dive in.

“As the project progressed I realized that most of my inspiration surrounded the ambiguity of being solitary while being encompassed by a supportive community and the role empathy plays in that unique balance,” says Ivy, an Honors student at Dominican. “Overall, my inspiration came from the things that I find alluring but cannot fully understand.”

The Spring Showcase was the culmination of the academic year and featured new works by Dawson, Fernandez, Tanya Bello, and Julia Stiefel.

For more information, contact Wallace Harvey at 415-482-3579 or email [wallace.harvey@dominican.edu](mailto:wallace.harvey@dominican.edu) in the [Department of Music, Dance and Performing Arts](#).

The BFA in Dance program is the only joint BFA dance program in the nation led by a master choreographer (Alonzo King) and one of only two in the United States affiliated with a major ballet company. Dominican's program during the 2014-15 academic year featured 42 students representing 22 states and one foreign country.