

JP DANCE GROUP

DANCE MOVES EVERYONE

PRESS KIT

Julie Petrusak, Founder & Artistic Director

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www.juliepetrusak.com/jpdancegroup

JP DANCE GROUP creates live dance productions that aim to entertain, enlighten, and inspire its viewers. JP Dance Group believes that movement is the ideal format for storytelling. Unlike spoken language, movement evokes emotions in people of all ages, heritage and backgrounds, and walks of life. Using dance as our main medium enables JP Dance Group to connect with the community in a unique way and reach a variety of audiences. Providing educational shows for young people, cultural programming for senior citizens, and a varied repertoire for the community at large is all in the scope of JPDG. Each performance by JP Dance Group is a one-of-a-kind experience that we hope will resonate in the hearts and minds of whom ever is watching.

JP DANCE GROUP was founded in 2013, by Artistic Director Julie Petrusak. After directing and producing several independent choreographic projects including New Works at the TANK in 2012 and the Riverbank Dance Collective in 2013, Ms. Petrusak established JP Dance Group to be her team and foundation for all future projects. Today, JP Dance Group is based in Harlem and is a sponsored artist of the Field. The company presents work in New York City, Nationally, and is working towards presenting abroad.

We are always looking for ways to expand our reach to new audiences and are seeking sponsors to support our budding organization. The Artistic Director is available to teach master classes, and to be an artist-in-residence or a guest choreographer. JPDG is available for lecture/demonstrations, teaching residencies, and performances. Thank you in advance for your time in reviewing the enclosed materials. We welcome you to contact JPDG with any inquiries.

Enclosed please find the following materials:

- Company Artistic Statement
- Information on our Fiscal Sponsorship
- Biographies of the Director and Company Members
- Repertoire
- 2013 Performance Season
- Tech Rider
- Lecture/Demonstration and Residency Fee Schedule

Please do not hesitate to call or email JPDG with any questions you may have.

Warmest Regards,

Julie Petrusak, Co-Director/Co-Founder
Artistic Director
JP Dance Group
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www.juliepetrusak.com/jpdancegroup

JP DANCE GROUP ARTISTIC STATEMENT

JP DANCE GROUP creates live dance productions that aim to entertain, educate, and inspire its viewers. JP Dance Group believes that movement is universally understandable which makes dance an ideal format for storytelling. We believe that dance moves everyone and allows the performer to connect with the audience in a unique way.

When a new production is created, Julie Petrusak, choreographer and artistic director of JP Dance Group, begins with a real-life experience as her inspiration. As she choreographs, she tries to she chooses specific images, emotions, and sensations from that experience and exaggerates them with her movement, gestures, or other visuals such as costuming and lights. The resulting product is a slightly abstracted, surreal version of the original narrative. Petrusak's goal is to tell a story, but to present it in a way that the audience has freedom to interpret for themselves what they are seeing on stage and what is significant.



JP DANCE GROUP challenges its dancers technically, athletically, and intellectually so that they grow as performers, storytellers, and artists. JP Dance Group is attentive to every detail of its productions and is committed to providing high-quality productions for young people, senior citizens, and the community at large. Each performance by JPDG is a one-of-a-kind experience that we hope will resonate in the hearts and minds of all whom is watching.

ABOUT OUR FISCAL SPONSORSHIP

JP Dance Group is sponsored artist with The Field, a non-for-profit, tax-exempt, 501(c)(3) organization serving the New York City performing arts community. The Field lends its legal non-profit status to JP Dance Group, and receives donations on our behalf. Under their umbrella, JPDG uses The Field's non-profit status without being incorporated itself. This partnership gives JPDG the means to receive tax-deductible contributions, apply to most grants, and be a sustainable presence in the community. Contributions made to The Field and earmarked for JP Dance Group are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. For more information about The Field contact: The Field, 75 Maiden

Lane, Suite 906, New York NY 10038, 212-691-6969, www.thefield.org. A copy of The Field's latest annual report may be obtained, upon request, from The Field or from the Office of the Attorney General, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271.





ARTISTIC DIRECTOR JULIE PETRUSAK

Julie Petrusak is a Harlem-based choreographer, dancer and instructor. She is the founder and artistic director of JP Dance Group. She earned her degree from the Ailey/Fordham B.F.A. in Dance Program, after studying ballet extensively at the Maryland Youth Ballet. As a choreographer, Ms. Petrusak strives to use dance to illustrate stories that resonate in the hearts and minds of her audience members. In Spring of 2013 she co-directed and choreographed three productions at Riverbank State Park's Cultural Complex that reached over 1,000 New York City school children and senior citizens. She has presented work at various venues in

New York City including the Ailey Citigroup Theater, Arron Davis Hall, Triskelion Arts Center, and for Fashion Week 2013. In 2012, she Co-produced "New Works" at the TANK where she premiered her ghost story ballet, "Apparitions". In 2010, she assisted Karen L. Arceneaux in setting Arceneaux's "Chasing a Dream" on the Ailey/Fordham B.F.A class of 2014.

As a performer Julie has worked for companies such as Genesis Dance Company, Racoco Rx, and Millennium Dance Company. She has performed works by Alvin Ailey, Sarah Skaggs, Ronald K. Brown, Adam Barruch, and Daniel Gwartzman, and has appeared in music videos for The Clox and Alex Young.

When not performing, Petrusak teaches at various studios including Taps-Toes (Brewster, NY), Jumplife (NYC, NY), Riverbank State Park (Harlem, NY) and Lithe Method (Philadelphia, PA).

COMPANY MEMBERS

DIEGO DE SOUZA ALEIXO began his studies in ballet, jazz, and contemporary in 2004 at Centro Cultural Vanessa Ballet in São Paulo, Campos Do Jordão, Brazil. He has participated in social projects in Brazil and has won various awards in these festivals. Upon graduating in 2010, Diego moved to New York City to pursue ballet. He received a full one-year scholarship at the Ailey School which allowed him to further his training in modern dance. He has danced for companies including Cia Cooperdance, Artisy, and now with JP Dance Group.



SALVADOR AYUBO started his young dance career with Savage Jazz Dance Company based in Oakland, CA. He went on to hone his craft by attending the Ailey School in 2001-2004, and was a member of the Alvin Ailey Student Showcase Group. Soon after, he danced for companies such as Reflections in DC (2005) and Baile Kontempo in SF (2007). Salvador merged in the musical theater field, where he was a part of productions such as Disney's Aladdin, Jonathan Larson's Rent, and Rogers and Hammerstein's Cinderella Enchanted. Salvador took a hiatus from performing the last 2 years and is now enjoying his "comeback" journey! He feels very blessed and honored to be a member of JP Dance Group.

STEVEN E BROWN

DERRICK P. COBB You never know what tomorrow may bring, so make sure you leave your mark on the world today. Derrick began performing at age 6 and has not left the stage ever since. He began his serious studies in High School at School of The Arts, and pursued jazz and hip hop studies at Broadway Dance Center and The Ailey School. Derrick also performs as a singer and recently released his first single "Sweat". His advice, follow your heart and your dreams and you can go further than you ever imagined.

KELLY HAMLIN (Richmond, VA) began her dance career to compete on a regional and national level. After receiving scholarships by The Professional Dance Teachers Association and Dance Educators of America, Kelly continued her training at The Richmond Ballet, The Joffrey Ballet, The Dance Theater of Harlem, and Ballet Hispanico. Shortly after attending Radford University,

she moved to New York City to launch her dance career. She is a proud graduate of The Alvin Ailey School's Certificate Program as well as the Broadway Dance Center Professional Semester Program. Over the course of her career Kelly has danced for Alvin Ailey's "Memoria" at City Center, and "Revelations; Buked" at The Apollo Theatre, Genesis Dance Co., The Nai Ni Chen Dance Co., Errol Grimes Dance Group, Arch Dance/Jennifer Archibald, S Danse Contreras/Stephen Contreras, , M'bwewe Escobar, Earl Moseley, Tina Bush, Milton Meyers, Miguette Camara/D'Jonebena Studios, and more. Kelly has also performed abroad, touring for The International Dance Festival in Lithuania, Russia, Poland, and Germany.

DIANE HUTCHINSON

CAROLINE KEHOE began her dance training in NJ at Princeton Ballet School. At age 16, she started dancing throughout the northeast with American Repertory Ballet in various classical works, such as The Nutcracker and Cinderella. She has also trained at American Ballet Theater, Boston Ballet, Alonzo King's LINES Ballet, and NYU Tisch. Caroline received a BFA in Dance from Ailey/Fordham in 2010, where she performed in works by Alvin Ailey, Lar Lubovitch, Paul Taylor, Ronald K. Brown, and Larry Keigwin. Caroline also performed in Memoria with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater at NY City Center for two seasons, including their 50th Anniversary celebration hosted by Oprah Winfrey. Caroline's additional performance credits include various projects with Flexicurve, BEings Dance, Deidre Goodwin, Vic DiMonda, and One World Symphony. Her broadcast/print credits include the PBS series IN THE LIFE/Voices of Pride, and modeling for dance photographer Richard Calmes' book Dance Magic, as well as for his photo exhibit, Beautiful Dancers on the Town. Caroline is currently a dancer with Jennifer Muller/The Works and Alpha Omega Theatrical Dance.

BRICE PAYET was born in Reunion Island. At age 24, Brice left Reunion to live his passion, Dance. After studying at the IFPRO Rick Odum's in Paris for 4 years, he received his Jazz Dance Teacher's Degree. Upon moving to New York, Brice studied at the Martha Graham School and became a company member of Graham II. This is his first season with JP Dance Group.

SABRINA SOUILAH Born and raised in Geneva Switzerland, Sabrina started her dance training at the School of Dance of Geneva under the direction of Beatriz Consuelo. Member of the Junior Ballet of Geneva in her teens she also had the privilege to perform with the Grand Theatre and Opera in Geneva. Invited to perfect her formation at the Alvin Ailey School under several scholarships, she proudly graduated in 2002 and have since performed with companies such as Lula Washington Dance Theater, Errol Grimes Dance Group, Earl Mosley Diversity of Dance Inc., ACB Dance, Renegade Dance Group and well as Genesis Dance Company.

A dance and fitness model on her free time, Sabrina is also a certified Pilate, M.E.L.T. and TRX trainer. She is thrilled to be a member of JPG and thank Julie for this great opportunity.

PEI-RONG WU is originally from Kaohsiung, Taiwan, where she discovered her love and passion for dance. She began traditional Chinese dance and Ballet training at age 7. As a young dancer, she performed at prestigious theaters in all the major cities in Taiwan. At age 15, she was accepted by the dance department of Tsoying Senior High School(Kaohsiung, Taiwan), where she continued her professional training in all disciplines of dance. In 2008, she decided to move to the United States to pursue her dreams of working professionally and exceptionally in dance. She was not only accepted as one of 30 students into the BFA program over almost 300 perspectives auditioned, but also rewarded a scholarship to New World School of the Arts. There she continued her dance training with Daniel Lewis, Peter London, and Bambi Anderson. Throughout her time in New World School of the Arts, she had the opportunities to work with contemporary artists such as Robert Battle, Kate Weare, Robert Swinston, Darshan Bhuller, and Kyle Abraham. In 2012, she received her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in dance and graduated with highest honor. After graduated from school, Pei-Rong decided to move to New York City to continue her dance journey. She explored the various and diverse dance communities in the city and had great opportunities to work with creative NY based artist such as Jennifer Archibald, Goldie Peacock, Nai-Ni Chen, and Julie Petrusak. Pei-Rong is thrilled to be a part of JP Dance family. She currently resides in New Work City where she continues to grow and expand her career as a performing artist.

CHERRI NELLE THOMPSON has been performing in film, dance, musical theater, and commercial productions involving dancing, acting and musical theater since she was 7 years old. She has Associate's degree in Dance Performance from Valencia College, a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish Language, and a minor in French, both from the University of Central Florida. Cheri loves arts, but has other passions too! Due to her love of languages and helping others, she has completed a 2 year certification program from New York University in order to become a Certified Spanish Medical Interpreter. She has danced with companies while she studied in Florida such as DRIP performance art entertainment company, Moore Dance Project, and Patelworks Dance Theater. She has studied acting at the T. Shreiber Studio, studied dance at The Martha Graham School of Contemporary dance under scholarship, and performed with the second company, Graham II. She has also danced or guested with Trainor Dance Company, Millennium Dance Company, Juel D. Lane, ACB Dance Company, Buglisi Dance Theater, Twins and Artists, and Riverbank Dance Collective. She currently resides in New York City as a freelance artist, where she enjoys teaching, administrating, acting, and dancing in various theater projects. She recently starred in Triple Played, and What's it take to hook up these days. She danced in the Thelma Hill PAC 35th Anniversary Dance festival. Cheri is delighted to be a member of JP Dance Group!

REPERTOIRE

Apparitions (2012)

Apparitions is inspired by real-life ghost stories told to me by friends and family. Every person who has shared their ghost story with me felt that their encounter happened for a significant reason.

This is what I am interested in investigating through my choreography. Whether the encounter is real or not is unimportant. What matters is the lasting connection each person felt to someone who had passed. This piece is a work in progress that is slated to become an evening-length show.



Fortitude of She (2013) This piece celebrates the incredible strength it takes to be woman, and a mother figure. It is in honor of the female role models who show the world how to hold oneself up with an ironclad core of strength while also being the source of love and softness for others.

Nutcracker on Lenox Avenue (2013) is a fresh twist on the classic holiday story. Set to Duke Ellington's *Nutcracker Suite*, this 1920's era *Nutcracker* features jazz and contemporary dance. The second act is a world dance festival within the production that features guest performances by NYC's top cultural dance companies.

99 (2013) Is about the feeling you get when you walk into a job interview and realize you are competing against 99 people for the same position. It is about knowing that you are great, but just not making the cut. It is about the struggles of the masses and having 99 failures before your first success. But most of all, it is about having 99 reasons to avoid pursuing something, but still trying anyways because there is one small chance you can make it.

2013-14 PERFORMANCE SEASON



SEPTEMBER 14, 2013: *Fashion Week 2013* for Sofistafunk the Original Skirt, Co.
8pm. 508 W 37th Street

OCTOBER 13, 2013: *JPDG Annual Fundraiser Party*
7pm, Tonalli Café Bar 3628 Broadway, \$10 pre-sale, \$15 at the door

NOVEMBER 16, 2013: *Amalgamate Artist Series*
This annual dance festival features dance groups from all over NYC.
JPDG performs at 9pm. Bridge for Dance, 2726 Broadway, 3rd Floor. \$12 at the door

DECEMBER 11, 2013: JPDG presents *Nutcracker on Lenox Avenue* Riverbank State Park
Young People's Performance Series. 10:30am, 679 Riverside Drive, \$2 suggested donation

MAY 2014: JPDG Spring Performance Details TBA

JP DANCE GROUP TECH RIDER

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE NEEDED:

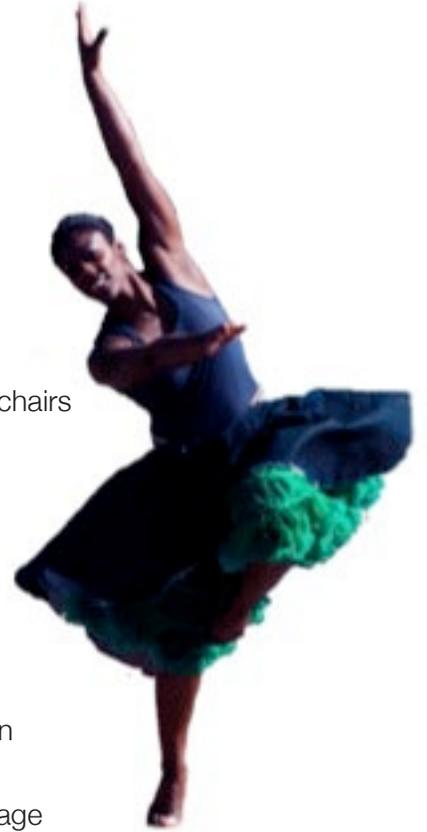
2 Dressing Rooms

- Each equipped with mirrors, makeup lighting, costume racks, and chairs
- Access to both male and female rest rooms

Washer & Dryer (if tour includes 3 or more performances)

Stage/Equipment

- Marley Dance Floor
- Technical Director
- Sound Board Operator
- 3-4 Booms Each With 3 Lights (top, mid, bottom level) Positioned In Wings On Stage Right And Stage left
- Equipment For Communication Between Light Booth And Back Stage
- Front Lighting
- White Cyc & Black Scrim
- Upstage Crossover
- Stage Monitors For Dancers To Hear Music
- Note: if overhead electrics are available, they will be used.
- Sound System: CD and IPOD Compatible
- CD player for lecture/demonstrations when performance space sound system is not available
- If available, quick change area on both sides of stage
- Cordless Microphone



NOTE: The items listed above are needed when the company is presented by an individual or organization. The presenting individual or organization must notify company in advance of any items not available, as it may affect the program selected by the Artistic Director.

When the company is invited as a guest for a lecture/demonstration or to participate in a performance series with other groups, the company will work with the equipment provided in the theatre or performance space. However this will only be done if the company receives prior notification of the equipment and set-up of the theater or performance space.

LECTURE/ DEMONSTRATION AND RESIDENCY FEE SCHEDULE

A. 60-MINUTE LECTURE/

DEMONSTRATION: \$2,000.00

plus transportation costs

Description: 1.) brief information

about the company provided,

2.) 40 minutes of company

performance, 3.)20-minute

question and answer period

(students and teachers can

ask questions of the director and dancers) or student on-stage participation (10-

20 volunteer students come on stage to learn and perform dance moves with the

company members)

B. ONE WEEK RESIDENCY & SIXTY-MINUTE PERFORMANCE:

\$4,500.00 plus

transportation costs

Description: 1.) residency includes five 75-minute classes1, 2.) residency culminates in

a 60-minute company performance

C. SIX WEEK RESIDENCY & SIXTY-MINUTE PERFORMANCE:

\$6,500.00 plus

transportation

Description: 1.) residency includes twelve 75-90 minute classes and one lecture, 2.)

residency culminates in a sixty-minute company performance



DANCE RESIDENCIES CULMINATING IN STUDENT PRESENTATION PROGRAM:

(Presentations are usually ten to twenty minutes in length.)

TWO CLASSES PER WEEK

- D. Four week residency: \$2,400.00 plus transportation costs
Description: residency includes eight 40-90 minute classes that culminate in a student presentation
- E. Six week residency: \$3,600.00 plus transportation costs
Description: residency includes twelve 40-90 minute classes that culminate in a student presentation
- F. Eight week residency: \$4,800.00 plus transportation costs
Description: residency includes sixteen 40-90 minute classes that culminate in a student presentation



FOUR CLASSES PER WEEK

- G. Eight week residency: \$8,000.00 plus transportation
Description: residency includes thirty-two 40-90 minute classes that culminate in a student presentation
- H. Ten week residency: \$10,000.00 plus transportation costs
Description: residency includes forty 40-90 minute classes that culminate in a student presentation
- I. Twelve week residency: \$12,000.00 plus transportation costs
Description: residency includes forty-eight 40-90 minute classes that culminate in a student presentation

DANCE MOVES EVERYONE...

BE A PART OF THE MOVEMENT BY MAKING A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE
DONATION TO JP DANCE GROUP TODAY

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS PROVIDE FOR:

- Rehearsal Space
- Costumes, Sets and Props
- Study Guides for Arts-in-Ed lecture demonstrations
- Administrative support
- Programs and marketing materials
- Commissions for original music for new works
- Rentals for performance venues
- Stage technicians who light our stages and cue our music at performances



And most importantly...your contributions directly support JP Dance Group's amazingly talented, hardworking dancers!

.....

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Donation amount: _____

Signature: _____

*Make checks payable to: The Field
put JP Dance Group/Julie Petrusak in the memo line.*

*Please return this form with payment to:
Julie Petrusak / JP Dance Group, 76 Edgecombe Avenue, #2, NY, NY 10030*

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

JP Dance Group is a Sponsored Artist with The Field, a non-for-profit, tax-exempt, 501(c)(3) organization serving the New York City performing arts community. Contributions made to The Field and earmarked for JP Dance Group are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. For more information about The Field contact: The Field, 75 Maiden Lane, Suite 906, New York NY 10038, 212-691-6969, www.thefield.org. A copy of The Field's latest annual report may be obtained, upon request, from The Field or from the Office of the Attorney General, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271.