The Department of Dance is at the forefront of contemporary dance through choreographic and performance exploration, creative use of technologies and reimagining the documentation of dance. Visiting artists and scholars enrich the program, as do study abroad and outreach opportunities. Students perform in the department’s own black box, the Barnett Theatre, as well as downtown and in area schools. Interdisciplinary collaborations with the Advanced Computing Center for the Arts and Design, and other departments, are frequent.

PERFORMANCES AND PUBLICATIONS

Each year, the department produces Dance Downtown, four graduate and undergraduate concerts, one faculty concert and one evening of dancefilm. Dance Downtown, presented at the Capitol Theatre in downtown Columbus, features 50 dancers and four resident or visiting artists choreography. The remaining events are held at the Barnett Theatre, the performance space laboratory in the heart of the department.

Faculty also publish; particularly noteworthy are the Motion Bank projects online, “Synchronous Objects” and “Motion Bank: Two”, as well as the 2013 seminal dance studies reader, “Dance on Its Own Terms, Histories and Methodologies” edited by two faculty members, with numerous contributions from Ohio State scholars.
PROJECTS AND PARTNERS

ADVANCED COMPUTING CENTER FOR THE ARTS AND DESIGN (ACCAD)
The Department of Dance and ACCAD work together with shared faculty, staff and curriculum. Project based curriculum and faculty and visiting artist research projects explore and further the relationships of dance, digital technologies and design thinking. ACCAD houses the interdisciplinary creative space, Motion Capture Lab, with state-of-the-art motion capture and intermedia capabilities.

COUNCIL OF DANCE ADMINISTRATORS (CODA)
Ohio State Dance is a founding member.

DANCE NOTATION BUREAU (DNB)
To advance the art of dance through the use of a system of notation. Each year DNB assists in staging around 150-200 performances from scores. DNB’s Extension for Education and Research is located at Ohio State.

EXPERIMENTAL MEDIA AND MOVEMENT ARTS (EMMA) LAB
A joint creative research project of the Department of Dance and Ohio State’s Advanced Computing Center for the Arts and Design (ACCAD), integrating the body and technology in myriad ways.

MOTION BANK
A four year project (2010-2013) with The Forsythe Company, providing a broad context for research into choreographic practice. The creation of online digital scores in collaboration with guest choreographers are publicly available.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS OF DANCE
The Ohio State University is one of the founding members.

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY WEXNER MEDICAL CENTER
Dance Wellness: Where Medicine Meets the Arts a collaboration with The Ohio State University Sports Medicine. Dancers and artistic faculty and staff work with a team of rehabilitation specialists to promote health and wellness for the performing artist/athlete. On site and backstage care, pre-season screenings and an elective course in dance wellness are all provided.

The Department of Dance lives at the intersection of physical practice, creative process, and theoretical inquiry — where dance writing deepens performance, digital technologies expand choreography and historical study informs teaching. Students graduate from our programs with the artistry, ambition, and creativity to be visionaries and advocates in the dance field and in their communities.

(Susan Hadley, Chair, Department of Dance)