

Vania Clemons Bynum

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EDUCATION

Cornish College of the Arts, Seattle, WA. *Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance Performance (Cum Laude).*
Curriculum: *Ballet, Modern, Jazz, Spanish Dance, Choreography, Improvisation, Teaching Methods.*

Auburn University, Auburn, AL. *Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering.*

PRODUCTION AND ARTS ADMINISTRATION

- 2006 - present **Director and Choreographer, New Beginnings Christian Fellowship-Adult Dance Ministry, Renton, WA.**
Choreograph solos and group presentations to live and recorded music; responsible for planning, scheduling rehearsals, and costume coordination; work with other worship arts leaders to plan special events.
- 2006-2007 **Project Coordinator, The Hansberry Project at ACT, ACT Theatre, Seattle, WA.**
Assisted with planning and marketing for The Hansberry Project at ACT, including web design, flyer design and distribution, writing press releases, and coordinating events.
- 2006 **Excerpts from the Soul of a Woman, St. Therese Parish, Seattle, WA.**
Was the featured artist at St. Therese Jazz Vespers. Produced an informal showing of dance, music, & poetry. Choreographed several works, secured guest artists, designed and distributed flyers, performed in the show.
- 2005 **Arts for the Greater Good Hurricane Relief Benefit & Silent Auction, Broadway Performance Hall, Seattle, WA.**
Produced an arts show/fundraiser that included several genres of dance, live music, spoken word, and a silent auction. Secured sponsorship (Allied Arts Foundation) and funding (Microsoft) for theater expenses, choreographed, created a web site for advertising, and secured numerous donations from area businesses and individuals for a silent auction; all in under eight weeks. Partnered with the Seattle Black Photographers Association to expand the silent auction. Raised over \$13,000 for Hurricane Katrina victims relocated to the Seattle area and across the country.
- 1995 - 2001 **Software Test Engineer, Test Lead, Microsoft Corporation, Redmond, WA.**
Tested and shipped Microsoft Word v.'97-2002 (Office XP). Managed a team of software test engineers. Coordinated service releases across MS Office test groups and conducted team wide presentations.

CHOREOGRAPHY/PERFORMANCE – Choreographed and performed works

- 2008-2007 **“Butterfly”**. Solo. 20th Annual Martin Luther King Celebration, Tacoma Dome Exhibition Hall, Tacoma, WA.
20th Annual King County Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration. Benaroya Hall. Seattle, WA.
“King Came Singing” Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration. Seattle Pacific University. Seattle, WA.
- 2007 **“Connections”** (Music: Billie Preston & Syreeta). Duet. 19th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration.
Televised. Tacoma Dome Exhibition Hall. Tacoma, WA.
- 2006 **“Hip Hop - Back to Its’ Roots”**. Langston Hughes Performing Arts Center. Solo and Duet. Seattle, WA.
- 2006 **“Where Movement and Word Become One”**. Douglass-Truth Public Library (reopening ceremony). Seattle, WA.
- 2006 **“Dance Suite”** (Music: William Grant Still). Three part solo - **Byron Schenkman**, pianist. **Quinton Morris**, violinist.
SANKOFA THEATRE. Seattle University Vachon Room. Seattle, WA.
- 2006 **“That Name Excerpt”** (Music: Yolanda Adams). Liturgical dance finalist. Solo.
McDonald’s Gospelfest Seattle 2006. The Paramount Theater, Seattle, WA.
- 2005 **“A Lyrical Version of The Creation”** (Text: James Weldon Johnson; Music: Kenny G). Solo.
Providence Hospice of Seattle, Volunteer Celebration. St. Joseph Catholic Church Parish, Seattle, WA.
- 2005 **“That Name”** (Music: Yolanda Adams). Solo. Empowering the Church for the 21st Century urban
ministry conference. Mount Zion Baptist Church, Seattle, WA.
- 2005 **“I Surrender All”** (Music: CeCe Winans) Duet. Mount Zion Baptist Church Senior Day Celebration.
- 2003 **“Spiritual II”** (Music: Great Women of the Gospel). Solo.
Total Experience Gospel Choir 30th Anniversary Celebration, Emerald City Community SDA Church.

CHOREOGRAPHY

- 2007-2005 **“No Strings”, “The Old & New”, “A Ray Charles Medley”** (Music: Janet/Michael Jackson, Ray Charles & more). Hal Jackson Talented Teens Scholarship Competition. Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center, Renton, WA.
- 2006-present **Liturgical Solo and group works**. New Beginnings Christian Fellowship, Liturgical Dance Ministry. Renton, WA.
- 2006 **“Gilbert & Sullivan’s HMS Pinafore”** with Bellevue Lyric Opera. Bellevue Youth Theatre, Bellevue, WA.
- 2006 **“Hima”, “Celebration”**, (Music: Nawal). Excerpts from the Soul of a Woman. St. Therese Parish, Seattle, WA.
- 2005 **“Glance”** (Vocals: Heather Headley, Music: Elton John/Tim Rice). Broadway Performance Hall, Seattle, WA. Jerboa Dance-Terpsichore and Arts for the Greater Good Hurricane Relief Benefit.
- 2005 **“Where Are We Now?”** (Music: Rev. Patrinn Wright and Jeff Busch). Broadway Performance Hall, Seattle, WA. Cornish College of the Arts BFA Thesis Performance.

PERFORMANCE

- 2007 **“HUMANATURE”**. Dancer and Actress. Rainier Valley Cultural Center, Seattle, WA. Directors: Tyrone Brown, Justice Beitzel, & Robin Campbell. Choreographers: Rena Robinson Steiner & Laura Lee.
- 2007 **“Beautiful/Ugly”**. Soloist and rehearsal assistant. Langston Hughes Performing Arts Center, Seattle, WA. Choreographer: Kabby Mitchell.
- 2006 **Jerboa Dance-Dissonant Harmony**. Broadway Performance Hall, Seattle, WA. Choreographer: Jaime Waliczek.
- 2005 **A Gospel Choir Christmas with the Mount Zion Massed Choir**. Benaroya Hall, Seattle, WA. Choreographer: Consuelo Palmer-Bormann.
- 2005 **West Seattle New Dance Festival**. Arts West Playhouse & Gallery, Seattle, WA. Choreographer: Cheronne Wong
- 2005 **University of Washington Health Sciences - Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Tribute**. University of Washington, Seattle, WA. Soloist. Choreographers: Edna Daigre, Vania Bynum.
- 2004 **Alabama School of Fine Arts Summer Workshop**. Alabama School of Fine Arts, Birmingham, AL. Choreographers: Thaddeus Davis, Dwight Rhoden.
- 2003 **The Black Nativity**. Intiman Theater, Seattle, WA. Choreographers: Kabby Mitchell, Etienne Cakpo.
- 2002-2005 **Cornish Dance Theater, B.F.A. Thesis Performance, New Moves Student Concert**. Cornish College, Seattle, WA. Cornish dance Theatre Faculty and Guest Choreographers: Pat Hon, Donald Byrd, Peter Kyle
Choreographers: Sonia Dawkins, Yula Montoya, Eric Clothier
- 2002-2004 **Eastside Moving Company’s Annual Dance Concert**. Carlson Theater, Bellevue, WA. Choreographers: Eric Clothier, Deborah Wolf, Adam Parson, Betty Ann Platt, Jaime Waliczek, Kari Lee Florentine.
- 2001 - 2002 **Ballet Bellevue’s American Jazz Nutcracker**. Meydenbauer Center, Bellevue, WA. Choreographers: Chris Daigre, Dannul Dailey, Tinka Dailey, Duane George, Ronn Tice.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2007-present Definitive Dance Studio, Mercer Island, WA. - Ballet and Jazz Dance for teens.
- 2007-2006 Ballet Bellevue School, Bellevue, WA. - Adult beginning Ballet and Dance Conditioning.
- 2006 Irene’s School of Dance, Silverdale, WA. - Taught jazz and hip hop workshop (with choreography).
- 2006 Langston Hughes Performing Arts Center, Seattle, WA. - Dance conditioning for adults.
- 2006 New Beginnings Christian Fellowship, Renton, WA. - Instructor & choreographer for the Liturgical Dance Ministry.
- 2005 Seattle Rotary Boys and Girls Club, Seattle, WA. - Co-taught basic dance movement class for youth.
- 2005 Seattle Center Academy, Seattle, WA. - Assistant teacher of Afro-Caribbean and Hip Hop dance for youth.
- 2005 Dance Fremont Studio, Seattle, WA. - Taught modern dance class a part of Teaching Methods training.

SUPPLEMENTAL DANCE AND ARTS TRAINING

- 2007 Ballet Creole Professional Dance Intensive, Toronto, Canada: Patrick Parson, Gabby Kamino, Penny Godboldo & more.
- 2005 SD/Prism Dance Theatre Summer Intensive, Seattle, WA: Sonia Dawkins, Stephanie Saland, Alice Bergeson & more.
- 2004 Alabama School of Fine Arts Summer Workshop Birmingham, AL: Donald Byrd, Dwight Rhoden, Thaddeus Davis.
- 2003-2004 Spectrum Dance Summer Workshop, Seattle, WA: Donald Byrd.
- 2003 Cleo Parker Robinson Summer Dance Institute, Denver, CO: Donald McKayle, Mary Hinkson.
- 2002 Katherine Dunham Dance Seminar, St. Louis, MO: Katherine Dunham, Theo Jamison.