

## 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.

### 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.

## **CHOREOGRAPHY/PERFORMANCE - Choreographed and Performed works**

- 2008-2007      **“Butterfly”**. Solo. 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Martin Luther King Celebration, Tacoma Dome Exhibition Hall, Tacoma, WA.  
20<sup>th</sup> 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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. Patrinnell Wright and Jeff Busch). Broadway Performance Hall, Seattle, WA.  
Cornish College of the Arts BFA Thesis Performance,

## **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.