

Vania C Bynum – Biography

Vania C. Bynum started her professional career as a computer engineer, but her love of the arts led her to return to school to pursue a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) degree in Dance. A graduate of [Cornish College of the Arts](#), Vania dances, teaches, and choreographs throughout the Greater Seattle area and has performed in popular Seattle venues from the renowned stages of the Paramount & Moore Theaters, Intiman Theatre, Benaroya Hall, the Meydenbauer Center, Renton Ikea Performing Arts Center, and the Langston Hughes Performing Arts Center, to the reverent and intimate space of local churches with [The Sound of the Northwest](#) and [New Beginnings Christian Fellowship](#). She has also performed in local “hot-ticket” shows such as [Emerge - Seven Women, Seven Stools](#), The Black Nativity, Hip-Hop Back to Its Roots!, [Dance This!](#), and [Ballet Bellevue’s American Jazz Nutcracker](#).

Vania’s talent and work have reached high levels of visibility and recognition within the fine arts community. In 2008, she was a featured artist in the Colors Northwest Magazine. Her productions have been funded by the City of Seattle, [4 Culture](#), Bossak Heilbron Foundation, and [The Central District Forum of Seattle](#). Vania was selected as one of the Central District Forum's CREATION PROJECT artists, and was featured in Langston Hughes Performing Arts Center's inaugural African American Master Choreographer series (choreography by Kabby Mitchell). Mitchell described her performance as “ a remarkable dance presence for the audience that was inspirational and a pleasure to behold.” Vania was also chosen to perform in the [20th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration](#) for King County as well as the City of Tacoma.

Vania enjoys students of all ages. She has taught at [Northwest Tap Connection](#), [Ballet Bellevue School](#), [Langston Hughes Performing Arts Center](#), [Rotary Boys And Girls Club](#), the [Definitive Dance studio](#), and most recently at the [Tacoma Urban Performing Arts Center](#). In addition to her independent work, Vania has choreographed for the Hal Jackson Talented Teens of Washington, the Eastside Lyric Opera, [Jerboa Dance](#), Mount Zion Baptist Church, and the [New Beginnings Christian Fellowship](#) of Renton, WA, where she served as Director of the Adult Liturgical Dance Ministry for 10 years. Vania has also worked with distinguished artists including [Donald Byrd](#), [Sonia Dawkins](#), [Wade Madsen](#), Duane George, Michele Miller & Deborah Wolf. Driven by her desire to serve the community, in 2005, Vania founded Arts for the Greater Good, a non-profit organization dedicated to using artistic gifts to serve others. Her first benefit, produced in partnership with Allied Arts Foundation and Microsoft, raised \$13,000 for victims of Hurricane Katrina. In addition to arts production, Vania has worked in Computer Engineering at Microsoft and in Arts Administration at ACT Theatre.

Vania Bynum aspires to make dance more accessible to everyone and inspire others through movement as she walks in her purpose to share her passion for dance. Her belief is that **Dance is Life!!**