



## Jazz/Lyrical/Contemporary

Who:	What: What is their role in the dance world	When:	Links	
Alvin Ailey	<p><b>Who is Alvin Ailey?</b> He founded the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in New York City. One of the most famous names in dance, the late Ailey is known not only for popularizing modern dance, but also for transforming his small dance troupe into a powerful cultural force, revolutionizing African-American involvement in 20th-century dance. <b>What did he bring to Modern Dance?</b> Alvin Ailey was a choreographer who founded the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in 1958. It was a hugely popular, multi-racial modern dance ensemble that popularized modern dance around the world thanks to extensive world tours. His most famous dance is Revelations, a celebratory study of religious spirit. <b>How did Ailey influence dance?</b> Ailey made an immeasurable impact around the world of dance. By weaving African American themes into his dances, he ushered in a new era of concert dance. ... Today, his influence prevails in a body of work that continues to be performed more than 50 years later and a dance theater company that continues to flourish. <b>Why is Ailey considered a Dance Legend?</b> As a choreographer, Alvin Ailey wasn't just a visionary who radically expanded the space for African-American culture in modern dance. His seminal ballets that defined his company in its early years continue to reverberate, influencing and shaping new works through channels both direct and subliminal.</p>	1931-1989	<a href="https://www.alvinailey.org/alvin-ailey-american-dance-theater/alvin-ailey">https://www.alvinailey.org/alvin-ailey-american-dance-theater/alvin-ailey</a> <a href="https://www.alvinailey.org/performances/tickets/ailey-all-access">https://www.alvinailey.org/performances/tickets/ailey-all-access</a>  <a href="https://www.alvinailey.org/reperitury">https://www.alvinailey.org/reperitury</a>	
Katherine Dunham	<p><b>Who is Katherine Dunham?</b> Katherine Dunham was an African-American dancer and choreographer, producer, author, scholar, anthropologist and Civil Rights activist. She had one of the most successful dance careers in Western dance theatre in the 20th century and directed her own dance company for many years. <b>How did Katherine begin dancing?</b> Dunham early became interested in dance. While a student at the University of Chicago, she formed a dance group that performed in concert at the Chicago World's Fair in 1934 and with the Chicago Civic Opera company in 1935-36. <b>Who taught Dunham?</b> In high school, Katherine Dunham joins the Terpsichorean Club and begins to learn a kind of free-style modern dance based on ideas of Jacques-Dalcroze and Rudolf von Laban. At fourteen, to help raise money for her church, she organizes a "cabaret party." She is the producer, director, and star of the entertainment. <b>What is the Katherine Dunham Technique?</b> Dunham Technique is a fusion of ballet, modern and Afro-Caribbean dance over drum rhythms. One of Dunham's most famous students was Eartha Kitt, but she also worked with many people to teach them her craft and made them promise to keep her legacy alive.</p>	1909-2006	<a href="http://jdc.ohio.edu/katherine-dunham-biography/">http://jdc.ohio.edu/katherine-dunham-biography/</a>  <a href="https://biography.yourdictionary.com/katherine-dunham">https://biography.yourdictionary.com/katherine-dunham</a>  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ITcPgmZu88">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ITcPgmZu88</a>	
Jermaine Spivey	<p>Jermaine Maurice Spivey was born in Baltimore, Maryland USA and is a graduate of Baltimore School for the Arts and The Juilliard School. From 2002-present, Jermaine has lived and worked predominately in Europe but recently returned to make his home base in the USA. He has been a company member of Ballet Gulbenkian and Cullberg Ballet, worked as a freelance/guest artist for Hofesh Shechter Company, Robyn Live 2016, The LID, Arias Company and The Forsythe Company from 2013-2015 as well as a cast member of American Repertory Theater's original production The Shape She Makes conceived by Susan Missner and Jonathan Bernstein. Most consistently since 2008, Jermaine has been a member of Crystal Pite's work for companies such as Cedar Lake Ballet, Carte Blanche, Hessisches Staatsballett Wiesbaden and Netherlands Dance Theater.</p>	Current	<a href="https://kaufman.usc.edu/faculty/jermaine/">https://kaufman.usc.edu/faculty/jermaine/</a>  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g83M07_TFay">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g83M07_TFay</a>  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x9yVWhxVIEI">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x9yVWhxVIEI</a>	
Frank Hatchett	<p>"The Doctor of Jazz," Frank Hatchett was a jazz performer in theater, movies, television, and concerts before turning to teaching. He is the creator of the "VOP" style of jazz, taken from the sound he uses to demand a high-energy attack. Hatchett first experienced Mary Morlock's studio in East Hartford, Connecticut because one of his chores was to take his sister to dance class. As a teenager, Hatchett's dance teaching talents were apparent, and he started teaching his friends in his grandmother's basement. Later in his teens, he took classes from Sevilla Forte (Katherine Dunham's protegee) at Phillips and Forte School of Dance in New York City. He later credited Forte as one of his best teachers. Hatchett went on to study dance at the University of Connecticut, but after his first year he left for Philadelphia to study under Eleanor Harris. Hatchett moved to New York in the 1980s, teaching at various dance studios. Sue Samuels welcomed Hatchett to work with her and JoJo Smith at JoJo's Dance Factory, and in 1982, Hatchett and Maurice Hines renamed the studio Hines and Hatchett. Later when Hatchett left, Frank and Richard Ellner turned the studio into what today is Broadway Dance Center. Throughout his long teaching career, everyone from beginners to professionals, children to famous entertainers studied under Hatchett and learned the art of VOP jazz. Olivia Newton-John, Brooke Shields and Naomi Campbell are just a few of the stars Hatchett taught, in addition to a long list of other Broadway and television actors. The answer: nothing. It's not an acronym. Rather, it is an exclamation Hatchett began using early on in his teaching career to encourage students to accent or stylize a step. As Hatchett's style developed over time, "VOP" eventually became the name of Hatchett's style of jazz. In his style and teaching, Hatchett stressed the need to not only have strong technique, but to truly feel the music and use that emotion to personalize and enhance their movement. His style was influenced by his teachers, martial arts and a wide variety of dance styles, including African, East Indian, Caribbean and hip hop. He was also largely inspired by the overall rhythm of life. Dancer, teacher, choreographer, mentor - Frank Hatchett filled many roles throughout his life and had a major impact on countless people as a result. As Steve Boyd, a dance teacher and choreographer, put it, "Frank sees inside people and inspires them to bring out their potential. Frank teaches more than dance; he teaches about life."</p>	1935-2013	<a href="https://www.danceadvantage.net/frank-hatchett/">https://www.danceadvantage.net/frank-hatchett/</a>  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8zmpR8RukII">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8zmpR8RukII</a>  <p><b>FUN FACT!!</b> Our Very Own Christy Curtis trained with Frank!! See her thoughts below!!</p> <p>I was Frank Hatchett's assistant at the very first JAZZ World Congress, where street jazz and VOP was introduced!! He was one of the most influential dance mentors in CC's life!</p>	