

ERIN MORRIS

914 Thornberry Ln, Kirkwood MO 63122 * (734) 276-6630 * aileenmerin@gmail.com *
www.erinmorrishjazz.com

EDUCATION

- 2023 MFA in dance, Washington University in St Louis
Thesis: *Bodies in Jazz*. Advisor: Dr. Elinor Harrison
- 2006 Bachelor of Arts, University of Michigan
Major: Latin
Awards: Phillips Classical Prize 2003, Classical Translation Prize 2006
Major: Creative Writing - Literature
Honors Thesis: *The Wing Shop*. Advisor: Kenneth Mikolowski
Awards: Hopwood Poetry Award 2004, Hopwood Poetry Award 2005

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

- 2019 Krakow, Poland Organization: KMiTa Swing
Duration: 1 month
With dance partner Rafal Pustelny, instructed daily group classes and private lessons in addition to being featured teachers and performers at two major dance festivals, Lindy Hop Non Stop in Krakow and Amber Swing in Gdansk.
Completed a personal choreography project and performed it at Amber Swing.
- 2019 Houston, TX Organization: Houston Swing Dance Society
Duration: 1 month
With partner Christian Frommelt, instructed daily group classes and private lessons for the HSDS performance lindy hop troupe, prepared and performed a choreography showcase with students at the end of the residency.
- 2018 Houston, TX Organization: Houston Swing Dance Society
Duration: 1 month
Instructed daily group classes and private lessons for the HSDS performance lindy hop troupe, also taught weekly to the greater Houston community of swing dancers. Encouraged the formation of an all-women jazz performance troupe Rhythm With A Twist and continued to be their choreographer and artistic director for two years.
- 2014 Vienna, Austria Organization: IG HOP

Duration: 2 months

With dance partner Nathan Bugh, instructed daily group classes for the organization's multiple tiers of students. Instructed two additional weekend workshops in Innsbruck, Austria and Genova, Italy. Completed a personal choreography project and a student choreography project that were showcased at the end of the residency.

DANCE COMPANY EXPERIENCE

2022 Elinor Harrison Dance: dancer in collaborative process with choreographer Elinor Harrison for premiere of "Not All These Things Are True" in St. Louis, MO.

2018-2019 Rhythm With A Twist, Houston TX: co-founded a community all-women jazz performance troupe with Alesandra Bull. The purpose was to further the artistic development of the women through performance and to foster supportive relationships for continued growth in dance. Choreographed several routines a year and traveled frequently to Houston to teach and perform with the troupe. The final RWAT choreography was performed in international competition.

2012-2017 Erin Morris & Her Ragdolls, Ann Arbor MI: founded a professional chorus girl troupe designed to engage and empower female jazz dance colleagues. Choreographed over 50 original full length dance numbers for approximately 10 events each year in the local community as well as traveling to jazz festivals around the country. The Ragdolls' secondary mission was to showcase the relationship and impact of live jazz music and dance. Worked closely with renowned bandleader James Dapogny to create programming for 2 full length music-and-dance revues, "Down By The Riverside" in 2014 and "Jassafrass" in 2015. Directed all aspects of the shows, from marketing and fundraising to technical theater run throughs. The Ragdolls were featured performers in the highly acclaimed "River Raisin Ragtime Revue" for 6 years in a row at the historic Michigan Theater.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2023 Spring ACDA Central Conference - Graduate student instructor: "Jazz Roots Repertoire" and "Jazz Partnering"

2022 - 2023 STL Swing - Instructor: design and instruct weekly classes in lindy hop

2022 Fall Washington University in St Louis - Graduate student teacher: Jazz Roots course, developed unique course and curriculum and taught 2 credit course to 23 students

2022 Spring ACDA Central Conference - Graduate student instructor: "Joy of Jazz Roots"

2018 - 2020 Washington University Swing Club - Lead Teacher

2018 - 2019 Houston Swing Dance Society 2018-2019 - Visiting Instructor and Choreographer

2011 - 2016 University of Michigan Swing Club - Lead Teacher, Teacher Trainer: taught weekly progressive classes for advanced students, as well as developed training tools and curriculum to support the teaching roster and educate new teachers. Coordinated live jazz music for special events and implemented musicians in the classroom to teach jazz theory topics.

2009 - 2020 Invitational Dance Instructor: employed at Lindy Hop and Solo Jazz weekend seminars, weeklong camps, and jazz music festivals at a rate of approximately 12 workshops per year throughout the United States and Canada.

2007 - 2010 Eastvale Equestrian Center - Assistant Trainer, Dressage Teacher

2000 - 2006 University of Michigan Swing Club - Teacher

INTERNATIONAL DANCE AWARDS

2023 Lindyfest - 2nd Place Invitational Draw

2018 Lindyfest - 1st Place All Star Draw

2018 International Lindy Hop Championships - 2nd Place Showcase

2017 Montreal Swing Riot - 1st Place Couples Battle

2017 Beantown Camp - 1st Place Mix and Match

2017 International Lindy Hop Championships - 3rd Place Team

2016 Montreal Swing Riot - 1st Place Invitational Team

2016 Montreal Swing Riot - 2nd Place All That Jazz

2015 Montreal Swing Riot - 1st Place Solo Jazz