Labyrinth: An Interdisciplinary Arts Exploration of Relationship Dynamics

The students and faculty on this project explored relationship dynamics and conflict to develop a new dance film, incorporating large-scale props, lighting design, and space limitations.

Team
Faculty: Ali Duffy, Andrew Ina
Students: Jadyn Owens, Hallie Anderson

Top 3 Transformative Priorities
1. Intentionally Recruited Underrepresented Students
2. Leveraged Existing Support
3. Drew in Faculty New to Undergraduate Projects

Introduction
For this project, we all researched references and imagery that matched our ideas for contrasting relationships between the dancers, the setting, and the story. We pondered what props we would use. We chose mannequins because they linked our original storyline that wove through family/social events, and we thought of dancer relationships, which became an adventure into the unknown with one dancer representing a manipulative mastermind hidden among the scenic elements. The project molded and evolved through the rehearsal process; it was amazing to hear the faculty members’ and students’ viewpoints change as we discovered the storyline of our Labyrinth.

Faculty Voice
"Jadyn's and Hallie's creative ideas and movement generation we developed in rehearsal together elevated this work to a new, unexpected place. Our working process helped me sense connections to my teaching practices as well. All in all, this has been an extremely successful research project that we will now leverage into national venues!"
-- Dr. Ali Duffy

Student Voice
"I would consider this a transformative experience! I have discovered a new way to connect with others through dance, and how society can impact a person. There is an idea that everyone must fit into a certain image, and this project highlights the dilemmas behind that. Individuality is taken for granted, and we must cherish our own image and believe it is the correct one...In the future, I hope to discover myself even more and enhance what I find beautiful in myself. I want to care less about what other people might think, and in turn, develop my own personal happiness. That is what this project helped me realize. Because of the people and aspects of this production, I am well on my way to discovering who I am and how that impacts my dancing."
-- Undergraduate, Hallie Anderson

To Date Progress
We have made creative decisions, developed choreography, planned for filming, and begun rehearsing the dance.

Check out the Rehearsal Video!