

Cyrah L. Ward

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Education

- 2020–Current** **Dance & Performance Studies MFA Candidate**
University of Maryland College Park | College, Park MD
- 2018** **BFA, Dance, Choreography, Performance Studies**
Research Distinction | Magna Cum Laude
The Ohio State University | Columbus, OH
Thesis: *Blackened Tradition: A Performance Study of Black Bodies and Classical Music*
Advisor: Daniel Roberts
- 2014** **HS Diploma, Dance, Choreography and Performance**
Stivers School for the Arts | Dayton, Ohio
Mentor: DeShona Pepper-Robertson

Professional Performance

- 2018-2019** **Urban Bush Women**
Performer | Costume Manager | Social Media Content Creator
Founding Artistic Director: Jawole Willa Jo Zollar

Artistic Residencies

- 2020** **Podcasting The Humanities Winter Institute** | Research Triangle Park, NC
- 2020** **Mare Nostrum Elements** | Brooklyn, NY
- 2020** **Center for Performance Research** | Brooklyn, NY
- 2020** **Jamaica Center for Arts and Learning** | Brooklyn, NY
Resident Artist Partnership
- 2019** **Exploring the Metropolis Choreography and Composer Residency** | Brooklyn, NY
- 2019** **Still as Oak** | Tulane University | New Orleans, LA

Critical Race Theory Panel Talks

- 2021** **Blacklight Summit** | The Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center Brooklyn, NY
- 2021** **Black Theatre and Dance Symposium** | University of Maryland
College Park, MD
- 2021** **Black Dance Round Table** | Tee Ohio State University Brooklyn, NY

Workshops | Intensives | Conferences

- 2018, 19** **Peoples Institute for Survival and Beyond**
Phoenix, Arizona | Brooklyn, NY
- 2018, 19** **Urban Bush Women: Summer Leadership Institute**
Phoenix, Arizona | Brooklyn, NY
- 2017, 19** **International Association of Black in Dance** Dallas,
Texas | Los Angeles, California
- 2017, 19** **Urban Bush Women: Generative Dancer** Brooklyn, NY
- 2016** **American College Dance Association Dance Conference** Choreographer
representative for The Ohio State University
- 2016** **Ohio Dance Festival** Columbus, OH

Teaching

- 2018, 19** **Generative Dance Techniques | UBW | Brooklyn, NY | Milledgeville, GA**
Mother Tongue choreographic techniques, Soloist-Partnering technique
- 2018, 19** **Community Dance | UBW | Brooklyn, NY**
Dance for Every Body, Afro-Contemporary
- 2012-14, 20** **Liturgical Dance & Choreography | Dayton, Ohio**
Composition, Choreography, Performance Techniques
- 2011, 15** **Fine Arts Summer Camp | Dayton, Ohio**
Creative Movement, Choreography

Community Organizing

- 2019** **Community Sing | UBW | Milledgeville, GA**
Re-teaching African-American Traditions through song and movement
- 2019** **Hair Party | UBW | Greater NY Area | Washington, DC | State College, PA**
Facilitation and guided movement explorations centered around how color, length, and varying degrees of curl affect definitions of “good hair” and “bad hair” within and outside of the African American community.

Publications

- 2020** **The Black Box News Podcast**
A research platform dedicated to dissecting stereotypes deeply rooted in the infrastructures of American Society.
- 2019** **Collective Terrain/s | Dancespace Project**
Performance review for Tendayi Kuumba and Greg Purnell’s, U.F.O.: (Unidentified Fly Objects)
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Awards and Honors

Scholarly Awards

2018 **Board of Trustees: Student Recognition Award** | The Ohio State University

2016 **Angelique Kidjo Fine Arts Award** | The Ohio State University

Scholarship | Grants | Fellowships

2020 Brooklyn Arts Fund Research Grant | Brooklyn, NY

2017 Summer Research Opportunity Fellowship Program | The Ohio State University

2017 Women Arts Development Grant | The Ohio State University

2017, 18 Arts Research Scholarship | The Ohio State University

2017 Arts and humanities Undergraduate Research Scholarship | The Ohio State University

2017 Aida Cannarsa Snow research Endowment Grant | The Ohio State University

2016, 18 Dance Merit Scholarship | The Ohio State University

Self-produced Works

Enthroned One Dance, Artistic Director (Current)

2019 *Man's Playground*, premiere at Jamaica Center for Arts and Learning | Jamaica, Queens

2018 *Blackened Tradition*, premiered at The Ohio State University | Columbus, OH

- Excerpts commissioned by the Lincoln Theatre | Columbus, OH (2018)
- Toured on behalf of The Ohio State University | Bahia, Salvador, Brazil (2018)
- Commissioned by SROP Fellowship at The Ohio State University | Columbus, Ohio (2017)

2018 *Be Changin' Too* premiered at Inside the Riot Choreo-Poem | Columbus, OH

- Commissioned by the Maroon Arts Group | Columbus, OH (2018)
- TEDxKingLincolnBonzville (2018) | Columbus, OH

2017 *Worthless Freedom* premiered at The Ohio State University | Columbus, OH

- Represented The Ohio State University in the ACDA Performance Gala (2017)
- Toured on behalf of The Ohio State University | Bahia, Salvador, Brazil (2018)

2015 *Severed Segments*, premiered at The Ohio State University | Columbus, OH 2014

Endangered Species, premiered at Stivers School for the Arts | Dayton, OH

Dramaturgy

2020 **Choreography by CHRISTINE C. WYATT**

Ti'ed (The Solo), Dramaturg for commissioned Work Up Artist Residency. Gibney | Brooklyn, NY

Select Performance

- 2020** **Man's Playground | Enthroned One Dance| Jamaica, Queens**
- 2018-2019** **Hair & Other Stories | Urban Bush Women | National Tour**
- BRIC | Brooklyn, NY
 - Dance Place | Washington, DC
 - Davidson College | Davidson, NC
 - Dance Center, Columbia College | Chicago, IL
 - Penn State | State College, PA
 - Georgia College | Milledgeville, GA.
- 2016** **Choreography by Joshua Manculich**
- *Ride*, Ohio Dance Festival | Columbus, OH
- 2016,18** **Brazil Dance Tour | The Ohio State University | Columbus, OH**
- Choreography By:**
- BeBe Miller, Crystal Michelle-Perkins, Daniel Roberts, Susan Bradford Kunta, Susan Hadley, Janet Schroeder, Teena Marie Custer, Joshua Manculich, Quilan Arnold, and Ann Sofie Clemmensen
- 2016** **Choreography by Bebe Miller**
- *The Hendrix Project* | Columbus, OH | Salvador, Bahia, Brazil
- 2015** **Choreography by Crystal Michelle-Perkins**
- *The Descent of this water Rain*, Dublin Arts Council Public Performance | Dublin, OH
 - *The Amen Corner* | Columbus, Ohio | Salvador, Bahia, Brazil (2016)
- 2015** **Choreography by Ann Sophie Clemmensen**
- Whirligigs, Move Drums Downtown XI |The Ohio State University | Columbus, OH
- 2014** **Stivers School for the Arts | Dayton, OH**
- Choreography by:**
- Shonna Hickman-Matlock, Rodney Veal, Karen Hochwalt, Kirsten Fricke, Paul Gilliam, and Susanne Payne
- 2012-2014** **Choreography by DeShona Pepper-Robertson**
- *Chasing Nuffie* | Joy | Dayton, OH
 - *Everything Must Change* | Joy | Dayton, OH
 - *Joy* | Stivers Celebrates | Dayton, OH
 - *Rosa* | Black History Production | Dayton, OH
- 2012** **Free Spirits: From the mountain Top to the Jazz Hall, CityFolk | Dayton, OH**
- Opening performer for Fatoumata Diawara

Community-based Art Training and Immersive Pedagogies

- 2018, 19** **Urban Bush Women Summer Leadership Institute with the People's Institute for Survival and Beyond**
- Phoenix, AZ | Brooklyn, NY

Movement Training

- 2019-2020** **Stretch Release Therapy, Kika Stretch Method | Brooklyn, NY**
- Instruction: Hakika Dubose
- 2018-2020** **Evidence Dance Company | Brooklyn, NY**
- Cyrah Ward

- Instruction: Ronald K Brown (modern dance, Senegalese Sabar, West African movement vocabularies, Afro-Caribbean dance, and contemporary urban dance)

2016-2020

West African Forms

- Instruction: Dr. Darian Marcel Parker (traditional West African)| Brooklyn, NY, Pat-Hall (Afro-Caribbean dance & movement), Stephanie McGee (West African forms)| Phoenix, Arizona, Tamara Williams (afro-Brazilian)| Dallas, Texas, Master Danielson (traditional orisha dances) | Salvador, Bahia, Brazil

2017, 19

Urban Bush Women; Generative Dancer | Brooklyn, NY

- Instruction: Jawole Willa Jo Zoller (choreographic devices, repertory, dramaturgy, improvisation), Chanon Judson (contemporary), Samantha Speis (contemporary, improvisation), and Gayle Fekete (view points compositional technique)

2016-2018

Black Greek Stepping, The Ohio State University | Columbus, OH

- Instruction: Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc., Xi Gamma Chapter

2014-2018

The Ohio State University | Columbus, OH

Instruction: Bebe Miller (modern dance technique), Crystal Michel-Perkins (modern dance technique, Afrodiasporic rhythms, and composition techniques), Daniel Roberts (Cunningham technique, ballet, music composition), Quilian Arnold (hip-hop), Ann Sophie Clemmensen (low-flying contemporary, composition), Susan Van Pelt Petry (contemporary technique), Eddie Taketa (contemporary technique, choreographic devices), Susan Bradford Kunta (West-African technique),

2012-2014

Stivers School For the Arts | Dayton, OH

- Instruction: DeShona Pepper-Robertson (modern dance technique, improvisation, liturgical dance), Sheri “Sparkle” Williams (modern dance conditioning), Rodney Veal (choreography composition), Karen Hochwalt (ballet), Kirsten Fricke (contemporary dance technique), Dawn Wood Carter (modern dance technique), and Paul Gilliam (contemporary ballet technique)

2010-2012

Omega Baptist Church | Dayton, OH

- Instruction: Adrian Neil Jr (liturgical dance technique), Rachel Ward (liturgical dance technique)

Community Organizing Memberships

2016-Present Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc.

References Upon Request