

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## Ariyan Johnson

Committed to Inspiring Communities through Artistic Expressions

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### I. EDUCATION

<b>Master of Arts in Applied Theater</b>	2014
The City University of New York School of Professional Studies at The Graduate School and University Center	
<b>Bachelor of Arts in Speech Pathology and Audiology</b>	Lehman College
<b>High School Diploma in Dance and Academics</b>	Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts
Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater	Merit Scholarship Student
Martha Graham Center for Contemporary Dance	Merit Scholarship Student
92nd Street Y. Harkness Ballet	Merit Scholarship Student
Chautauqua School of Dance Student	Merit Scholarship

### II. PROFESSIONAL ACADEMIC /TEACHING EXPERIENCE

<b>ASSISTANT PROFESSOR</b>	UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE, IRVINE, CA	2020- PRESENT
<b>ADJUNCT FACULTY</b>	PASADENA CITY COLLEGE, PASADENA, CA	2018- 2020
<b>IN-SCHOOL AND AFTER-SCHOOL CURRICULUM CREATOR/ TEACHING ARTIST</b>	HIGHLAND PARK CONTINUATION SCHOOL, LOS ANGELES, CA	2017- 2019
<b>ADJUNCT FACULTY/COMMERCIAL DANCE INSTRUCTOR</b>	INSTUDIO SCHOOL (FORMERLY RELATIVITY EDUCATION) LOS ANGELES, CA	2015- 2020
<b>ACTING FOR THE CAMERA I INSTRUCTOR</b>	UCLA EXTENSION, WESTWOOD, CA	2015
<b>MOVEMENT INSTRUCTOR</b>	A NOISE WITHIN, PASADENA, CA	2015
<b>HIP-HOP EDUCATOR</b>	NEW JERSEY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	2011- 2014
<b>TEACHING ARTIST</b>	P.S. 48, District 8, New York Board of Education BRONX, NEW YORK	2011- 2014
<b>GUEST LECTURER</b>	PROJECT RWANDA: DRAMA AND THEATRE EDUCATION FOR RECONCILIATION AND DEVELOPMENT, RWANDA, AFRICA	2013
<b>GUEST LECTURER</b>	JOHN JAY CRIMINAL COLLEGE, NEW YORK, NEW YORK	2013
<b>DANCE INSTRUCTOR</b>	BROOKLYN INTERNATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, District 13, New York Board of Education	2012
<b>DANCE INSTRUCTOR</b>	24 HOUR FITNESS	2009 - 2012
<b>GUEST LECTURER</b>	UNIVERSITY of KANSAS, LAWRENCE, KANSAS	2010
<b>ARTISTIC DIRECTOR</b>	FAITHFUL DANCE COMPANY, INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA	1999 - 2009

### III. PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

#### DANCE

HIP-HOP BACK-UP DANCING:

Mary J Blige  
YA KID K / Technotronic  
Prince Markie Dee & The Soul Convention  
Urban Soul  
SWV  
2 in a Room  
Keith Sweat  
Crystal Waters  
LL Cool J  
Lisa Lisa & The Cult Jam  
Ms. Melody  
INTRO  
Tony Moran

**\*CHOREOGRAPHY:**

*Honorable Mention for Choreography from the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts	
A Difficult Conversation	collaboration with Charlotte Griffin
I Dance Because I Can -short dance film	Nabla Festival (Italy)
Triggered- short dance film	Film Festivals
Detroit 67 directed by Margaret Hemp	Historian Consultant/Choreographer
Sunday Best	B.E.T. Show Season 5 Opening
A Time To Laugh	B.E.T. Show Dance Segments
Chaka Khan	Show tunes (Burgundy Records)
New Year's Eve Show	Praise Party at the Forum 2004-2008
Kurt Carr	Live Show Taping (GospoCentric)
Hill Harper	VH1 Pilot Dance Sequence/Dance Coach
Shakin'	NAACP Nominated Play
College Bound	Awards Dinner Banquet 2002-2004
Steve Harvey Show	Esp. 209- "I'm not a Chauvinist Piggy"
KRS One	"Yeah We in There" Video (JIVE)
YA Kid K/Technotronics	Show tunes/ "That Man" Video (EMI)
Jackie McGhee	Show tunes
(MCA)	
INTRO	Show tunes (Untouchables)
Ms. Melody	Show tunes
(JIVE)	
Tony Moran	Show tunes (MCA)
Wanda Ramos	Show tunes (Quest)
Just Another Girl on the I.R.T.	Party Scene

**DANCE COMPANIES:**

Footprints	Featured Dancer	Dir. Freddy Moore
Forces of Nature	Featured Dancer	Dir. Abdel Salaam
Eleo Pomare	Guest Artist	Dir. Shirley Rushing
Alpha Omega Dance Company	Principal Dancer	Dir. Ron Pratt

**TOURS:**

SWV	Coca Cola Superfest U.S.A./Canada
2 in a Room	Australia, Japan, New Zealand, Philippines, Jamaica
Forces of Nature	Mexico
Women in Rap	
California	

**TELEVISION/VIDEO/FILM:**

Something To Sing About	Praise Dancer/Church Scene
Salt-N-Pepa <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L5BMM4oHdUs">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L5BMM4oHdUs</a>	"Start Me Up"
Technotronics <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gg9Lm5ByruM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gg9Lm5ByruM</a>	"Let This House Beat Drop"
Mariah Carey <a href="https://youtu.be/NrJEFrth27Q">https://youtu.be/NrJEFrth27Q</a>	"Emotion"
Mass Order <a href="https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=YFEG8rDJTX0">https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=YFEG8rDJTX0</a>	"Lift Every Voice"
Kwame <a href="https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=WrauWpvaPj4">https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=WrauWpvaPj4</a>	"Nasty"
A.D.O.R <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zcDMwbR8noU">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zcDMwbR8noU</a>	"Let it All Hang Out"
Joya <a href="https://youtu.be/GOzytSRqShq">https://youtu.be/GOzytSRqShq</a>	"Getting Off On You"
USA Dream Team	Keith Sweat
Grammy Awards <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CykO7uGPhy4&amp;list=RDCykO7uGPhy4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CykO7uGPhy4&amp;list=RDCykO7uGPhy4</a>	LL Cool J
Essence Awards	Otis Sallid
Queen Latifah <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2q3DMZkEnjM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2q3DMZkEnjM</a>	"Dance for Me"

Bikercize  
 Dance Party USA with Rennie Harris

**CONSULTING:**

NIKE

“Own The Floor”

**DANCE JUDGE:**

How Sweet The Sound (renowned Gospel competition live show with new dance category) 2022 North Carolina

**DANCE CASTING:**

B.E.T. Gospel Awards  
 Sunday Best/ B.E.T. Show

Kirk Franklin  
 Kirk Franklin

**PRODUCTION:**

LIBATIONS	Directed, Cinematographer, and Producer	Dance Africa 2022
WE WILL NEVER FORGET	Directed, Cinematographer, and Producer	Apollo Theater Digital Stage
SPIRITUAL CYPHERS	Created, Directed and Produced Documentary Series	In Post-Production
COME SUNDAY	Created, Directed, Shot and Produced Dance Show	Deal in Process
PURE GOLD	Produced, Choreographed and Edited	Archival Video
FAITHFUL DANCE COMPANY	Created Camera Shot Lists for live dance shows	Video Sales
D.I.M.A.B.A.	Artistic Director of Theatrical Company for hire	Various Productions

**ACTING**

FILM:

FUN WITH DICK AND JANE	Sony	Dir. Barry Sonnenfeld
THE GENERAL'S DAUGHTER	Paramount	Dir. Simon West
BULWORTH	20th Century Fox	Dir. Warren Beatty
KISS OF DEATH	20th Century Fox	Dir. Barbet Schroeder
DANGEROUS MINDS	Disney	Dir. John. N. Smith
CHANGIN CHANNELS	-short film	
JUST ANOTHER GIRL ON THE I.R.T.*	Miramax	Dir. Leslie Harris

\*Nominated for Best Actress from Independent SPIRIT Awards

TELEVISION:

JAG	CBS
STRONG MEDICINE	Lifetime
FOR THE PEOPLE	Lifetime
L.A. DOCTORS	CBS
THE STEVE HARVEY SHOW	Series Regular-WB
ONE LIFE TO LIVE	ABC
LAW & ORDER	NBC
YOU WROTE IT, YOU WATCH IT	Series Regular-MTV Pilot

THEATRE:

PURE GOLD (Writer/Director/Choreographer)	Nate Holden/Japan America Theaters
THE PIANO LESSON	John Anson Ford Theater/ Inside the Ford
FLYIN' WEST	Pasadena Playhouse

COMMERCIAL:

P.S.A. MCGRUFF - Take A Bite Out of Crime	“Clouds”
JC PENNY	“98 Anniversary”
BET SAFE SEX	“Keep It Tight”
BET SAFE SEX	“Once upon A Time”

VOICE OVER:

N.Y.C. Access and Functional Needs Training Video	Various Female Characters
Coastal Storm Plan Animated Training Videos	Various Female Characters
MCDONALD'S	"IOU/\$1 Menu" Legal
MCDONALD'S	"Keisha" / Keisha
HONDA CIVIC "How Ya Living Soap" -3 Spots	Prettiest Girl on Campus/Monique Dubois

ANIMATION/VIDEO GAMES/ ADR / RECORDINGS:

WB- STATIC SHOCK	"The Usual Suspect" / Tamara Lawrence
SUPERMAN	Various Characters
BIKER BOYS	
Poetry Album	Patty Cake Productions

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:**

DSA- Dance Studies Association  
CADD-Collegium of African Diaspora Dance  
NDEO- National Dance Education Organization  
EHPS-Embodied Hip Hop Philosophies Scholars  
CDSM- Coalition of Diasporan Scholars Moving  
SAG-AFTRA – Screen Actors Guild / American Federation of Television and Radio Artists  
AEA – Actors Equity Association  
TEACHING ARTIST GUILD  
ASSOCIATION OF TEACHING ARTISTS  
ARTIST AS EDUCATOR

**III. AWARDS/CERTIFICATES**

2022 Best Performance from Experimental Dance & Music Film Festival for *I Dance Because I Can*  
2022 Semi-Finalist from CineVox Dance Film for *I Dance Because I Can*  
2022 Semi-Finalist Experimental from Eurasia for *Triggered*  
2021 Black Lives Matter Award from Independent Awards (London) for *Triggered*  
2021 Award of Recognition in African American, Experimental, Music Video and Women Filmmakers categories from The Short Film Competition for *Triggered*  
2021 Audience Award of Best Director from Black Feedback Film Festival for *Triggered*  
January 2021 Best First Time Director and Best Experimental Short from London Independent Film Awards for *Triggered*  
2020 ONE Online Training Certificate  
2018 Certificate of Appreciation from Highland Park Continuation High School

**V. GRANT / RESEARCH EXPERIENCE/ RESIDENCY**

**HELLMAN FELLOWSHIP AWARD**

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE IRVINE, CA 2022-2023

**CUNY DANCE INITIATIVE RESIDENT ARTIST**

QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE 2022-2023

**UCI ILLUMINATIONS CHANCELLOR'S ARTS & CULTURE INITIATIVE**

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE IRVINE, CA 2022-2023

**THE INTERIM COVID-19 RESEARCH RECOVERY PROGRAM REQUEST**

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE IRVINE, CA 2022-2023

**THE CLAIRE TREVOR SCHOOL OF THE ARTS' INSTITUTE FOR 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY CREATIVITY**

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE IRVINE, CA 2020-2021

**ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE GRANTEE LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

AHMANSON SENIOR CENTER LOS ANGELES, CA  
**CITY OF PASADENA ARTS & CULTURAL COMMISSION AND THE DIVISION OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS GRANT RECIPIENT PASADENA ARTS NIGHT, CA (COVID EFFECTED)** 2020  
**ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE GRANTEE LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS**  
 SUNRISE ASSISTED SENIOR LIVING FACILITY STUDIO CITY, CA 2015 - 2016  
 APPLIED THEATER FACILITATOR  
 GOWANUS HOUSES COMMUNITY/ SENIOR CENTER BROOKLYN, NY 2013 - 2014  
**APPLIED THEATER FACILITATOR**  
 SERVICES AND ADVOCACY FOR GAY, LESBIAN, BI-SEXUAL, TRANSGENDER ELDERS (SAGE) NEW YORK 2013

### **VI. LICENSES**

N.Y.C. Public School Substitute Teacher Certificate, OPD License 2011

### **VII. PROFESSIONAL AND PUBLIC SERVICE**

Los Angeles County High School of the Arts Social Justice Diversity Curriculum Committee 2020- 2022  
 Debbie Allen’s Hot Chocolate Nutcracker -Santa Monica Airport Drive-In Gala, crew 2021  
 Community meetings for Los Angeles County’s Alternatives to Incarceration Initiative 2020  
 Liaison between academic institutions and the Debbie Allen Dance Academy for Interns 2017  
 M.E.N.D. Poverty Gala Social Justice Performance Directed, Choreographed, Wrote and Hired talent 2015

### **VIII. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

NYC Arts in Education Roundtable-Decolonizing the Arts Curriculum, a 2-hour webinar 2021  
 Elevate Women Mentoring Initiative, UCI sponsored five 2-hour workshop session 2021  
 The Cypher Summit: Hip Hop Dance Education Conference 2020  
 Native American Conference: Building Support for Native American Students 2020  
 Curriculum and Instruction of Program Proposals, Professional Development, Pasadena City College 2019  
 American Alliance for Theatre and Education National Conference 2019 Post Conference Event- Beyond Consciousness-Raising: Theatre, Education and Activism, CUNY School of Professional Studies 2019

### **VIII. CONFERENCES/SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

National Dance Education Organization Let’s Make Dance Together: Reigniting the Creative Spark Conference, Performance/Workshop of “A Difficult Conversation Recounted” with Charlotte Griffin 2022  
 Dance Studies Association Dancing Resilience Dance Studies and Activism in a Global Age Conference, Workshop on “Using Social Media to Inform, Educate, and Create Resilience in Educational Dance Spaces” 2022  
 Dance Studies Association Dancing Resilience Dance Studies And Activism in a Global Age Conference, Performance/Workshop of “A Difficult Conversation Recounted” with Charlotte Griffin 2022  
 The CUNY 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Applied Theatre Racial Justice Conference, Panelist *When Walls Become Bridges: Reflections On Black Women in Education Who Have Applied Theatre cause the Schoolin’ Aint Enuf* 2022  
 Collegium for African Diaspora Dance Conference at Duke University, Workshop *Triggered: An Embodied Film Experience-Creating Joy While Addressing Social Justice Issues* 2022  
 Collegium for African Diaspora Dance Conference at Duke University, Panel *Talk Yo ish! Embodied Hip Hop Scholars Crew* 2022  
 National Dance Education Organization, Paper Presentation-*Using Hip Hop: The Dance Educators’ Ethical Questions for Navigating Social Justice Spaces and Being Anti-Racist* 2021  
 National Dance Education Organization, *Aesthetics of Anti-Racist Dance Pedagogy* Workshop with Sarah Leddy 2021  
 Global Hip Hop Studies: Breaking and the Olympics Speaker Series, Speaker 2021

Hip Hop Education Conference at Harvard University, Healing Through Hip Hop Moderator 2021  
 Co-Interviewed with Professor Lisa Naugle and Moderated International Initiatives Guest Artist Adah Parris 2021  
 CUNY School of Professional Studies Black Student Union Inaugural Blacks in Academy, Panelists 2021

**X. PUBLICATIONS**

*Dancing Goddesses: African American Women Hip Hop Dancers -Cultural Contributors.* Hip Hop Dance Almanac 2021 Online Edition (UK)  
*The Historically Missing Piece of African American Women Hip Hop Dancers and Their Contributions to the Culture.* Black Dance Magazine spring/Summer 2021 issue

**XI. WORK EXHIBITS/INTERVIEWS /MEDIA APPEARANCES**

The Toronto International Film Festival screening of “Just Another Girl On The I.R.T” 2022  
 The 46<sup>th</sup> Newark Black Film Festival screening “Just Another Girl On The I.R.T.” 2022  
 Academy of Motion Pictures Museum Limited Film Series “Just Another Girl On The I.R.T.” 2022  
 New York Magazine: The Cut online article “Celebrate Black Women in Film With These 20 Classics” 2022  
 Sundance Film Festival 2022 feature screening “Just Another Girl On The I.R.T.” 2022  
 Entertainment Weekly: Collectors Edition- A Celebration of Black Film A Century of Black Excellence... 2021  
 American Film Institute Festival sponsored by Audi of cinema’s legacy 2021  
 Interview regarding the creative process for *Triggered* with Art of Brooklyn Film festival 2021  
 Podcast Interview regarding the creative process for *Triggered* with Art of Brooklyn Film festival 2021  
 Claire Trevor School of the Arts article about Ariyan Johnson’s Research Documentary 2021  
 Claire Trevor School of the Arts article about 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant work winners 2021  
 BCG Magazine social media recognition of *Just Another Girl on the I.R.T* 2021  
 Black Feedback Film Festival Audience Award of Best Director 2021 for *Triggered* 2021  
 Los Angeles Chronicle article on works showcased in Dance Visions 2021  
 UCI article about changing instruction and perspectives on Hip Hop feature 2020

**XII. ADJUDICATOR/DEFENSE PANELIST**

School of Professional Studies Master Degree Applied Theatre – Thesis Defense 2022  
 National Honor Society for Dance Arts- Reviewed Round 1 Applicants and Approved Merit Award winners 2022