

Lisa Smith

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EDUCATION

- 2000 University of Texas at El Paso, Texas
- MFA Creative Writing
- 1974 University of Texas at Austin, Texas
- BA Anthropology, Dance Minor
- 1971 – 1972 Texas Christian University, Ft. Worth, Texas
- Dance Major, Fernando Schaffenburg, Department Chair

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2002 – Present, University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, Texas

Clinical Professor in Dance, Head of Dance Program

Oversee BFA in Dance Performance and BA in Dance with Teaching Certification

Degree Programs

All levels Ballet, Contemporary Dance, Jazz, Dance for Music Theatre, Pedagogy, World

Dance, Dance Appreciation

High school outreach liaison, lecture/demonstrations and recruitment workshops

Coordinator, Dance Productions

Faculty, Chicano Studies, UTEP

2000 – 2002 University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, Texas

Special Assistant – Dean's Office, College of Liberal Arts

Lecturer in English

Freshman Composition, Creative Writing

1998 – 2000 University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, Texas

Graduate Teaching Assistant

Editor, *Rio Grande Review* Literary Journal

Department of English

1995 – 1997 City of El Paso, Arts Resources Department, El Paso, Texas

Resident Dance Instructor

Full responsibility for development of instructional dance syllabus and teaching of dance to over 150 students in public schools, including hearing impaired students, with *Arts After Hours*, NEA grant sponsored program

1994 – 1996 El Paso Community College, El Paso, Texas

Modern Dance Instructor

Responsible for syllabus creation and teaching all levels of Modern Dance

1993 – 1995 Kids in Motion, El Paso, Texas

Founder and instructor

Creative Movement classes and workshops for young children

1989 – 1997 International Dance Theatre, El Paso, Texas

Director, Instructor, Principal Dancer, Choreographer

Responsibilities included: syllabus creation Modern Dance and Ballet, administration of dancers' school of over 100 students, instructor, director of productions, financial development, grant writing, and service on board of directors.

1988 – 1991 El Paso Times, Inc., El Paso, Texas

Dance Critic, Freelance

Dance criticism and review

1987 – 1988 El Paso Independent School District

Extended substitute in Dance, Coronado High School

1986 – 1987 University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas

Adjunct Instructor, Department of Theatre and Dance

Responsible for syllabus and instruction of freshman ballet classes

1985 – 1987 Texas National Dance Theatre, Austin, Texas

Founder, artistic director, principal dancer and choreographer, head instructor

Full responsibility for running dance company and training school, including development, outreach, syllabus and faculty supervision, instruction, productions, grants, and service on board of directors.

1980 – 1985 Austin Ballet Theatre, Austin, Texas, Stanley Hall, director

School director, principal dancer, choreographer

Director of dancers' school of 150 students with responsibility for all administrative duties including syllabus coordination, advertising and promotion, production, as well as instruction in all levels of ballet classes.

1977 – 1980 Stadttheater St. Gallen, St. Gallen, Switzerland

Soloist dancer

Soloist performer with state theater performing in ballet, opera, operetta, and musical theater productions locally and on tour.

WORKSHOPS, GUEST TEACHING

- 2013- Socorro Independent School District dance teachers' workshop.
- 2012 – *The Spinal Tap*, teacher workshop on dance and spinal support and alignment, Socorro Independent School District.
- 2010 – Franklin High School, El Paso, Texas, January guest teacher/choreographer
- 2008 – El Paso Independent School District Fine Arts Dept., teacher workshop–Montwood, High School, Lecture/Demonstration
- 2007 – Various lecture/demonstrations in public schools throughout El Paso
- 2006 – Encore Dance, El Paso Wind Symphony, Guest choreographer
- 1995 and 1996 - El Paso Dancers Workshop, El Paso, Texas, Producer, Instructor
- 1994 - Texas Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance, Region XIX Conference, Presenter, Creative Movement Techniques

- 1986 – Texas National Dance Theatre Summer Intensive, Director, Instructor
- 1985 – 1986 Dances by Dancers, Choreographers Collective
- 1986 - American College Dance Festival, South Central region, Austin, Texas, Ballet Instructor
- 1985 - Incarnate Word Summer Dance Program, San Antonio, Texas, Ballet instructor
- 1984 – Austin Ballet Theatre, Summer Dance Camp, Director, Instructor

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

- 2015 – Presenter, *Dancing With Unexpected Partners*, Sun Conference, UTEP, March, 2015.
- Presenter, *Water, Water*, American College Dance Association regional conference, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas.
- 2014 – *Dance and Cultural Meaning: An Introduction to the Anthropology of Dance, The Dance Experience, Insights Into History, Culture, and Creativity*, Myron Howard Nadel and Marc Raymond Strauss, Princeton Book Company; Third Edition (January 6, 2014).
- *The Trials of Pobrero, el Campesino , a Dance/Videoconference/Presentation* UTEP/ Mesita Elementary School, El Paso, Texas.
- 2013 – *Dia De Los Muertos Festival* Virtual/ Live event with UTEP Academic Technologies and Smithsonian Institution Latino Division, DC.
- 2012 - Panelist, *The Undergraduate Curriculum on the Border*, National Dance Education Organization National Conference, Los Angeles, California.
- 2010 – Presenter, *The Entrepreneurial Dance Artist/Scholar: Building Dance Communities in the 21st Century*, National Dance Education Organization National Conference, Tempe Arizona.
- *Awake!* NDA Pedagogy Conference Gala Performance, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces New Mexico.
- 2009 – Director *UTEP Summer Dance Workshop* – Two week dance intensive in Graham and Music Theatre Dance techniques, UTEP Department of Theatre and Dance.
- Presenter, *Positioning Ballet in High School Dance Programs*, Socorro Independent School System, Fine Arts Department.
- 2008 – Producer/Director, *Movement and Meaning: Dances of Bhutan and the Texas-Mexico Border*, University of Texas at El Paso.
- Presenter, Master Classes Series taught by members of the *Dallas Black Dance Theatre*.
 - Co-Produced UTEP *Martha Graham Summer Workshop*, a week-long dance intensive in Graham technique, Jennifer Conley, Instructor.
- 2008 – Director, *How Do I Love Thee? The Romance of Dance*, UTEP Department of Theatre and Dance, faculty concert.
- 2007 – Director, *Dance a la Carte*, UTEP Department of Theatre and Dance, faculty concert.
- 2006 – Director, *New Works*, UTEP Department of Theatre and Dance, faculty concert.
- 2005 – Director, *Dance Studio Series*, off campus faculty dance concert, UTEP.
- 2005 – Presenter, *Colectivo De Danza*, La Universidad Autonoma de Ciudad Juarez, Mexico.
- 2002 – Presenter, *Blonde on the Border*, as part of panel, *The Border Between*, Associated Writing Program Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- 2001 – Presenter, *The Older TA in the Classroom*, Graduate Student Conference, Texas Tech University, Lubbock Texas.
- 2000 – *Woodpeckers*, BorderSenses Literary Journal.
- 1988 – 1991 El Paso Times, Inc. Seventeen published reviews of dance and theatre productions.

CHOREOGRAPHY

University of Texas at El Paso Department of Theatre and Dance

- 2014 ***The Trials of Pobrero, el Campesino***, A full length re-creation of the Stravinsky/Fokine contemporary classic ballet, Petrushka, set in 1914 El Paso/Juarez during the Mexican Revolution. Created to commemorate UTEP's centennial.
- 2013 ***4,3,2,1***, Philip Glass, 14 minute contemporary ballet for three men and three women.
- 2012 ***Pachuco Zoot: A Tale of Identity***, original 30 minute ballet exploring roots and origins of Pachuco culture from El Paso/Juarez across the southwest US. Various musical artists: Don Tosti, Lalo Guerrero, Lydia Mendoza, Pedro Infante.
- **Guest Choreographer** University of Texas Pan American, November 2012. *Pachuco Zoot: A Tale of Identity* on UTPA Dance Program.
- 2011 ***Shallow Waters Bury Me Deep***, Original conception, choreography, and direction for evening length dance work exploring issues of life on the borders of the Rio Grande through dance and poetry. A collaboration of faculty and student choreography and original and collected poetry.
- 2010 ***Bright Bitter World***, Bolero, Maurice Ravel
Pas de Trois from Swan Lake, traditional choreography after Petipa/Ivanov
- 2009 ***Carmen***, Georges Bizet. 30 minute ballet, original story set in the narco culture of the El Paso/ Juarez border.
- 2008 ***How Do I Love Thee?***
Trust in Me
Angels of the Heart , Symphony No. 2, Henryk Gorecki (restaged for UTEP)
The UTEP Holiday Spectacular, UTEP Dinner Theater
- 2007 ***The Ascension of Remedios***
The Girls in Her Head
Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat, UTEP Dinner Theater
- 2006 ***A Well Ordered Cosmos***, J.S. Bach Cello Suites
Tea Room Tango, Hesitation Tango, Samuel Barber
- 2005 ***A Simple Gesture***, Overture to The Magic Flute, Mozart
A Blip and a Hop

International Dance Theatre

Angels of the Heart
Beauty and the Beast
Heed the Tide
Gershwin Songs
Mass, Leonard Bernstein, UTEP department of Music

Texas National Dance Theatre

Cinderella
Exultavit
Fast Cars
The Little Prince
Commedia Rompus

Austin Ballet Theatre

Café Manhattan

Austin Dance Umbrella, Work Outs New Choreographers Competition

Holberg Dances, Finalist

BOARDS

- Rio Grande Council of Theatres 1988 - 1990
- International Dance Theatre/ Contemporary Dance Company El Paso 1988 - 1997
- Texas National Dance Theatre 1985 - 1988

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

National Dance Educators Organization
National Society of Arts and Letters

PERFORMING CREDITS

International Dance Theatre

Velorio – Bill Evans, Choreographer
Beauty – Beauty and the Beast, Lisa Smith, Choreographer
Degas After Hours, Kendal Cherry Beasley, Choreographer

Texas National Dance Theatre

The Envelope, David Parsons, Choreographer

Austin Ballet Theatre

Performed Soloist or Principal roles in over twenty original works choreographed by Stanley Hall including:

Cinderella– *Cinderella*
Lilac Fairy – *Sleeping Beauty*
Sugar Plum Fairy - *Nutcracker*
Ooh! Aretha, Septime Webre, Choreographer
Kate Pinkerton – *Madame Butterfly*, David Nixon, Choreographer
Peasant Pas de Deux from *Giselle*
Romeo and Juliet
Pas de Trois from *Swan Lake*
Flower Seller – *Gaiete Parisienne*

Stadttheatre St. Gallen

West Side Story – Dick Price, Paris, Choreographer
The Magic Flute
The Masked Ball
My Fair Lady
The Gypsy Baron
Madame Pompadour
Cinderella

AWARDS AND SERVICE

2015 – Finalist for the University of Texas Regents' Outstanding Teaching Award.
Nominee for Liberal Arts Outstanding Faculty Award.

- 2010 – present - Faculty representative for annual student delegation to **American College Dance Festival Conference.**
- **Production Coordinator/Director Departmental Dance Productions: Faculty and Student**
 - **Faculty Advisor**, *Allegro Dance*, a registered student organization.
- 2007 - 2011 – **Faculty Advisor and Founder**, *Desert Dance*, a student organization supporting dance at UTEP and in the El Paso Community.
- 2009 – Coordinated creation and funding of the **Robert F Smith Memorial Dance Scholarship**, \$7200 scholarship award to UTEP Dance Program.
- 2006 – **Chair**, *National Society of Arts and Letters Dance Competition*, El Paso Region.
- 2005 – **Prisma de las Artes** – Choreography and student performance with UTEP Music Department to support UTEP Alumni Relations and Juarez Chapter of Alumni Association, Ciudad Juarez, Mexico.
- 2002 – **Outstanding Graduate Student in Poetry**, University of Texas at El Paso.
- 2001– **McCord Poetry Award**, University of Texas at El Paso.
- 1984 – Finalist, **Work Outs New Choreographers Competition**, Austin, TX.

TRAINING

Stanley Hall, Royal Ballet, Ballet de Paris	Peter Appel	Ballet
Eugene Slavin, Ballet Russe	David Howard	
Victor Moreno, Ballet Russe	Igor Youskevitch	
Alice Willey	George Skibine	
Fernando Shaffenburg, Ballet Russe		
Jerry Bywaters Cochran, Martha Graham Company		Modern
Helen McGeehee, Martha Graham Company		
Bill Evans		
Lathan Sanford		Jazz/Music
Myron Nadel		Theatre
Rita Triana		Spanish