





TANESHA S. PAYNE

Movement Artist + Educator + Changemaker

Founder and Artistic Director of sumRset Movement

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Education

MFA in Choreography
Jacksonville University
2022

BFA in Dance Studies
Texas State University
2019

Certifications

2024 Focus 5 Arts Integration

2023 Mental Health and
Trauma-Informed Practices

2021 Wolf Trap
Teaching Artist

Awards

FY24 COSA Individual Artist Grant

2023 CAMGrant

22-23 Carver Community
Cultural Center's Artist in
Residence through Artist at Work

2024 Democratizing Racial Justice
Artist at work

Artist Statement

"I am a mover. I am a creator. I am an advocate. I am an educator. Each of these roles keeps me seeking humanity in movement. I believe there is nothing more beautiful than honest movement that has been carved by experience. I am drawn to mindful dancers who move without inhibition and who are willing to release themselves to the process. I create work based on personal investigations that evolve into an expression of the human experience. I am passionate about making the art of dance approachable while maintaining its integrity. My ambition is to transform performance spaces into a haven where both the performers and spectators can thrive."

2024

Mass

The Carver Community Cultural Center

Agarita + sumRSet Collaboration

San Antonio College

Modern Revelations: Alvin Ailey's Legacy in Concert Dance

Tobin Center

Don't Let The Pigeon Drive The Bus: The Musical

The Magik Theatre

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

Choreography and Performance

2023

Solidarity, Racial Healing and Narrative change with Dr. Cornel West

Alamo Colleges

We Sail on in Darkness

Ruthie Buescher Production

Jazz in the Garden: Dark Matter

SA Parks Foundation

The DAM! Series

COSA/Teletextile

Footloose

The Public Theater

Merrily We Roll Along

The Public Theater

2022

DELL Commercials

BL&S Film Company

Once On This Island: A Musical

The Public Theater

disruptHER

San Antonio Dance Festival

2021

A Place for Us

Ballet San Antonio

They Taught You Wrong: Metonia

Luminaira/Violeta De Leon

Myers-Briggs Infomercial

The IMG Studio

2020

The Quilt: A Living History of African American Music

Musical Bridges Around the World

Nouveaux

Andrea 'Vocab' Sanderson

Teaching Artist Engagements

- As an Arts Integration Specialist, facilitates many residencies and professional development sessions throughout the year for educators and school districts.
- GenNEXT Teaching Artist through the Tobin Center.
- Lecture Demonstrator for Northwest Vista College's Women's History Month - Title: Mark(ed) Agents: Where Double Consciousness and Representation Intersect with Movement
- Leads workshops in expressive movement for non-profits such as YWCA, SAMMinistries, Eva's Heros, The Carver Community Cultural Center, NEISD Newcomers Refugee program and The AM Project
- Guest Artist Residencies at Northwest Vista College and Florida State College of Jacksonville.
- Hosts masterclasses and workshops in and around San Antonio.
- Served as a Lead Contemporary Instructor at local studios such as the School of Ballet San Antonio, SA City Ballet, and Heather Stolle's School of Dance.
- Serves as a dance consultant for the SAISD Dance and Spirit department.
- Serves as discussion panelist for the Tobin Center, Musical Bridges Around the World, SAAACAM, TPR, and others.