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We need your support to sustain Inlet's 24th Summer Season!
Join us in impacting the community through dance
by giving a gift today in any amount.



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Your support helps us provide scholarships and financial aid to students, and free performances for the community throughout the summer season.

Open your cell phone camera and scan the QR code to donate now. Or visit our website at www.inletdance.org/donate

Save the Date!

August 1 and 2 at 8:45pm: Heinz Poll Summer Dance Festival *FREE*
Firestone Park, Akron (between N. and S. Firestone Blvd)

Inlet Dance Theatre's roots run deep in this retrospective concert celebrating the company's 25-year rich history of contemporary dance theater in Ohio. This concert showcases the company's unique aesthetic and the collaborative creative process that Inlet employs. The evening will feature an eclectic blend of repertoire from the classic and playful to visually stunning collaborations, and moving storytelling. The evening will reflect the innovative partnering that inspired the company's modern dance beginnings to the evolution of their highly accessible and athletic vision for contemporary work.
www.akrondancefestival.org

September 2025: Fall Children's Classes

Weekly classes for children/teens will be held at Inlet's studio at The Pivot Center beginning in Sept. Registration will be available soon. www.inletdance.org/class-offerings

November 15 at 6:00pm: Inlet's 9th Annual Big Bash Fundraiser

Join us for an inspiring evening of dinner, drinks, and performances. This fundraising event will support Inlet's impact in the community through transformative art! Tickets available soon. Sponsorships and ad sales are also available, email info@inletdance.org

We value your feedback!

Please take a few moments to fill out our audience survey with the QR code to the right.

Your feedback will help us advocate for our programs and improve our offerings.

You can be entered into our raffle to win an Inlet swag bag!



Link to Inlet Survey

Cain Park/City of Cleveland Heights Presents



featuring their
**Summer Dance Intensive '25 students and
the Inlet Trainee & Apprentice Program**

Cain Park Evans Amphitheater • Saturday, July 26, 2025 • 8 pm

Bill Wade, Founder and Executive/Artistic Director
Joshua Brown, Assistant Artistic Director
Libby Koba, Managing Director
Erin Leigh, Development and Communications Specialist

Company Members
Emma McBride (Social Media Coordinator),
Lauren Satink (Marketing Coordinator)

Apprentices
Drake Dombroski, Maeve Dick, Joel K. Linebach, Bird Thurman
Hannah Stephens (Costume Coordinator)

Proteges
Vivian Corey, Emily Ward

Summer Dance Intensive (SDI) 2025 Students
Madeline Cordray, Charlotte Hooker, Kira Roelfs,
Jason Porter Jr, Noam Siegel

Lighting Designer: Chris Meyers

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Inlet's home at the Pivot Center for Art, Dance & Expression
2937 W. 25th St, Cleveland OH 44113
www.inletdance.org | info@inletdance.org | 216-386-1547

Program

Easter Island Memoirs (2012)

In the spring of 2008, Bill Wade and the company members of Inlet Dance Theatre were blessed to participate in the final phase of an International Artist Exchange with artists from Easter Island (Rapa Nui), made possible by the Ohio Arts Council, the Ohio Arts Foundation, The State Department, and the American Embassy in Santiago (Chile). As part of that exchange, Inlet dancers spent two weeks on the island performing, teaching, and exploring. *Easter Island Memoirs* was created in response to this multi-phase international artist exchange program. The imagery in this work is directly connected to specific experiences on the island. We utilize Inlet's unique aesthetic and brand of modern dance, referencing Rapa Nui cultural icons and environmental images such as the ocean and lava caves, while focusing on global themes of community, identity, and gender.

Movement I - Hotu Matua

Choreography: Bill Wade, in collaboration with original cast

Music: Electric Sheep by Amniotic

Costuming: Judith Richner and Kristin Wade

Performed by: Vivian Corey, Drake Dombroski, Joel K. Linebach, Emma McBride, Lauren Satink, Hannah Stephens, Bird Thurman

Description: The first movement explores the idea of a healthy, interdependent community, citing images from the story of the Rapa Nui's original king, Hotu Matua—how he traversed the ocean on canoes with his people and founded the island of Rapa Nui — and referencing the Human Genome Project.

Movement II - 3 (Women)

Choreography: Bill Wade, in collaboration with Mikaela Clark, Rebecca Inman, and Elizabeth Pollert

Music: California Sunshine by Abakus

Performed by: Emma McBride, Lauren Satink, Bird Thurman

Description: Community, culture, and gender roles are immediately apparent on Easter Island. In this movement from *Easter Island Memoirs*, we utilize Inlet's aesthetic brand of modern dance to portray the warmth, strength, nurturing, connectedness, and individual characteristics of the women we met on the island.

Prismatic (premiere)

Choreography: Joshua Brown in collaboration with the cast

Music: Beats Antique (Colony Collapse - Remix)

Costuming: Inlet stock costumes

Performed by: Madeline Cordray, Vivian Corey, Drake Dombroski, Charlotte Hooker, Joel K. Linebach, Kira Roelfs, Jason Porter Jr, Noam Siegel, Hannah Stephens

Description: White light is composed of; is visually distinct from; and is: a spectrum of individual colors. "*Prismatic*" explores this idea and its metaphors through individual movement created by each dancer and movement created by the choreographer mixing, crashing together, and becoming cohesive. If we can celebrate each unique individual and move as one at the same time, our light will be brighter.

Soon I Will Be Done (1993)

Choreography: Bill Wade

Music: Frankie Knuckles

Costuming: Bill Wade and Emma McBride

Performed by: Emma McBride

Description: This is a solo I created and performed when I was still dancing. Many of us experience life-altering, painful experiences. Many of those events stay with us for years or a lifetime. This solo shares how faith and hope can pull us through personal darkness.

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***Inlet Sends a Special Thank You to Luna Bakery Café
for Feeding Our Artists !***

Collaborative Performance Improvisation

Choreography: Improvised by the dancers

Music: the music selection will be an improvised decision that night!

Performed by: Full ensemble (Inlet Company Members, Inlet Trainee & Apprentice Program and Summer Dance Intensive students)

Description: This summer, students have been working on elements of composition using exercises to gain awareness and growth in ensemble, stage picture, dynamics, creation, and replication of shapes. Using prompts garnered from audience members to produce a theme, you will see students and staff perform a live improvisation using the tools they have explored this summer.

~Intermission~

Cairn (2025)

Choreography: Joel K. Linebach and Bird Thurman

Music: Parallel 6 by Four Tet

Costuming: Bird Thurman

Performed by: Joel K. Linebach and Bird Thurman

Description: Cairns are human-made stacks of stones that are often used for navigation, memorials, or ceremonial purposes. Symbolically, cairns are universally recognized for providing guidance, helping travelers navigate through landscapes where paths are unclear. Linebach and Thurman create and dismantle their own visceral cairn-like sculptures to embody their journey at this time in life as young, emerging artists, exploring the interplay of precariousness and stability, fragility and durability. How might we follow markers to know where we are going, and how might we leave them for others?

When Hope Whispers (premiere)

Choreography: Lauren Satink in collaboration with the cast

Music: Tracking Aeroplanes, Branches and Constellations by The Echelon Effect

Costuming: Lauren Satink

Performed by: Madeline Cordray, Vivian Corey, Charlotte Hooker, Kira Roelfs, Jason Porter Jr, Noam Siegel

Description: My work is inspired by a piece of artwork/poem by Seth Pitt, which explores the concept about moving forward and how hope is what carries you through your journey. It is in human nature that we have a difficult time accepting change, as we are often drawn back to what is familiar to us. Familiarity is what keeps us safe because it is what we know. Moving forward means something has to change. This piece explores the inner dialogue of the pull that we feel from our past to remain where we are, and the push that comes from our hope for a better future.

BALListic (2004)

Choreography: Bill Wade, in collaboration with the original cast members

Music: Original score by Ryan Lott

Costuming: Bill and Kristin Wade

Performed by: Vivian Corey, Joel K. Linebach, Emma McBride, Lauren Satink, Hannah Stephens, Bird Thurman

Description: This work was created while Inlet Dance Theatre was in residence at the former Severance Athletic Club in Cleveland Heights. The work was inspired by a storage closet containing numerous red physio balls. This dance was created over several months of improvisation and is particularly useful in our educational outreach performances and residencies with children and families. BALListic is a staple in Inlet's repertoire. The dance is a whimsical 3D cartoon that cites the color schemes of 1960s pop art and explores themes of coveting and envy in a playful manner.

Inlet Dance Theatre Bios

Bill Wade, Founder & Executive/Artistic Director

Bill Wade is the Founder & Executive/Artistic Director of Inlet Dance Theatre. Inlet is an outgrowth of Bill's eleven years as an Artist in Residence at Cleveland School of the Arts (90s), where he founded the YARD (Youth At Risk Dancing), a nationally recognized and awarded after-school program. Since its inception in 2001, Inlet, under Wade's leadership, has earned an international reputation for excellence in artistic and educational programming. He is a sought-after choreographer and dance educator whose choreography was enthusiastically received at Jacob's Pillow's Inside/Out Series. His men's focused work has been presented twice in Seattle's "Men in Dance." Recently, Bill taught and choreographed in Cambridge (England) with Infusion Physical Theatre. He was commissioned to create an evening-length work, "Among the Darkest Shadows", focusing on human trafficking (Wharton Center for the Arts, East Lansing, MI) in collaboration with renowned LA playwright José Cruz Gonzales, which toured to Des Moines Performing Arts. Additionally, Bill was commissioned by Playhouse Square to create an evening-length work based on the New York Times best-selling children's book by Kobi Yamada, "What Do You Do With An Idea?" This work premiered at Playhouse Square in March 2018 and conducted a national tour in Spring 2020, which was unfortunately cut in half in March 2020 due to the pandemic. Wade was chosen by the Ohio Arts Council's International Artist Exchange Program and conducted three exchanges with artists from Easter Island. Inlet was the first American modern dance company to perform on the island. In 1998, he received the Coming Up Taller Award at the White House (Washington DC) from the National Endowment for the Arts and the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities. He was awarded the Cleveland Arts Prize (2012) and an award for Outstanding Contributions to the Advancement of the Dance Art Form from OhioDance (2013).

Joshua Brown, Assistant Artistic Director

Joshua graduated with a BA in Theatre Education and a Dance Minor at Ohio Wesleyan University and then joined Inlet as a Trainee in 2004. In 2007 Joshua was promoted to Company Member. For a decade and a half Joshua performed to sold out enthusiastic audiences, engaged in the collaborative building of Inlet's repertory, and taught and trained thousands of students. In 2008 Josh experienced the glorious privilege to travel with Inlet to Easter Island to learn, perform, teach, and exchange culture as part of the Ohio Arts Council's International Artist Exchange Program. In 2014 Joshua was awarded a Creative Workforce Fellowship through the Community Partnership for Arts and Culture, supported by the residents of Cuyahoga County through a public grant from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture. In 2020, he stepped away from performing regularly as part of the company but continued to train and choreograph on the Inlet Trainee & Apprentice Program and at Inlet's Summer Dance Intensive as an Inlet Teaching Artist. In 2023, he was hired as Inlet Dance Theatre's Assistant Artistic Director. Joshua lives in Cleveland, OH with his very graceful wife and two very special children; all of whom share his love of apple picking.

Emma McBride, Company Member/Social Media Coordinator

Emma grew up in Mentor, Ohio where she began her training in dance at Savelli's Dance and Kung Fu at the age of 2. After graduating high school, Emma joined the Inlet Trainee & Apprentice program as a protege for the 2016-2017 season. Emma is excited to continue growing and exploring her artistry with Inlet Dance Theatre for a 9th season. She would like to thank her family for all of the support they provide, her dog, Cookie, for all the joy she brings, and her fellow Inlet dancers for always making her smile and being incredible teammates.

Lauren Satink, Company Member/Marketing Coordinator

Lauren was raised in Wadsworth, Ohio and started dancing at Northeast Ohio Dance when she was five years old. Lauren took all forms of dance and was part of NEOD's pre-professional ballet company under the directorship of Brenda and Christopher Stygar for six years. After graduating high school, Lauren continued her dance training with Ballet 5:8 under the direction of Julianna Rubio Slager for their 2020 - 2021 season. Lauren joined the Inlet Trainee & Apprentice program for its 2021-2022 season and is now a company member with Inlet. She is thankful to her family for all their support.

Joel K. Linebach, Apprentice

Joel is an emerging artist based in Northeast Ohio. He obtained his MFA in 2024 and continues his graduate education at Case Western Reserve working on his PhD in Plastics Engineering. He has received numerous awards for dance and choreography: notably a 2023 Baker-Nord Center Graduate Research Grant and the 2024 Naomi Wolin Award for New Directions in Dance. Linebach has performed full and excerpted works by prominent choreographers; most recently, Pam Tanowitz, Pascal Rioult, Bill Wade, Paul Taylor, and Yin Yue. Linebach is dancing with Inlet Dance Theatre as an apprentice for the 2024-2025 season.

Drake Dombroski, Apprentice

Drake grew up in Dothan, Alabama. He started training in dance during high school and continued to dance as he graduated and went on to Troy University. In Troy, Alabama he graduated with his BFA in dance in 2020 then moved up to Cleveland shortly after that and joined the Inlet Trainee & Apprentice program for his first season in 2020. Drake is currently in his 5th season with Inlet and plans to continue to train and progress with the techniques that Inlet is rooted in.

Hannah Stephens, Apprentice/Costume Coordinator

Hannah is a professional dance artist and Cleveland area native. She attended Kent State University and graduated in 2022 with a Bachelor of Arts in Dance. Since completing her time at Kent State, she has been training and working with Inlet Dance Theatre. Hannah is currently an Apprentice dancer with Inlet, as well as a freelance choreographer and teaching artist. In addition to her passion for modern and contemporary dance, she has a love for musical theatre and has choreographed multiple productions including *Newsies*, *Spongebob The Musical*, and her original musical *Louder Than Words*. She has appeared in multiple dance and musical theatre productions in the area, some of her favorites being *What Do You Do With An Idea?* with Inlet Dance Theatre, *Chicago* with Millennial Theatre Company, and *Louder Than Words* at Kent State. Hannah is very grateful to have the opportunity to dance and perform, and extends her gratitude to all the people who have helped her get here!

Bird Thurman, Apprentice

Bird is a Chicago native with a passion for both movement and mechanics. As they grew up, their love of dance grew alongside their love for astrodynamics and astronomy. They earned a Bachelor's degree in Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering from Purdue University, where they also minored in dance. While at Purdue, Bird was deeply involved in the dance community, serving as President of the Purdue Contemporary Dance Company, President and Director of XSeries Dance, and even representing Purdue at the 2023 International Dance Council festival in Spain! After graduating, Bird switched gears from engineering to join Inlet Dance Theatre as an apprentice for the 2024-2025 season. Their love of physics spills into their dance space, especially during partnering, as the human body can do amazing things with the right mechanical advantage.