

NYSDEA 2016 Winter Conference

By Susan Epstein



February 6th and 7th marked the 2016 NYSDEA Winter Conference: The Future of Dance in Higher Education. Held at the NYU Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and

Human Development, Saturday classes included *Social Justice*, presented by Joya Powell and Megan Minturn, *Somatics* taught by Daniel Reichert, *NCAS Standards* brilliantly explained by Joan Finkelstein, Mary Burns talked about *Dancers and Finances*, and Kim Elliot lead a rousing *Hip-Hop class*.

After a day filled with inspiring classes, 5 pieces were presented in an informal performance, a new element of the conference. Dancers from Hofstra, NYU and Hunter brought moving and well-crafted choreography to the evening enjoyment.





Sunday classes included *Boys in Dance* taught by Andrew Jannetti and his student assistant.

Kitty Lunn danced and discussed working with *Dancers with Disabilities* and the day finished with a high energy *African Dance* class taught by Caritha Davis.



The excitement of the class was heightened by the addition of live drumming accompaniment.

The weekend was filled with professional collaborations, networking, learning and leading. Thank you to all the presenters, dancers, and performers for helping to make the weekend truly memorable.



P.S. – The Winter Conference was preceded by the semi-annual in-person board meeting. Highlights to note:

- Save the Date – Summer Fundraiser in the Hamptons: August 20th – details to come.

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