



## **Annual Student Dance Concert *ChoreoProject* in Stockton's Experimental Theatre Dec. 4-7**

### ***For Immediate Release***

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**Galloway Township, NJ** - The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey Dance Program will present its 36th performance of *ChoreoProject*, a dance concert performed in close proximity with the audience, from **Dec. 4 - Dec. 7** at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey's Experimental Theatre.

For students, *ChoreoProject* offers expression, not only through choreography, but also through dancing. While most students choreograph and perform their own solos, the more advanced students choreograph group pieces and teach them to other students.

"It is an exciting experience working with student choreographers," said Danielle Gillis, a sophomore Dance-Studio Operations major from Howell, NJ. "Since the choreographers are fellow students, they watch us in class almost every day and see how we work with a lot of different material before they start to work with us," she said. "I also enjoy the comfort of working with my peers because I find it easier to communicate and ask when I don't understand something."

"Creating a piece for *ChoreoProject* is a challenging experience with a lot of rewards," said Dylan Brierley a junior Dance-Performance Major from Manahawkin. "I get to work with my peers and learn from them through the whole process. We grow as performers and future choreographers sharing ideas and feeding off of each other. This is my second year being a part of the *ChoreoProject* process and I've learned many things that have pushed me beyond my comfort zones as a dancer and it has made me the performer I am today."

Other area performers include Kendra DeZutter of Bedminster in Somerset County, Allison Gainer of Mizpah, Kristen Garretson of Galloway, Renee Jamison of Forked River, Shannon Losse of Folsom, Stephanie Maher of Yardville in Mercer County, Mariah Ressler of Fair Lawn in Bergen County, Maggie Sorge of Toms River, Emily Vaughn of Manahawkin, and Anjali Verner of Parlin in Middlesex County.

An evening of student choreographed works, *ChoreoProject* brings together students with a

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variety of choreographic experiences through the Dance Composition class required by the Dance program. The class, taught by Professor and Director of Dance Henry van Kuiken, teaches students the choreographic theory and the practice of compositional methods.

“A good dancer isn't automatically a good choreographer - it's a different talent,” said Van Kuiken. “There are skills to be taught and mastered that bring that talent forward, and the dancers find a voice in their own way. That's an enjoyable part of teaching choreography -- helping young artists each find their own voice.”

“Each year, I am excited to see the creativity the students bring to the stage, both with their choreography and performance,” says Rain Ross, associate professor of Dance. “I also enjoy seeing how the student lighting designers bring the visions of the choreographers to life once we enter the theatre. The talent of these students gets to come to life within these performances.

“*ChoreoProject* has historically sold out quickly, so be sure to get your tickets quickly,” Ross added

*ChoreoProject* will be performed at The Richard Stockton College Experimental Theatre from Dec. 4-Dec. 7, at 7:30 nightly Thursday through Saturday, and 2 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets are \$10 for general admission and \$8 for students and seniors with ID; tickets can be ordered online at [www.stockton.edu/pac](http://www.stockton.edu/pac) or by calling the Box Office at (609)-652-9000.

The Stockton Box Office is open Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. and 90 minutes before each performance. The Experimental Theatre is located on the campus of The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, 101 Vera King Farris Drive off Jimmie Leeds Road in Galloway Township. For patrons with special needs, the Campus Center Theatre offers wheelchair-accessible seating, listening-assistive devices, and large-type programs. Please identify any needs you may have when making a reservation.

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