



Saturday, February 4
7:30pm / Hering Auditorium



Versa - Style Dance Company

Feb. 4 2017

@ 7:30PM Hering Auditorium

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Dear Friends,

It's a pleasure to welcome Versa-Style to Fairbanks. They share so many of our values: commitment to youth, commitment to community, to education, diversity and economic power of the arts. They are in the midst of a statewide tour that has already brought them to Cordova, Valdez, Anchorage and Kodiak. It's a powerful statement of what can happen when we work together. In years past, they might have made it to Fairbanks, might have done a school performance, but now through many people working together they are not only here performing for 1200 of our students, they also gave three workshops to a broad cross section of our community and to communities throughout our state. We welcome them!

Versa-Style is a great story. Here's another one. Last season was the most successful in our 69-year history. We connected more of our community with guest artists than ever before. What makes it an interesting story is that we still ended up slightly in the red. Here's what makes it astonishing: If you take the difference and divide it by the number of people who came to a performance, workshop, school show or other outreach that would be just \$1.83 per person.

Yup. \$1.83.

We don't know yet about this year. That story is just being written. But we're hoping for a happy ending. So we're asking you, as you leave the theater tonight, consider if you had a great time. If so, perhaps you would consider dropping \$1 or even \$2 in a donation basket. This will help us keep ticket prices affordable, outreach to our students and those who can't come to the theater available. It will keep Fairbanks fun and filled with opportunities.

We like this strategy because it means that we can all work together, each of us doing a little, to reach this worthy goal.

Thank you for coming. Enjoy the show.

Anne and all of us at FCA



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The Fairbanks Concert Association's programs are supported in part with funds provided by the Alaska State Council on the Arts; WESTAF, the Western States Arts Federation, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the City of Fairbanks through the Fairbanks Arts Association's re-grant process.

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WESTAF

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Versa-Style Dance Company

Break.

Groove.

BOX OF HOPE Program

Barrio Mundial
Curious
They Don't Hear Us
Conflict
Alone

INTERMISSION

Brother
Full of Fire
Wombyn
Box of Hope Part I
Box of Hope Part II
Move in Love



Bust a move.



continued on next page

continued from previous page

DANCERS

Alli Gray, Jackie Oka, Ernesto Galarza, Cynthia Hernandez, Brandon Juezan, Anthony Berry, Alex Almaraz, Gbari Gilliam

DIRECTED AND CHOREOGRAPHED BY

Jackie Lopez and Leigh Foaad in collaboration with dancers

DRAMATURGE

Kevin Kane (Ph.D, MFA)

STAGE MANAGER

Joey Velasquez

MUSIC

Versa-Style would like to thank Marvin Gaye, The Temptations, and Stevie Wonder for their musical contributions to this work, as well as the other DJ's and musicians responsible for the inspiration of this work.

THE FOUNDERS

Jackie Lopez aka Miss Funk & Leigh Foaad aka Breeze-lee are the Founders and Artistic Directors of Versa-Style Dance Company.

Together they share a common passion for dance and performance, this connection resulted in the creation of Versa-Style in 2005.

As LA Natives, they embrace the culture and honor the history/legacy of Hip-hop dance by passing it on to the future generations. They have been guest choreographers for Santa Monica College, LA Valley College, Columbia College and University of Utah. Lopez and Foaad served as cultural ambassadors for the U.S. through the Arts Envoy Cultural Exchange Program in which they were able to perform, teach and lecture in countries such as Israel, Egypt, India, and Colombia. As a mainstay of Hip-hop culture, Lopez and Foaad have traveled to several Hip-hop dance battles nationally and internationally, winning many victory titles in places such as Korea, Italy, Canada and France. In addition, Jackie and Leigh's biography premiered in their documentary *Furious Beauty* at the LA Film Festival where it garnered glowing reviews.

Most recently, they were awarded with a Lester Horton Artist Appreciation Award presented by the Dance Resource Center in June 2015. Currently, they are both Adjunct Lecturers for UCLA's World Arts and Cultures/Dance Dept.

They owe a lot of their fortune to the legends and culture of Hip-hop.

ABOUT BOX OF HOPE

Box of Hope fuses the vintage sounds of R&B and Motown using exuberant hip-hop dance to explore the root of the inequalities and hardships in today's volatile social climate, more specifically within underserved African American and Latino communities. Versa-Style pushes the boundaries of traditional hip-hop dance to navigate and tell these stories as each company member lives, expresses, and struggles within these varied and infinitely complex political and personal landscapes of Los Angeles.

ABOUT VERSA-STYLE

Versa-Style is a dance ensemble that consists of committed and conscientious artists representing the diversity and beautiful complexity of Los Angeles.

Versa-Style Dance Company seeks to empower youth through the movement and culture of hip-hop dance by giving back to the communities which they came from. Their goal is to give young would-be artists the pipeline to fulfill their passion in the dance community and to educate our audiences on the positivity and roots of hip-hop culture.

They create highly energetic work that fuses dances that are culturally significant to our community. These forms include Hip-Hop styles such as 90s Hip-Hop, House, Popping, Locking, Whacking and Boogaloo, and Afro- Latin styles such as Salsa, Merengue, Cumbia and Afro-Cuban to name a few. As a reaction to the widespread media misrepresentation of these dance forms, Versa-Style specifically aims to perform for the youth of Los Angeles to instill the roots, history, and social and political issues surrounding the art of their generation.

Hip-Hop breaks color lines by creating a forum where people come together for a common passion rather than grouping themselves by race or socio-economic backgrounds. Versa-Style demonstrates freedom of expression, freedom of individuality, hard work, self-discipline and dedication to the form.

Mar. 5 2017

PORTLAND CELLO PROJECT



Since the group's inception in late 2007, the Portland Cello Project—or PCP, as their fans affectionately call them—has wowed audiences all over the country with extravagant performances, everywhere from *Prairie Home Companion*, to that punk rock club in the part of town your grandma warns you not to go to after dark. The group has built a reputation mixing genres and blurring musical lines and perceptions wherever they perform. While here they'll work with the ALASKA CELLO INTENSIVE, performing with them Saturday night, March 4th at 7pm in the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Hall and perform an original work about Breakup. How cool is that?

Don't Miss the Rest of the FCA's Season

Rhythm Future Quartet 3.31.17

Shane Koyczan 4.21.17

David Sedaris 5.12.17

FOR TICKETS

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At this time of year... It's up to us, those who love music and the arts, and appreciate all it can do... to lift our spirits, bring us together, and nurture our community, to support this effort and insure its longevity.

FCA'S EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP CAMPAIGN

makes it possible for us to keep ticket prices family-friendly, supports our ticket donations to local non-profits, to families in need, supports our military, social service organizations, school programs and sustains our many educational and community outreach efforts.

With everything we do, FCA keeps our most important goals in mind: to build community, form strong partnerships, and contribute to a better Interior Alaska. We ask for your help with our efforts.

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