

NICOLE E ZIZZI

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EDUCATION **NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY**, Boston MA May 2021
MASTERS OF ARCHITECTURE

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN, Cambridge MA Summer 2015
NON-DEGREE, CAREER DISCOVERY PROGRAM

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER, Rochester NY May 2015
B.S. PHYSICS, DANCE MINOR
Cum Laude with High Distinction
TAKE 5 SCHOLAR PROGRAM, 2014-2015
A competitive scholarship for a tuition-free fifth year. Accepted for Architecture studies.

INSTITUTE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION OF STUDENTS, Rome Summer
2013

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

SOCIETY OF PHYSICS STUDENTS (SPS)
BOSTON DANCE ALLIANCE (BDA)
BDA DANCE+DISABILITY COHORT
TRUSTEES OF RESERVATIONS (MA)
CO-LABORATORY FOR DATA IMPACT (CAMD, Northeastern University)
THE CENTER FOR DESIGN

RESEARCH

NORTHEASTERN COLLEGE OF ARTS, MEDIA, AND DESIGN

RESEARCH ASSISTANT, Embodying Information

Under direction of Professor Laura Perovich

The Center for Design and Collaborative-Lab for Data Impact

Oct 2020— present

- Investigating how dance and movement can be used as a tool for cultivating data literacy and data curiosity.
- Designing toolkit to guide other researchers, practitioners, and communities in using movement as inquiry, approaching data together, and fostering data curiosity.

RESEARCH ASSISTANT, Notational Systems Repository

Under direction of Professor Ann McDonald

Sept 2017—Dec 2020

- Analyze and catalog notational systems used by choreographers such as William Forsythe and Merce Cunningham, as well as various improvisational practices.

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER

RESEARCH ASSISTANT, Neuroimaging Biomarkers in Multiple Sclerosis

Rochester Center for Brain Imaging

May 2013—June 2015

- Ran computations analysis on fMRI and DTI brain imaging.
- Performed data entry in Excel as well as data analysis on active studies in the Lab.
- Updated databases with confidential client information.
- Worked with neuroimaging software packages, shell scripting and MATLAB programming.

CREATIVE PRACTICE RESEARCH

CO-PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR, Mathematical Methods and Dance Jan 2020—present
 Evolve Dynamicz Dance Company and Boston University Professor John Straub

- The project is a choreographic research investigating the spatial dynamics of applied mathematics at the collegiate level.
- Dancers learn concepts of applied mathematics presented Professor Straub's new text book "Mathematical Methods for Molecular Science" and interpret them through movement and choreography.

PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR, Spatial Relations of Architecture and Dance

Personal Research Project Jan 2015—present

- The project has multiple iterations, is continually evolving, and will be life-long.
- 2015: undergraduate independent study under Professor Missy Pfohl Smith, titled "Improvising Architecture: A Research in Spatial Relations of Structure and Movement."
- 2019: crowd-sourced social media challenge for improvisational dancers, exploring of how space influences movement in the typologies of our own homes.
- 2020: "Every Room A Dance: A Research in Spatial Relations of Movement and Representation Techniques" a booklet investigating movement representation techniques.
- 2020: "Remote Every Room A Dance Workshop" with Northeastern Chapter of American Institute of Architecture Students (AIAS), held on zoom.
 - » *"A short, instructed exploration of spatial movements took me from my door, to my window blinds, and to the wood-framed walls of my bedroom. Zizzi's instructions made me reconsider the relationship between a space I'm so accustomed to and the movement of my body in that space. I walked the length of my room, outlined the frame of my windows, and counted the hinges on my door. In doing so, I got a small glimpse into what happens when dance and architecture come together." — Anita Goharfar, workshop participant and lifestyle columnist for "the avenue" magazine.*

TEACHING

NORTHEASTERN COLLEGE OF ARTS, MEDIA, AND DESIGN

TEACHING ASSISTANT, ARCH 6100

Graduate Student Skills Studio with Professor Paxton Shendahl Sept—Dec 2020

- This course is an introduction to fundamental architectural representation skills and design methods for 3 year M.Arch students.
- Organized course work and graded student projects.
- Held weekly office hours, critiqued student work, put together and ran weekly software tutorials.

TEACHING ASSISTANT, ARCH 2340

Modern Architecture with Professor Lucy Maulsby Jan—Mar 2020

- Work with Professor Lucy Maulsby to generate weekly recitation lesson plans.
- Facilitate primary source reading discussions, grade papers, and exams.

GRADER, ARCH 2240

Architectonic Systems with Professor Paxton Shendahl Sept—Dec 2018

- Held weekly office hours.
- Graded all tests and assignments.

TEACHING
CONT.**UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER**

TEACHING ASSISTANT, Physics 121P

Self Paced Introductory Mechanics

Jan—Apr 2014

- *This course was designed so that the students can go at their own pace without lectures or professor interaction.*
- Coordinated and ran weekly workshop classes for students.
- Verbally quizzed students for completed modules.

GRADER, Physics 141

Freshman Introductory Honors Mechanics with Professor Frank Wolfs

Sept—Dec 2013

- Planned and ran weekly recitations.
- Document areas of confusion for students and communicated with professor accordingly.
- Proctored and graded exams.

NON-ACADEMIC TEACHING POSITIONS

HIP HOP CARDIO & CORE INSTRUCTOR

Girl Fit Physical Therapy, Newton MA

Nov 2018—Present

- Lead weekly one-hour, drop-in workout classes for non-dancers with a focus on strength training, learning basic hip hop moves, and having fun.
- Come up with and discuss exercises with Physical Therapy team, making sure proper form is used for all students.

DANCE INSTRUCTOR

Starline Academy for the Performing Arts, Stoughton MA

Sept 2017—Sept 2018

- Taught weekly classes in Ballet, Tap, Jazz, and Hip Hop for children ages ranging from 7-13, including one class for dancers with neurocognitive disabilities.

AWARDS,
RESIDENCIES,
& GRANTS**NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY**

THE COLLEGE OF ARTS, MEDIA AND DESIGN GRADUATE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

2017

- Merit-based scholarship awarded on a competitive basis to support superior academic achievement at Northeastern.

2021 HUNTINGTON 100 INDUCTEE

April 2021

- Huntington 100 honors outstanding students for achievements which are commensurate with the university's mission, ideals, values, and Academic Plan. These students represent what Northeastern is today.

GRADUATE DATA AND DIGITAL STORYTELLING AWARD

April 2021

- Presented by the College of Arts, Media, and Design & the College of Social Sciences and Humanities as part of RISE: the Research, Innovation, Scholarship and Entrepreneurial Expo
- Awarded for research project: Mathematical Methods and Dance.

COLLEGE OF ARTS MEDIA AND DESIGN STUDENT PROJECT AWARD

April 2021

- Awarded for research project "Every Room A Dance: A Research in Spatial Relations of Movement and Representation Techniques.

KING STUDENT MEDAL, Sponsored by Architectural Research Centers Consortium

April 2021

- Awarded by the School of Architecture faculty for ongoing research at the intersection of Dance and Architecture.

AWARDS,
RESIDENCIES,
& GRANTS
CONT.

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER

PRINCE STREET SCHOLARSHIP

2010

- The Prince Street Scholarship, named after the original campus location in the Arts District of downtown Rochester, recognizes high academic achievers who possess an outstanding creative capacity in one or more artistic fields. These are awarded to qualifying students regardless of their intended major or career path.

INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH IN DANCE AWARD

April 2015

- Awarded for “Improvising Architecture: A Research in the Spatial Relations of Structure and Movement.”

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH EXPOSITION

2nd Place in the Visual Arts Undergraduate Research Contest

Best Poster in Humanities

April 2015

- Awarded for “Improvising Architecture: A Research in the Spatial Relations of Structure and Movement.”

SIGMA PI SIGMA INDUCTEE, Physics National Honors Society

April 2013

ARTISTIC RESIDENCIES

AMASSIT CHOREOGRAPHERS RESIDENCY

The Dance Complex, Cambridge MA

Jan—Oct 2020

- aMaSSiT (a Make it Share it, Show it lab) offers a specific focus for dance/movement makers exploring “passionate practice”.
- Accepted to complete a community-based film project exploring how the pandemic has affected the movement of our hands in our daily lives titled “lucidity-evolved.”

ONSTAGE DANCE COMPANY RESIDENCY

Onstage Dance Studio, Somerville MA

Sept—April 2020

- Accepted for work with Evolve Dynamicz Dance Company.
- Designed for emerging or independent choreographers who do not have their own studio space in which to create new work. Representation Techniques” a booklet investigating movement representation techniques.

GRANTS

DISCOVER GRANT FOR UNDERGRADUATE SUMMER RESEARCH

2014

Sponsored by the Schwartz Undergraduate Research Fund, University of Rochester

- Awarded for work in neuroimaging research at the Rochester Center for Brain Imaging.

MONKEYHOUSE REHEARSAL SPACE GRANT

Sponsored by the Somerville Arts Council’s ArtAssembled art space initiative

2021

CREATIVE
DIRECTION**EVOLVE DYNAMICZ DANCE COMPANY****CO-FOUNDER AND ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, Cambridge MA****Oct 2015—present**

- *Evolve Dynamicz is a member of the Boston Dance Alliance, a 501(c)(3) non-profit tax exempt organization.*
- Produce yearly shows by partnering with various Cambridge, MA community organizations.
- Choreograph for and maintain overall artistic presence of the company.
- Manage publicity and administrative work such as coordinating and booking rehearsal space.
- Write grant proposals and manage finances.

EVENING LENGTH PRODUCTIONS**SPACES****Green Street Studios, Cambridge MA****August 24th & 25th, 2017**

- Evolve Dynamicz's debut production.
- Interdisciplinary works is shown including contemporary dance, parkour, sculpture and film projections. Exploring what it means to move through space and its mass of effect. Guest artists included: Alive Dance Collective, The D'Amby Project, Turning Key Dance, and OnStage Repertory.

circumnavigation**Onstage Dance Company Studio, Malden MA****August 25th, 2018**

- Presented by OnStage Dance Company as part of the 2018 OnStage Summer Series
- This evening-length work is set to the composer Roberto Cacciapaglia's album titled Quarto Tempo. Evolve Dynamicz is experimenting with how to bring visual diversity to a set of music that is more or less similar and coherent. The work engages in storytelling through movement by means of contemporary dance that is not literal in its purpose, with ambiguity in movement vocabulary and choreography.

LUCIDITY**The Dance Complex, Cambridge MA****October 4th, 2019**

- An evening-length curation of vignettes exploring the topic of mental health. The women of Evolve feel it is incredibly important to erase the stigma around mental illness through normalizing the sharing of experiences relating to mental health. The company was joined by performers with This is My Brave and the evening ended with a discussion, led by Nicole Harris of MonkeyHouse.

REVIVE**The Dance Complex, Cambridge MA****December 4th & 5th, 2021**

- REVIVE, comprised of a dynamic range of improvised pieces, is a reminder of the strength and resilience inherent to communities.
- Our company rehearsed on zoom for 18 months before having our first in-person rehearsal and our members truly felt the lack of touch and shared space. Still, we were the lucky ones; we had support from one another through the community that our dance family brings. So, in continuing our work of mental health advocacy through dance and performance, we wanted to open up our community and share the magic of improvised movement with our audiences— because community healing is what everyone needs right now. Communities are resilient, communities overcome.

CREATIVE
DIRECTION
CONT.**SELECT FILMS AND FILM FESTIVAL SHOWINGS**

DANCERS OF THE DARK, Filmed in Boylston MA, Dancer, producer, and editor. Oct 2015

SHADOWS REMEMBERED, Filmed in Boylston MA, Dancer, producer, and editor. Aug 2018

IMPROVISED, Filmed in Red Hook NY, Dancer. July 2018

OVERLAPPED, commissioned by the Fruitlands Museum

Filmed in Harvard MA, Dancer and producer. Aug 2019

- Commissioned to make a film responding to a temporary installation at the museum by Esther Solondz titled "Floating Between Two Worlds."

SIR MODEL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES: A DANCE FILM

Filmed in quarantine, Dancer, producer, and editor. July—Dec 2020

- Artistic artifact of "Mathematical Methods and Dance" research project

- **Film Festival Acceptances and Showings:**

- » **Virtual Boston Contemporary Dance Festival** Aug 2020

Presented by Urbanity Dance, Boston MA

- » **Make Art Not War Teaser Future Film Festival (MANWTFFF)** Sept 2020

Presented by Make Art Not War Foundation, Los Angeles, CA

- » **X-Section Film Festival** Nov 2020

Presented by Margaret Wiss, Somerville, MA

- » **Moving Images videodance Festival** Dec 2020

» Presented by Elena Christodoulidou, Nicosia, Cypress

ONSTAGE DANCE COMPANY SEASON 20 VIRTUAL PERFORMANCE, Editor April 2021

- Worked with choreographers to facilitate remote filming with dancers. Films created together while dancers were each in quarantine.
- "Walk [it out]" choreographed by Jennifer Kuhnberg, 8 dancers
- "What's Up" choreographed by Melissa DeFrisse, 9 dancers
- "Finesse" choreographed by Colleen Lubin, 6 dancers

SELECT CHOREOGRAPHIES AND FESTIVAL SHOWINGS

CONFINED [2016], Choreographed in collaboration with the original cast

- Presented at Southern Vermont Dance Festival.

July 2017

SUDDENLY [2016], Choreographed in collaboration with the original cast

- Made as part of the Onstage Dance Company Residency program
- Presented at RAW Artists Boston Showcase.

Jan 2017

LATENET VITALITY [2018], Choreographed in collaboration with the original cast

- A piece involve chairs, choreographed 1 month and performed 2 months after hip reconstruction surgery
- Premiered at NACHMO Boston Showcase, The Dance Complex.

Jan 2018

INTER/INTRA [2018], Choreographed independently and set on the company

- "[...] a multifaceted, yet effectively understated exploration of group dynamics."
—Dance Informa, 2018

- Accepted to Boston Contemporary Dance Festival, presented by Urbanity Dance. Aug 2018

PRESENTATIONS UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER**THE CENTER FOR INTEGRATED RESEARCH COMPUTING (CIRC) SYMPOSIUM SERIES****On-Going Research Talk: Neuroimaging Biomarkers in Multiple Sclerosis** Mar 2015

- Discussed, Neuroimaging methods and their computational analysis including Diffusion Tensor Imaging.

AMERICAN COLLEGE DANCE ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE, West Chester PA Mar 2015

- Chosen to present first professional work “STROBE” in adjudicated concert.

INSPIRE DANCE FESTIVAL, interdisciplinary careers in dance panel Feb 2019

- Moderated by Missy Pfohl Smith. Joined by William Ferguson, Executive Director of Garth Fagan Dance company and Mariah Steele, founder and Artistic Director of Quicksilver Dance company.

NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY**COLLEGE OF ARTS, MEDIA, AND DESIGN SEED GRANT REVIEW****Embodying Information Research Update** April 2021**CENTER FOR DESIGN****2019 SHENZHEN BI-CITY BIENNALE OF URBANISM AND ARCHITECTURE****Curating Curation, Shenzhen, Hong Kong** Dec 2019

- “Curating Curation” a 1km long visual infographic atlas of the curatorial process that made the “Eyes of the City” pavilion at the Bi-City Biennale curated by Carlo Ratti Association
- One of five students who assisted Northeastern University Center for Design Director, Paolo Ciuccarelli in the design of the data visualizations for the exhibit.

CENTER FOR DESIGN 2022 CONVERSATION SERIES**Designing Dance: Embodiment, Ephemerality, and Experience** forthcoming Feb 2022

- Curating and Moderating with Embodying Information research team.

PODCASTS**DESIGN TALKS BY VOLUMELITHIC SOUND****“Interview with Mary Hale (architect, educator and artist, 2015 AIA Associates Award)”** June 2020

- Interviewer, discussed intersections of dance, architecture, and music

THE OKAY DAYS PODCAST**“Evolve Dynamicz with Nicole Zizzi”** Feb 2021

- Discussed how Evolve Dynamicz uses dance and choreography as a platform to share and engage with personal stories to end the stigma around mental health.

PRESENTATIONS
CONT.**PODCASTS****DESIGN TALKS BY VOLUMELITHIC SOUND**

“Interview with Mary Hale (architect, educator and artist, 2015 AIA Associates Award)” June 2020

- Interviewer, discussed intersections of dance, architecture, and music.

THE OKAY DAYS PODCAST

“Evolve Dynamicz with Nicole Zizzi”

Feb 2021

- Discussed how Evolve Dynamicz uses dance and choreography as a platform to share and engage with personal stories to end the stigma around mental health.

GIN AND CHRONIC: THE PODCAST

“We have to Trust the Person’s Lived Experience”

Oct 2021

- Discussed the lived experience of various physical and neurocognitive disorders: Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome, POTS, Hip Dysplasia, recurring kidney stones, hemorrhagic ovarian cysts, depression, anxiety, ADHD, Autism Spectrum Disorder, OCD, PTSD, Avoidant Restrictive Food Intake Disorder, Dyslexia, and women’s health, specifically as it pertains to ASD.

SATELLISER CONVERSATIONS

Hosted by Janine Harrington, UK based artist

forthcoming Feb 2022

- Satelliser is a live gallery work, a publication and podcasting all foregrounding conversations curated by UK based interdisciplinary artist/dancer/choreographer/writer Janine Harrington who uses her lived experience with Autism Spectrum Disorder as integral to her creative practice.
- Episode conversation with Charles Koroneho a New Zealand-Canada based Maori artist working with performance, teaching, wiring and more, hosted by Janine Harrington. The podcast conversation is intended to be a discussion exploring ways of thinking with geometries, ways of organizing thinking and making, the kinds of inheritances that are there in the form of neurotype and cultural practice.

PUBLICATIONS

ABSTRACTS

“Combining diffusion and perfusion weighted MRI measurements for disease and treatment monitoring in Multiple Sclerosis” Madalina E Tivarus, Xing Qiu, **Nicole Zizzi**, and Giovanni Schifitto. Joint Annual Meeting (ISRMRM-ESMRMB) International Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine--The European Society of Magnetic Resonance in Medicine and Biology Paris, France.

June 2018

PUBLICATIONS
CONT.**ARTICLES AND BLOGS****CENTER FOR DESIGN PUBLICATION**

“Design For Assembly: Public Art/ Public Space” CfD Conversation 07 summary Jan 2022

“Service Design Tools” CfD Conversation 05 summary Sept 2021

“Designing experiences, shaping futures: From graduate student to professional at Northeastern’s Center for Design.” Oct 2021

“CfD attendees Northeastern’s 2021 undergraduate SOURCE event: Showcase of Opportunities for Undergraduate Research and Creative Endeavor” Oct 2021

BOSTON CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL DISCOVERY BLOG

“Nicole’s Story: Dancing my way through pain,” Author Oct 2018

“Nicole and Alana: A friendship formed in dance,” Co-author Sept 2019

GIRL FIT PHYSICAL THERAPY BLOG

“PeriAcetabular Osteotomy = Persevere And Overcome,” Author Aug 2018

NICOLEZIZZI.COM, “Never Give Up,” Owner and author Jan 2018—present

- Discusses issues related to health and mental health, ranging from healthcare access and equity to personal stories of mental health in efforts to educate peers, connect with others living with chronic illnesses, and to help end stigma of mental health.

SELECT INTERVIEWS AND REVIEWS**DANCE INFORMA MAGAZINE**

“Third Life Choreographers Series: No Frills, No Fuss”, Written by Kathryn Boland. Sept 2017

BOSTON VOYAGER MAGAZINE,

“Meet Trailblazers Lisa Costello and Nicole Zizzi,” Writer and Interviewee. Sept 2018

DANCE INFORMA MAGAZINE

“Finding community and possibility, from the stage to the screen: 2020 Virtual Boston Contemporary Dance Festival,” Written by Kathryn Boland. Aug 2020

THE AVENUE MAGAZINE, Local Artist Feature,

“Nicole Zizzi Explores the Intersection of Dance & Architecture,”
Written by Lifestyle Columnist Anita Goharfar. Nov 2020

RESILIENT HER BLOG

“Interview with Nicole Zizzi: Dance and Autism Awareness,” Written by Hannah Hicks. April 2021

SERVICE. **MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCACY**

THIS IS MY BRAVE, Volunteer College Edition Storyteller, Boston MA **Sept 2020—present**

- Organization Description: *The mission of This Is My Brave is to empower individuals to put their names and faces on their true stories of recovery from mental illness and addiction. The vision of This Is My Brave is to one day live in a world where we don't have to call it "brave" to talk openly about mental illness. We'll simply call it talking.*
- Share my story as it relates to mental health and illness with college audiences across the Boston Area.

MINDING YOUR MIND, Volunteer Storyteller, Boston MA **forthcoming March 2022**

- Organization Description: *Minding Your Mind's (MYM) primary objective is to provide mental health education to adolescents, teens and young adults, their parents, teachers and school administrators. Our goal is to reduce the stigma and destructive behaviors often associated with mental health issues.*

PEER MENTOR, For young dancers facing hip reconstruction surgery **Aug 2018—present**

- *As a professional dancer who has been through a surgery called Periacetabular Osteotomy on both hips, I now connect with and mentor young dancers both amateur and professional who are also facing this career-altering surgery.*

NACHMO BOSTON, Mental Health Happy Hours **Jan 2021**

- Organization Description: *NACHMO (National Choreography Month) is an annual challenge that spurs dancers, choreographers, and movement enthusiasts to choreograph by providing a month-long deadline and a community of peers. Through events, choreographic prompts, workshops and performance, we facilitate ways for participants to meet, network and collaborate. Our mission is to build a strong, active community of dance makers. NACHMO is open to everyone, regardless of experience.*
- Co-hosted with MonkeyHouse Dance; Peter DiMuro, Director Executive Artistic Director of The Dance Complex; Jessica Roseman, Boston-based dancer/choreographer, and Kim Holman, Co-founder of Luminarium dance company.
- NACHMO 2021 posed a new artistic challenge and set of limitations for choreographers on top of an already traumatic historical moment. So we designed these drop in zoom happy hours because we knew people could use a little extra support and compassion in a community setting.

FUNDRAISING

THE GLIOBLASTOMA SOCIETY, NeuroHats **Feb 2019—present**

- Background: *My Dad was diagnosed with Stage 4 Glioblastoma, a deadly brain cancer, in August 2017. That December I was stuck in bed after a hip reconstruction surgery and ended up knitted over 30 hats for my friends and family as holiday gifts. My Dad loved the hats so much that I gave him 2 for Christmas that year and he ended up stealing another one from me the following October. Although he put up one hell of a fight, my Dad lost his battle with cancer on February 5th, 2019. He kept his head warm after his brain surgeries with one of my knitted hats and he wore one every time he left the house. He would tell everyone he saw how warm my hats were. As part of my grieving process, I have decided to knit more hats in honor of my father and donate the proceeds to the Glioblastoma Foundation.*
- Knitting hats for Glioblastoma research.
- 75-50% of the proceeds made from selling personally knitted hats go to Glioblastoma research in remembrance of Dr. Joseph Anthony Zizzi Jr.

REFERENCES

DAN ADAMS

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