



Dear President, LaNae and Senators,

Thank you for your time and for putting together a resolution committee to help support the Arts programs and Kinesiology programs.

My hope, Senators is to include the Dance degree under Health Sciences on the Solano website to support and legitimize the dance program and to also include the degree under certificates/degrees.

Marketing and Promotion are necessary elements in the launch of the AA Dance Degree. A promotion video for the AA Dance degree was made Fall 2018 but was not posted until early 2019 on Solano Facebook only. This video was recently, posted on the Solano website in August/September 2020. The video was made in 2018 prior to the approval of AA Dance degree in Fall of 2019. Upon approval of the AA Dance degree in 2019, a new video was to be made to promote the established AA Dance degree. This new video was never made. Students are confused as to whether the AA Dance degree is currently happening. My hope is that this video is corrected immediately to make the deadline for spring 2021 online registration.

Dance classes are also a part of the ADT Kinesiology Degree, AS Interdisciplinary Wellness Degree and Elementary Teacher Education ADT degree.

I belong to NDEO and found some information regarding Dance on their website that I think is valuable information for our students. I have also included below some professional photos taken from the spring 2019 dance concert held in the Solano theater.

Sincerely,

Ginger Cain, MFA
Kinesiology, Dance and Health Education
Solano Community College

Information from the National Dance Education Organization:

Dance Education in the United States

The Art of Dance

The art of dance uses movement to communicate meaning about the human experience. It is far more than exercise or entertainment. It is a powerful medium to express one's values, thoughts, and aspirations about the lives we live and the world in which we live.

Education in the Art of Dance

Education in the art of dance develops the knowledge and skills required to create, perform, and understand movement as a means of artistic communication. A comprehensive education includes improvisation, technique, choreography, performance, observation, and analysis.

Exposure to dance history and cultures, kinesiology and anatomy, and movement theories further enriches the dance educational experience.

Importance of Education in the Art of Dance

Education in the art of dance engages the artistic processes of creating, performing and critical analysis. These processes require students to read symbol systems, use critical thinking skills, excel in nonverbal reasoning and communication, exchange ideas, work cooperatively and collaboratively with others, and interact within a multicultural society. More comprehensively, education in the art of dance develops kinesthetic and spatial learning as well as intra- and interpersonal knowledge of self and others.

Arts research shows that students who study dance are more:

- *Self-motivated, disciplined and focused on their everyday lives.*
- *Expressive in their communication of emotions, thoughts, and feelings.*
- *Creative and imaginative.*
- *Able to critically analyze their own work and the work of others.*
- *Dance has a positive impact on school culture and diversity.*
- *Increase reading and STEM test scores.*
- *Neurological benefits: persistence at task, memory retention and making cognitive connections.*
- *Develops social and emotional coping skills, including tolerance, focus, and engagement.*

A few pictures from Spring Dance Concert 2019 - Solano Community College Students and Community Guest Performers.

