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**THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR CHOREOGRAPHY-AKRON
HOSTS ARTS EVENT IN HOUSTON**

**– Making Moves: Houston Shares Insight, Wisdom,
Provocation for Artists & Arts Workers –**



L-to-R: Harrison Guy (photo Taylor Hayden), Christy Bolingbroke (photo Neil Sapienza), Stacey Allen (photo Jakayla Monay), Marlana Doyle (photo courtesy of artist).

Houston, TX (December 17, 2025) — The National Center for Choreography-Akron (NCCAkron) will present **Making Moves: Houston** on January 14 at Brazos Bookstore. Making Moves: Houston is a free panel discussion with arts leaders from Houston and across the U.S. This free event will include case studies exploring themes of arts ecosystem building, adaptive thinking, and applying creative practices to administrative operations. Panelists will include **Stacey Allen** (Houston, TX), **Christy Bolingbroke** (Akron, OH), **Harrison Guy** (Houston, TX), and **Marlana Doyle** (Houston, TX).

Houston native and **NCCAkron Founding Executive/Artistic Director Christy Bolingbroke** reflects, “Since publishing *Artists on Creative Administration* in 2024 the feedback has been phenomenal. But perhaps most important, we’ve come to realize the conversation about creative administration in the arts is ongoing. I began my career studying dance and eventually

choreographing and competing in Kingwood. Having left to earn my dance degree in Los Angeles as well as work in other markets like Washington, DC; New York City; and San Francisco before founding NCCAkron, it is especially significant for me to bring this dialogue full circle back to Houston, to invite artists to add their stories and lived experience to this dynamic research.”

Bolingbroke will also facilitate the Ballet Hispanico post-show Q&A at Performing Arts Houston, following the company's performance on Friday, January 16, 2026.

NCCAkron is one of only two national centers for choreography in the U.S., a research and development hub for dance. NCCAkron is currently celebrating 10 years of serving as a connector and cultural matchmaker for those looking to experiment with dance. This Houston event is part of a national tour with events anticipated in Boston, MA; Miami, FL; Memphis, TN; and beyond.

An inspiration for these national arts events, [*Artists on Creative Administration: A Workbook from the National Center for Choreography*](#) is an arts and creative life book published in 2024 by The University of Akron Press. Edited by artist/cultural strategist Tonya Lockyer (Suquamish, WA) this book features essays from and interviews with 30 artists and advocates from the dance and performing arts worlds, sharing first-hand stories of creative administration in action through case studies, interviews, life tools, and experiments. Copies of the book will be available for purchase at the event.

Event Details

Making Moves: Houston

Saturday, January 14, 6:30-7:30pm

Brazos Bookstore

2421 Bissonnet St

Houston, TX, 77005

FREE with RSVP: <https://www.nccakron.org/event-details/making-moves-houston>

Making Moves: Houston Panelists

Stacey Allen, Founder and Artistic Director of Nia's Daughters Movement Collective

Christy Bolingbroke, Executive/Artistic Director of NCCAkron and *Artists on Creative Administration* (AOCA) contributing author

Harrison Guy, Founder of Urban Souls Dance Company

Marlana Doyle, President of Institute Contemporary Dance; Artistic & Executive Director of Houston Contemporary Dance Company

What is creative administration? The majority of contributing authors for *Artists on Creative Administration* are alumni from NCCAkron's acclaimed Creative Administrative Research (CAR) program intentionally designed to build a bridge between 20th century working knowledge and the 21st century arts ecosystem. Based on the premise there is no one way to make art, so there is more than one way to manage business and administration, the CAR program

interrogates typical “best practices” to imagine other ways forward with artistic ethos at the center of administrative thinking.

In 2020, The University of Akron Press and NCCAkron established the NCCAkron Series in Dance. Bolingbroke was named series editor. In 2021, NCCAkron also established a digital publishing umbrella **NCCMedia**, an artist-centered and artist-driven platform for telling stories and elevating the voices of dance artists and genres historically left out of the codified dance canon. Whether digital media or in print, this new approach to arts publishing and advocating for the artform exemplifies NCCAkron’s commitment to artist-led storytelling and systems thinking – reflecting on recorded history, documenting untold stories, and creating a humanities archive for future dance audiences, students, and scholars. *Artists on Creative Administration: A Workbook from the National Center for Choreography* (2024) is the second book in the NCCAkron Series in Dance. The first book in the series, *Shifting Cultural Power: Case Studies and Questions in Performance* (Hope Mohr), was published in 2021. NCCMedia podcasting includes short-form interviews [Inside the Dancer’s Studio](#) (Seasons 1-6) and long-form research series [How People Move People](#) (Series 1-4).

About NCCAkron

For ten years, the National Center for Choreography–Akron (NCCAkron) has been a leader in dance research and development and a connector for artists. As one of only two choreography centers in the U.S., NCCAkron is an incubator and hub for dance. We also offer audiences opportunities to experiment with and understand dance through conversations, events, podcasts, and books. Over the past decade, NCCAkron has supported 800+ dance artists across 100 U.S. cities, serving as a cultural matchmaker for choreographers and a hyperagent for the national dance field. Offering space and resources for rigorous play and positive failure, NCCAkron has redefined what it means to support dance artists. For more information, visit nccakron.org.

A discrete nonprofit organization, separate from The University of Akron but with offices based there, the establishment and general operation of NCCAkron are made possible by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation.

About The University of Akron Press

The University of Akron Press is a small publisher of scholarly, literary, and general interest books. Since 1988, they have published compelling works with regional and national significance. UA Press is committed to the idea of scholarship as a public good and works collaboratively with authors to produce books that meet the highest editorial and design standards. The Press is overseen by an editorial board of University of Akron faculty. The University of Akron Press is a member of the [Association of University Presses](#). For more information, visit uakron.edu/uapress.

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