

# Elizabeth Johnson

Choreographer, Dancer, Educator, Project Coordinator

## Curriculum Vitae

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### Education

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- M. F. A.** (2013) Arizona State University  
School of Film, Theater and Dance  
Tempe, AZ  
Thesis title: "Listening to Gesture: Choreographing  
Connections Through Socially Engaged Dance Practices"
- B.A.** (1998) Connecticut College  
Department of Dance  
New London, CT  
*Minor in Theater*  
*Studied at London Contemporary Dance School (1996-1997)*

### Academic Appointments

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- 2010 –  
Aug. 2014** Coordinator of Socially Engaged Practice  
Arizona State University  
Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts  
Tempe, AZ
- 2013** Faculty Associate, Modern I Technique  
Arizona State University  
Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts  
School of Film, Dance and Theatre  
Tempe, AZ
- 2010-2013** Coordinator and Instructor, Science Choreography  
Wesleyan University  
Hughes Program in the Life Sciences  
Middletown, CT
- 2009** Artist Faculty and Guest Faculty Associate  
Arizona State University  
Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts  
School of Dance, Tempe, AZ
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### Additional Professional Experience

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<b>Jan. 2015-present</b>	Residency Coordinator Project AIM (Arts Integration Mentorship) Center for Community Arts Partnerships Columbia College Chicago Chicago, IL
<b>2014-present</b>	Teaching Artist Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, IL
<b>2014-present</b>	Artist Faculty, Curriculum in Motion Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival Becket, MA
<b>2013 – present</b>	Artist Affiliate Sojourn Theatre Portland, OR
<b>2012-2014</b>	Collaborating Artist, Co-Director and Choreographer ASU Gammage in collaboration with Aaron Landsman Tempe, AZ
<b>2011-present</b>	Artist in Residence for Community Engagement Mesa Arts Center Mesa, AZ
<b>2010-present</b>	Associate Artist, Teen Institute Lead Artist, and Partnerships Associate Dance Exchange Takoma Park, MD
<b>2012-2013</b>	Lead Artist Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center University of Maryland College Park, MD
<b>1999-2010</b>	Associate Artistic Director, Teen Exchange Founder and Director Liz Lerman Dance Exchange Takoma Park, MD

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## Grants and Awards

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- 2013**      *Reintegrate* program  
New Haven Arts Council  
*Fostering dialogue between the scientific and artistic communities through performance and engagement*  
\$10,000
- 2012**      Artworks  
National Endowment for the Arts  
*Support for “At Home in the Desert: Youth Engagement and Place,” understanding local ecology through dance, spoken word, and digital storytelling*  
\$32,000
- 2011**      Opportunity Grant  
Arizona Humanities Council  
*Funding speaker Shannon Jackson for a conference entitled “Light It Up: Optimizing Public Practice”*  
\$1000
- 2011**      Seed Grant  
Institute for Humanities Research  
*Developing partnerships with community-based youth organizations for “At Home in the Desert: Youth Engagement and Place”*  
\$12,000
- 2003**      Center for Creative Youth Arts Leadership Award  
Capital Region Education Council  
Middletown, CT
- 2002**      Young Artists Grant  
Washington D.C. Arts and Humanities Council  
*Supporting cross-disciplinary collaborations for performance entitled “Written on the Body”*  
\$2,500

## Research and Creative Activity

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### *Commissioned Choreography*

- 2015**      *Elements: A Community Dance*  
Mesa Arts Center, Mesa AZ  
Spark! Creativity Festival

*Intergenerational cast igniting conversations about conservation while investigating natural elements (earth, wind, fire and water) as power sources.*

- 2014**      *A duet for Sarah Della and Allyson*  
Arizona State University, Tempe AZ  
School of Social Transformation  
Disabilities Studies Symposium  
*Duet featuring ASU students with mixed physical abilities*
- 2014**      *Appointment*  
ASU Gammage, Tempe, AZ  
Concept and direction by Aaron Landsman  
Beyond Series  
*Site-based choreography and assistant direction*
- 2014**      *Equilibrium: A Community Dance*  
Mesa Arts Center, Mesa AZ  
Spark! Creativity Festival  
*Large intergenerational cast exploring balance and resilience*
- 2014**      *Sustainability Solutions: Interactive Dance Response*  
Heard Museum for Native American Art, Phoenix, AZ  
Sustainability Solutions National Conference  
*Instillation created in collaboration with conference participants about sustainability conference themes*
- 2013**      *Pluripotency*  
New Haven Arts Council, New Haven, CT  
Wesleyan University  
*Co-choreographed with stem cell researcher Laura Grabel, Ph.D, exploring ethical implications of genetic research*
- 2013**      *Creativity Festival Community Dance*  
Mesa Arts Center, Mesa, AZ  
Spark! Creativity Festival  
*Large intergenerational cast researching creativity theories*
- 2012**      *Porch Dances*  
Public Art Commission, City of Glendale Public Art, Glendale, AZ  
Glendale Jazz and Music Festival  
*Series of duets with community members presented on a mobile porch*

- 2012**      *Flash Flood Dance*  
Roosevelt Row Community Development Corporation,  
Phoenix, AZ  
First Friday Arts Walk  
*Flash mob dance embodied phases of the water cycle, while  
educating about local water contamination*
- 2012**      *Mesa Takes Flight Community Dance*  
Mesa Arts Center, Mesa, AZ  
Mesa Takes Flight Festival  
*56-member intergenerational cast exploring aviation  
history in Mesa*
- 2011**      *Fibroplasia*  
Movement Source Dance Company, Phoenix, AZ  
Scottsdale Performing Arts Center  
*Professional dancers investigating the biology of scar  
formation*
- 2011**      *Join the Dance*  
Minnesota Chorale, Minnesota, MN  
Created with Dance Exchange and Cassie Meador  
Bridges Concert  
*Partnering individuals living with disabilities with  
Minnesota Chorale professional singers*
- 2010**      *ROCK*  
Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ  
School of Dance  
DanceMatters  
*Solo about geology, rock climbing and drug addiction*
- 2010**      *Where Meta Meets Mini*  
James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA  
Dance Department  
Freshman Dance Ensemble Fall Concert  
*Art and Science collaboration about cellular respiration and  
energy production*
- 2010**      *DNA Dance*  
James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA  
Created with Liz Lerman Dance Exchange  
JMU Freshman Orientation Quadfest  
*4000 incoming freshman created a DNA chain and dance  
about their summer reading, "The DNA Age"*

- 2009** *Full Circle*  
Woolly Mammoth Theater, Washington, D.C.  
Created with Michael Rohd  
Wolly Mammoth 2009/2010 season,  
*Eclectic site-based choreography for an intergenerational cast of professional actors*
- 2009** *Sustain(able) Change*  
Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ  
School of Dance  
Dance Annual  
*ASU dance and sustainability students pursuing their ideas of change and action*
- 2009** *Cells: The Universe Inside Us*  
Maryland Science Center, Baltimore, MD  
Created with Liz Lerman Dance Exchange  
Permanent Exhibit Opening  
*Exhibit combining videos of living cells with dancers to enhance public understanding and engagement in the rapidly developing field of cell biology*
- 2008** *613 Radical Acts of Prayer*  
International Festival of Arts and Ideas, New Haven CT  
Created with Liz Lerman Dance Exchange  
Festival Finale  
*Site-based work exploring the relationship of social action to spiritual practice with hundreds community participants including parents and children, a women's rollerderby team, people in wheelchairs, senior adults, and recent immigrants*
- 2006** *COIL*  
Village of Arts and Humanities, Pennsylvania, PA  
Created with Liz Lerman Dance Exchange  
Live Arts Festival  
*Young artists researched genetics and presented a series of powerful testimonies through dance, monologue, and video*
- Additional Compositions*
- 2011** *A Mother/Daughter Distance Dance*  
Arizona State University Art Museum  
"It's Not Just Black or White" Exhibit with Gregory Sale  
*A virtually connected dance involving incarcerated mothers and their daughters*

- 2007** *Venture: A Journey Into RISK*  
Created with Liz Lerman Dance Exchange/ Teen Exchange  
Centerstage, Baltimore MD  
*Culmination of Teen Exchange "RISK Project" investigating  
how, where and why teens take risks in their lives*
- 2006** *Meditations on Mothers and Others*  
D.C. Fringe Festival  
*With mothers and their children of all ages and faith  
backgrounds*
- 2004** *Skin*  
University of Maryland, College Park MD  
Created with Liz Lerman Dance Exchange  
Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center Season  
*Solo about resiliency and vulnerability and skin physiology*
- 2003** *Heart*  
Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Great Barrington, MA  
Curriculum in Motion Winter Residency  
*Solo exploring human heart function, Valentine's day,  
and a personal response to the war in Iraq*

## **Teaching and Instructional Activity**

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### *Academic teaching*

- 2011 – 2014** Coordinator of Socially Engaged Practice  
Arizona State University  
Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts  
*Engagement and Community (HDA 310)*  
*Seminar in Socially Engaged Practice (HDA 410/510)*
- 2013** Faculty Associate  
Arizona State University  
Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts  
School of Film Dance and Theatre  
*Modern I (DCE 120)*
- 2009-2010** Guest Faculty Associate  
Arizona State University  
Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts  
School of Dance  
*Undergraduate and Graduate Creative Practices*  
*Intermediate Modern, Community Class*

*Non-Academic Teaching*

- 2014-present** Teaching Artist  
Hubbard Street Dance, Chicago IL  
*Customized arts integrated residencies in Chicago Public Schools*
- 2014-present** Teaching Artist  
Design Dance, Chicago IL  
*Storytime Dance, Creative Movement and mentoring new teaching artists*
- 2010-2014** Artist in Residence for Community Engagement  
Mesa Arts Center with Oakwood Creative Care and Fellowship Square Senior Living Facility  
*Mature Moving Me: Creative Dance for Senior Adults*
- 2010-2013** Science Choreography Coordinator and Instructor  
Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT  
*Workshops for the teaching of biology through kinesthetic learning structures for university, high school and middle school students*
- 2009** Teen Exchange Director  
Centerstage, Baltimore MD  
With Liz Lerman Dance Exchange  
*(Be)longing(s) International Teen Institute*  
*Young multi-disciplinary artists from Canada, Jordan, Israel and South Africa to develop work about how we belong to a global community*
- 2007** Teen Exchange Director  
Liz Lerman Dance Exchange, Takoma Park MD  
With Liz Lerman Dance Exchange  
*RISK: National Teen Institute*  
*Researched how, where and why teens take risks.*
- 2006, 2004** Teen Exchange Director  
Liz Lerman Dance Exchange, Takoma Park MD  
With Liz Lerman Dance Exchange  
*Genome: National Teen Institute*  
*Young artists in collaboration with NIH scientists*
- 2002** Teen Exchange Director  
University of Maryland, College Park MD  
Clarice Smith Center Performing Arts Center  
With Liz Lerman Dance Exchange  
*Hallelujah: National Teen Institute*



*Residencies*

**March 2015**

Teaching Artist  
Hubbard Street Dance, Chicago, IL  
Sumner Math and Science Community Academy  
*5<sup>th</sup> grade arts-integrated residency exploring the Harlem Renaissance*

**February, 2015  
and  
December 2014**

Artist Educator  
Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Becket, MA  
Monument Mountain Regional High School  
*High school arts integrated residencies working in English, Biology, Art, Physical Education and Spanish classes.*

**June 2014**

Lead Artist  
Dance Exchange, Takoma Park, MD  
*Teen Leadership Institute*

**July, 2013**

Lead Artist for Community Engagement  
University of Maryland, College Park, MD  
Clarice Smith Center Performing Arts Center  
*CREATE Leaders Teen Institute working with UMD Prevention Research Center. Developed leadership skills through kinesthetic structures and created participatory public programming for community health education.*

**February  
2012 and 2013**

Guest Artist  
Glendale Community College, Glendale, AZ  
Dance Department  
*Tools for collaboration and creation*

**January 2012**

Guest Artist  
Padres Jewish Day School, Phoenix, AZ  
With Dance Exchange  
*Art and sustainability workshops for students in K-12*

**February 2011**

Guest Artist  
Piedmont College, Charlottesville, VA  
Dance Department  
*Composition and community arts*

**November 2010**

Guest Artist  
James Madison University  
Dance Department  
With Dance Exchange  
*Freshman Dance Ensemble*

- September 2010** Professional Development Trainer  
Alabama Children's Dance Foundation, Birmingham, AL  
*Staff training in tools for community engagement*
- March 2010** Teaching Artist  
Claremont, Elementary School, Arlington, VA  
*5<sup>th</sup> grade arts integration in math, teacher and apprentice artist training*
- January 2010** Teaching Artist  
Takoma Park Elementary School, Takoma Park, MD  
*4<sup>th</sup> grade arts integration in reading and science including teacher training*
- February 2002-2003** Resident Artist  
Monument Mountain High School, Great Barrington, MA  
*Arts integration in math, science, ESL and special education  
In partnership with Jacob's Pillow dance Festival*
- Workshops*  
**April 2015** Moderator/ Critical Response Process Facilitator  
Columbia College Chicago Dance Center  
Chicago, IL  
*Facilitating post show conversation for "In the Works" series*
- April 2015** Facilitator and Event Co-Designer  
Columbia College Chicago  
Chicago, IL  
Teaching Artist Development Studio  
*Alumni convening and future visioning with community partners*
- March 2015** Conference Weaver and Workshop Facilitator  
Mesa Center for the Arts with AZ Commission on the Arts  
Mesa, AZ  
2015 Arizona Creative Aging Summit  
*Integrating community building and participatory art-making through conference and leading a "Movement Tools for Creative Aging" session.*
- November 2014** Moderator/ Critical Response Process Facilitator  
Columbia College Chicago Dance Center  
Chicago, IL  
*Facilitating post show conversation for "In the Works" series*

<b>May, November 2013</b>	Community Connector and Facilitator Catholic Charities Regional Convening Philadelphia, PA and Albuquerque, NM With Sojourn Theater <i>Facilitator of Connecting Communities and Four Corners</i>
<b>March 2014</b>	Guest Artist Estrella Mountain Community College, Avondale, AZ <i>Critical Response Process</i>
<b>November 2013</b>	Community Workshop Facilitator Burton Barr Public Library, Phoenix, AZ Arizona State University School of Public Histories <i>Guantanamo Public Memory Project: Exploring American Internment Through Performance</i>
<b>May 2013</b>	Workshop Facilitator Valley Leadership Institute, Phoenix, AZ <i>Tools for Leadership and Followership</i>
<b>October 2012</b>	Workshop Facilitator Joint Arts Education Conference, Mesa, AZ Arizona Commission on the Arts <i>Community Arts</i>
<b>February 2012</b>	Professional Development Workshop Facilitator stART: Phoenix, Phoenix, AZ Arizona Commission on the Arts <i>Igniting the Spark of Creativity in Older Adults</i>
<b>January 2012</b>	Professional Development Workshop Facilitator West Valley Arts Council, Glendale, AZ <i>Creative Aging and Tools for Health</i>
<b>October 2011</b>	Professional Development Workshop Facilitator National Association for Biology Teachers National Conference <i>Co-facilitated kinesthetic learning structures for K-12 science teachers</i>
<b>March 2004</b>	Workshop Facilitator Chicago Arts Partnership in Education Educators Conference

*Lead artist in workshops for staff and teaching artists. Led with other members of Liz Lerman Dance Exchange*

**March 2004** Critical Response Process Workshop Facilitator  
Office of Community Arts Partnerships, Columbia College  
*Lead a Critical Response training session with teaching artist in the Arts Integration Mentorship project*

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### Graduate Student Thesis Mentorship

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**2015** *Katie Chilton*  
Arizona State University  
MFA, Dance  
Certificate in Socially Engaged Practice

**2014** *Megan Flod Johnson*  
Arizona State University  
MFA, Theatre for Youth  
Certificate in Socially Engaged Practice

**2014** Julia Rada  
Arizona State University  
MFA, Theatre

**2008** Sara Malan McDonald  
Arizona State University  
MFA, Dance

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### Service

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**2011 – 2014** Dancers and Health Together (DAHT)  
Vice President of Board of Directors (2011-2012)  
Member, Board of Directors

**2012** Phoenix Fringe Festival  
Member, Board of Directors

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### Invited Speaking Engagements

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**March 2015** *Arts Across the Aging Spectrum*  
2015 Arizona Summit on Creative Aging  
Mesa Arts Center  
Mesa, AZ

- March 2014**      *Socially Engaged Practice: Power and Participation*  
School of Social Transformation Speakers Series  
The Role of Arts in Social Transformation  
Arizona State University  
Tempe, AZ
- February 2014**      *Critical Response Process*  
Seminar in Design Studies  
Arizona State University  
Tempe, AZ
- November 2013, April 2013**      *Storytelling with and for Communities*  
Introduction to Storytelling  
Arizona State University  
Tempe, AZ
- April 2012**      *Arts-Based Approaches for Building Resilience in Youth*  
**Animated Keynote Address**  
Risk, Resilience and Urban Youth Conference  
George Washington University  
Washington, DC
- September 2011**      *Critical Response Process*  
**Keynote Address**  
Co-presented with John Borstel  
Keōja Aarhus & Moving Agendas  
Aarhus, Denmark
- April 2008**      *The Dance of DNA*  
**Animated Keynote Address**  
With Liz Lerman Dance Exchange  
DNA Day Symposium  
Oklahoma City Community College  
Oklahoma City, OK
- March 2008**      *Community, Content and Choreography: Questions at the Core of Liz Lerman Dance Exchange*  
**Animated Keynote Address**  
With Liz Lerman Dance Exchange  
National Community Arts Convening  
Maryland Institute College of Art  
Baltimore, MD
- 2007**      *Conversations Across Cultures: Community Arts*  
**Animated Keynote Address**  
With Liz Lerman Dance Exchange  
Teacher' College Columbia University, New York, NY

## Publications

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- 2015**  
*contracted*      **Johnson, E.** A Mother/Daughter Distance Dance, In:  
Working the Margins of Community-Based Adult Learning:  
The Power of Arts-Making in Finding Voice and Creating  
Conditions for Seeing/Listening, *Sense Publishers*
- 2012**      **Johnson, E.** An Environment for Inspiration. (Part of  
The Wonderful Freedom of Not Being Finished: Four Values  
for Constructive Critique, by John Borstel). *Youth Drama  
Ireland* 2012
- 2011**      **Johnson, E.** A Mother/Daughter Distance Dance.  
*Museums and Social Issues* 6-1: 81-90
- 2009**      **Johnson, E.** Social Action or Active Citizens.  
Submitted for review for Community Arts Convening and  
Research Project at Maryland Institute College of Art
- 2008**      **Johnson, E.** Art and Science: Partners or Polarities.  
*Coalition for the Public Understanding of Science (COPUS)*
- 2007**      **Johnson, E.** State of the Union.  
*Bourgeon of Washington D.C.* 3-1, p. 14-16
- 2002**      **Johnson, E.** May I Borrow  
*Community Arts Network*

## Conferences, Events and Residencies Produced

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- April 2013**      *Michael Rohd: Civic Practice*  
Lyceum Theatre  
Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ  
Co-organized lecture and residency for visiting artist  
*Michael Rohd*
- March 2013**      *Suzanne Lacy: What is Socially Engaged Practice*  
ASU Art Museum  
Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ  
Organized lecture and residency for visiting artist *Suzanne  
Lacy*

- February 2013**     *Innovations: Intersection of Art and Science*  
Center for the Arts  
Wesleyan University, Middletown CT  
*Worked with choreographer Liz Lerman and CFA Director Pam Tatge on a two day symposium focused on the themes of research, teaching and activism within the fields of art and science.*
- February 2013**     *International Social Practice Salon*  
ASU International Residency Program  
Combine Studios, Phoenix, AZ  
*British Council funded conversation and event bringing together American and British social practice artists*
- October 2012**     *Cassie Meador: Moving Field Guide*  
Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ  
School of Dance  
*Organized residency with visiting artist Cassie Meador as part of "At Home in the Desert: Youth Engagement and Place"*
- October 2011**     *Light It Up: Optimizing Public Practice*  
Arizona State University, Phoenix, AZ  
Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts  
*A two day conference to showcase exemplary work by artists and communities, providing perspectives from the field while building awareness and advocacy for Public Practice. Keynotes: Shannon Jackson and Rick Lowe*