

# Perpich Arts Library



## Dance Education amidst the Social Constructions of Race, Identity and Culture

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### Books

#### ***Ballroom, Boogie, Shimmy Sham Shake: A Social and Popular Dance Reader***

Julie Malnig

This dynamic collection documents the rich and varied history of social dance and the multiple styles it has generated, while drawing on some of the most current forms of critical and theoretical inquiry. The essays cover different historical periods and styles; encompass regional influences from North and South America, Britain, Europe, and Africa; and emphasize a variety of methodological approaches, including ethnography, anthropology, gender studies, and critical race theory.

#### ***Dance, Power, and Difference: Critical & Feminist Perspectives in Dance Education***

Sherry Shapiro

Eight leading dance educators from around the world examine the fundamental values and goals of dance and dance education in this collection of essays. Susan K. Stinson's essay, *Seeking a Feminist Pedagogy for Children's Dance*, is a pivotal examination of genderized proclivities in teaching creative movement and dance to young children.

#### ***Dance in a World of Change: Reflections on Globalization and Cultural Difference***

Sherry Shapiro

This book presents a range of international perspectives on dance pedagogy, the body, performance, and dance and culture. Topics addressed include: how traditional dance forms are shaped by the global dance environment and the influences on new forms of popular dance; sexual orientation, racism, and prejudice and challenges to the assumed norm; multicultural issues in dance pedagogy; transcending differences between cultures and embracing commonalities through dance.

#### ***Studying Dance Cultures around the World: An Introduction to Multicultural Dance Education***

Pegge Vissicaro

An introductory textbook for college and university students in dance appreciation and humanities-based courses. This book facilitates the critical examinations of dance in its varied contexts around the world. Ideas are drawn from the work of dance ethnologists and from the author's personal experiences in the classroom and in the field.

#### ***Moving History/Dancing Cultures: A Dance History Reader***

Ann Dils & Ann Cooper Albright

This collection of essays surveys the history of dance in an innovative and wide-ranging fashion. The reader is organized into four thematic sections: Thinking about Dance History: Theories and Practices, World Dance Traditions, America Dancing, and Contemporary Dance: Global Contexts. Historical readings are presented to encourage thoughtful analysis and allow for critical engagement with the text.

***\*Stigma and Perseverance in the Lives of Boys Who Dance: An Empirical Study of Male Identities in Western Theatrical Dance Training***

Douglas Risner

Dance, its training and social meanings, has a rich history and long-time associations with gender and gender roles in world culture. This study investigates the competitive world of pre-professional Western concert dance training and education in the US as experienced and lived by boys and young men, an under-represented population in the field. It examines the discourses of professional dance preparation through theoretical and narrative approaches that elucidate the highly gendered professional dance world as evidenced through the minds and bodies of male adolescents and young adults.

***Courageous Conversations about Race: A Field Guide for Achieving Equity in Schools***

Glenn E. Singleton & Curtis Linton

Examining the achievement gap through the prism of race, the authors explain how to use "courageous conversations" to create a learning community that promotes academic parity. This volume is designed to help lay people—teachers, administrators, parents, community leaders, and even university professors—begin to engage in the emotionally and psychologically difficult conversations about race.

***"Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting together in the Cafeteria?": And Other Conversations about Race***

Beverly Daniel Tatum

Walk into any racially mixed high school and you will see black youth seated together in the cafeteria. Other races and ethnicities are clustered in their own groups, too. Is this self-segregation a problem we should try to fix, or a coping strategy we should support? How can we get past our reluctance to talk about racial issues to even discuss it? Using real-life examples and research, Tatum presents evidence that talking about our racial identities is essential to communicating across racial and ethnic divides.

***\*Whistling Vivaldi: How Stereotypes Affect Us and What We Can Do***

Claude Steele

This book gives a first-person account of the research that supports groundbreaking conclusions on stereotypes and identity. It sheds new light on American social phenomena from racial and gender gaps in test scores to the belief in the superior athletic prowess of black men, and lays out a plan for mitigating these "stereotype threats" and reshaping American identities.

## **Web Resources**

***What Schools Can Do to Help Boys Succeed***, from *Time*, October 28, 2013

<http://ideas.time.com/2013/10/28/what-schools-can-do-to-help-boys-succeed/>

Christina Hoff Sommers

"Being a boy can be a serious liability in today's classroom," contends Sommers in her lead paragraph. This article is the one that started Diane thinking again about gender as a component of identity and how it plays into dance class dynamics. The author offers three proposals to help boys succeed and charges us to work with the young male imagination.

## Articles

***Dance Education in an Era of Racial Backlash: Moving Forward as We Step Backwards***, from *Journal of Dance Education*, Volume 12, Issue 2, 2012

Dr. Julie Kerr-Berry

Available for purchase (\$37) at

<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/15290824.2011.653735#.UqC-fdJDvE0>

This article investigates the subject of race, education, and dance, and problematizes current post-racial discourses in postsecondary education. It examines the implications of race and ethnicity in a number of critical areas, such as faculty and student populations in dance, dance content and curriculum, access and equity, and the ways in which dominant ideas continue to situate dance practices, primarily in a Western theatrical paradigm.

## DVDs

***Many Steps: The Origin and Evolution of African American Collegiate Stepping***

Gorofa Entertainment

The origin and evolution of African American collegiate stepping is explored in this 28-minute documentary. Stepping is a popular communal art form in which teams of young dancers compete, using improvisation, call and response, complex meters, propulsive rhythms and a percussive attack. Scholarly commentary, interwoven with stepping performance footage, provides historical and cultural context.

***Dancing the Big Apple 1937: African-Americans Inspire a National Craze***

Judy Pritchett

An encounter of cultural traditions the builds to a massive dance craze involving Americans from every walk of life - including the FDR family in the White House, began when three white teenagers visited an African-American nightclub in South Carolina. Viewers take a 40-minute journey back to Africa, through slavery, and into the fascinating account of the Ring Shout ceremony practiced by African-Americans - sometimes secretly, sometimes openly - for hundreds of years.

***History and Concept of Hip-Hop Dance***

Moncel Durden

This 43-minute documentary explores the history and scope of the Hip-Hop dance style, from how it was first introduced to mainstream America in the early 1970s as break dancing (or b-boying) to discussions of how Hip-Hop has evolved and where it's headed. Despite its popularity, Hip-Hop continues to struggle to find its definition in terms of historical lineage, concept, origins, and aesthetics. Features opinions from Hip-Hop dance pioneers, current teachers, and choreographers.

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Please contact the Perpich Library for reference assistance, to reserve materials, or to arrange tours. Items listed are available through Perpich Library except where noted. Items marked with an asterisk will be available for check-out Spring 2014.

**Email:** [library@pcae.k12.mn.us](mailto:library@pcae.k12.mn.us)

**Phone:** 763.279.4171 or 763.279.4170

**Website:** [perpich.mn.gov/lib/lib.html](http://perpich.mn.gov/lib/lib.html)