

Ofosuwa M. Abiola

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CV

EDUCATION

2016 Ph.D., African History

Major field: African and African Diaspora Dance History

Howard University, Washington, DC.

2010 Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies (B.I.S.)

Major: Cultural Studies Minors: Dance; History

Virginia State University, Petersburg, VA

LEADERSHIP IN ACADEMIA

2022-Present	Inaugural Associate Dean of Research and Creative Endeavors, Chadwick A. Boseman College of Fine Arts, Howard University, Washington, DC.
2020-2022	Interim Chair, Department of Theatre Arts, Howard University, Washington, DC.
2018-2020	Coordinator, Dance Program, Department of Theatre Arts, Howard University, Washington, DC.
2017-2020	Coordinator, Honors Program, Department of Theatre Arts, Howard University, Washington, DC.
2017-2020	Coordinator, Theatre Arts Minor program, Department of Theatre Arts, Howard University, Washington, DC.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

2020	Associate Professor with tenure, Department of Theatre Arts, Howard University, Washington, DC.
2016	Assistant Professor, Department of Theatre Arts, Howard University, Washington, DC.
2013-2016	Adjunct Lecturer, Department of Theatre Arts, Howard University, Washington, DC.

2012-2013 Associate Teacher, Department of History, Howard University, Washington, DC.

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS & MONOGRAPHS

2023	Afrikinesis: A Paradigm for Research on African and African Diaspora Dance. Monograph. (Routledge).
2022	Fire Under My Feet: History, Race & Agency in African Diaspora Dance. Monograph (Routledge).
2020	Historical Perspectives on Dance in Africa. Textbook (Intelligentsia Press).
2019	History Dances: Chronicling the History of Traditional Mandinka Dance. Monograph (Routledge).
ARTICLES, Jo	OURNALS, CHAPTERS, WEBSITES, DIGITAL WORKS
2023	"The Performance of Identity and the Disruption of Colonial Ideological Hegemony." Book review. <i>Performance Research</i> Vol. 27 Issue 4 (April 10, 2023).
2023	www.africanadancehistory.org. Website. Published the pedagogy website to facilitate students in African and African Diaspora dance history courses.
2021	Nankama African Dance Conference Recap. Documentary (short form). Director, wrote the script, narrator, and video editor. Produced by Araku Studios.
2021	"Dancing Protest: (Re)Visiting The Black Arts Movement Through the Lens of Dance." Book chapter. <i>Black Freedom Struggles</i> (Kendall Publishers).
2018	Evoke: A Historical, Theoretical, and Cultural Analysis of Africana Dance and Theatre. Peer-reviewed digital journal. Founding Editor-in-Chief. Digital Howard: Howard University.
2017	"Bury Me Towards Africa: Nineteenth-Century African American Cemetery Rituals." Chapter in the government white paper report, <i>The Last Thing That Tells Our Story: A Cultural History of the Mt Pleasant Plains Cemetery, An Historic African American Burial Ground in Washington, DC</i> . National Park Service (NPS), Washington, DC.
2016-2022	Dance History Pedagogy. Website. Published the website to provide support for students in African and African Diaspora dance history courses.

- Grave Revelations: Cultural and Historical Narratives from the Colored Union Benevolent Association Burial Ground. Documentary discussing the performance of Africanisms in 19th century African American funerary rituals. Directed, researched, wrote the script, and narrated the documentary. Produced, by Aryzen Pictures.
- 2016 *History Dances: African Dance Systems as Methodology*. Documentary (short form). Directed, researched, wrote the script, and narrated the documentary. Produced by, Aryzen Pictures. Visual supplement for my monograph *History Dances: Chronicling the History of Traditional Mandinka Dance*.
- 2014 "It Fits Like a Glove: Women and Black Consciousness in South Africa, 1901-1989." Article. *Africalogical Perspectives: Historical and Contemporary Analysis of Race and Africana Studies*, Spring Issue, 2014, pp. 77-92.
- 2012 *Meet the Rain at the Clouds*. Digital Story. Director, researcher, writer. Presented at "Women's History Month," National Park Service (NPS), Washington, DC.
- 2012 From Strength to Liberation. Documentary. Director, researcher, writer. Presented as part of the city-wide Sesquicentennial Celebrations. Published by Anacostia Library, Washington, DC.

BOOKS & MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

Unwitting Witnesses: Unearthing Narratives of African Dance in Pre-Colonial Logs. Monograph. *Awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) fellowship and a Council of American Overseas Research Center (CAORC) fellowship to travel to Africa to conduct research for the book.

At the Cutting Edge. Peer-reviewed international digital journal. Founding Editor-in-Chief. Digital Howard: Howard University.

For Every Thought There's A Dance: Histories, Techniques, and Frameworks on African and African Diaspora Dance. Monograph.

Voiceless Shouts: Danced Conversations on Women, Identity, and Activism in Africa and her Diaspora. Monograph.

AWARDS, GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

- AWARD, *Outstanding Dance Researcher Award*, National Dance Education Organization (NDEO), Washington, DC.
- AWARD, *Deans Cabinet Award*, Chadwick A. Boseman College of Fine Arts, Howard University, Washington, DC.

2021	FELLOWSHIP, National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), \$15,000.00, Washington, DC.
2020	FELLOWSHIP, Council of American Overseas Research Centers (CAORC), \$11,000.00, Washington, DC.
2020	AWARD, Mary Ellen Lane Multi-Country Travel Grant Award, \$1,000.00, Washington, DC. *Awarded for top-ranked research proposal.
2019	GRANT, U.S. Department of Education/Center for African Studies, Howard University, \$3,000.00, Washington, DC.
2018	GRANT, National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), Humanities Initiatives \$99,948.00, Washington, DC.
2018	AWARD, <i>Outstanding Assistant Professor</i> in the College of Arts and Sciences at Howard University, 2017-2018. Washington, DC.
2018	AWARD, <i>Outstanding Student Advisement</i> , Office on Research Development, Howard University, Washington, DC.
2017	GRANT, Summer Faculty Research Grant, \$10,000.00, Howard University, Washington, DC.
2012	AWARD, Special Commendation, Office of the Mayor, Washington, DC.
2012	AWARD, <i>Special Commendation</i> , Public History Lecture Series, District of Columbia Archives, Washington, DC.
2011-2016	FELLOWSHIP, Frederick Douglas Doctoral Fellowship, \$96,000.00, Howard University, Washington, DC.
2011	FULBRIGHT, The J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship, Morocco, North Africa.
2011	SCHOLARSHIP, US Department of State Critical Language Scholarship, Arabic
2010-2011	GRANT, Crispus Attucks Cultural Center, Norfolk, VA, rehearsal space grant, \$20,800.00.
2010	FELLOWSHIP, George H. Bennett Fellowship, Petersburg, VA, \$1,000.00.
2009-2010	GRANT, Crispus Attucks Cultural Center, Norfolk, VA, rehearsal space grant, \$20,800.00.

2008-2009	GRANT, Crispus Attucks Cultural Center, Norfolk, VA, rehearsal space grant, \$18,000.00.	
2008	AWARD, <i>Unity Award</i> , for innovatively utilizing African dance to facilitate conversation between diverse groups. Hampton City Council, Hampton, VA.	
2007	GRANT, Newport News Arts Council Grant, Newport News, VA, \$2,500.00.	
2006-2008	GRANT, Crispus Attucks Cultural Center, Norfolk, VA, rehearsal space grant, \$41,600.00.	
2006	AWARD, Excellence in the Arts Award, Southeast Virginia Arts Association, Norfolk, VA.	
2005-2006	GRANT. Grant for teaching an apprentice the art of traditional African dance and culture. Virginia Foundation for the Humanities (VFH), Charlottesville, VA. \$3,000.00.	
2005	AWARD, Master Folk Artist Award, Virginia Foundation for the Humanities.	
2005	AWARD, Outstanding Contribution to Music in the Commonwealth, The Virginia Music Educators' Association, Norfolk, VA.	
2004	GRANT, Friends of the Arts, Inc., Richmond, VA, \$2,700.00.	
2003	GRANT, Hampton Arts Council, Hampton, VA, \$4,700.00.	
2000	AWARD, <i>Main Stay Award</i> , for a performance above and beyond expected. Department of the Navy, Pentagon, Arlington, VA. (Newport News, VA branch).	
1998	GRANT, The Links, Newport News, VA, \$500.00.	
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS FOUNDED/INITIATIVES		
2023	Chadwick A. Boseman College of Fine Arts Honors Program. The inaugural honors program for the newly established fine arts college (work in progress).	
2022	Chadwick A. Boseman College of Fine Arts Grant Writing Series. Created the first grant writing workshop series to inspire and support grant writing efforts of Fine Arts faculty and staff. (5 workshops, September-November).	
2022	"Submitting Your Grant Proposal for the National Endowment for the Humanities," seminar. Organized a seminar for humanities faculty at Howard University to support grant proposal submissions. Invited presenter was Dr. Mary Macklem, Senior Program Officer for Research, NEH. October 28 th .	

- 2022 Candid Conversations on Arts and Research. Conference Panel. Organized the college's first arts research conference panel consisting entirely of Chadwick A. Boseman College of Fine Arts faculty, Howard University Research Month, April 26.
- 2022 Reimagining Research 2022-2024, Strategic Plan for Research. Chadwick A. Boseman College of Fine Arts. Spearheaded the college's first strategic plan for research.
- 2021 *R.I.S.E.* (Revitalize. Innovate. Sustain. Emerge) *Proposal for Strategic Investment in the Department of Theatre Arts*. Successfully submitted a \$2.2-million-dollar proposal to Howard University to increase investment in the Department of Theatre Arts. The proposal was fully funded.
- 2021 *Professional Pipeline Program*. Created the program to foster official partnerships between the Department of Theatre Arts and theatre/dance companies of regional and national renown to provide industry experience for students. Howard University, Washington, DC.
- 2021 *I.D.E.A.* (Imagine. Design. Engage. Achieve) *3 Year Strategic Plan, 2021-2024*. Developed the Department of Theatre Arts' first strategic plan. Howard University, Washington, DC.
- Nankama African Dance Conference, Founding Director. International Two-day Scholarly Conference on African and African Diaspora dance and performance research. Panelists and scholars from Africa, the US, Europe, and the Caribbean attended. Ralph J. Bunch International Affairs Center, Washington DC, February 8-9, 2020 & February 9-10, 2019.
- 2018-Present *The Africana Theatre and Dance Collection*, Director. Awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) grant to establish a digital archival collection in Howard University's Founders Library, Washington, DC.
- Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts. Archivist. *Created the first archives for the nation's only federal performing arts park. United States Department of the Interior, Vienna, VA.

ARTISTIC WORKS

(Abridged list)

2020 *RITES*, Choreography (African dance ballet). Invited to present my choreographic work *RITES* in Recife, Brazil, with 5 of my students. U.S. State Department – Smithsonian Museum joint project. March 23-29, 2020. (Postponed due to Coronavirus)

2016	"Lamban." Ceremonial reception director, and choreographer for the reception African dance and the processional. <i>African American Women and the Law (AAWL) Conference</i> . Theme: "Black Women Still Rising: Ending Structural Racism, Patriarchy and Violence." National Education Association (NEA), Washington, DC.
2010	"Umoja" <i>Suwabi African Ballet's 14th Annual Kwanzaa Concert</i> . Director, producer, choreographer. The Attucks Theatre, Norfolk, VA.
2010	Cultural Continuities II: African Dance & Culture in the Diaspora Conference, Founder/Director. Attucks Theatre, Norfolk, VA.
2009	Cultural Continuities: African Dance & Culture in the Diaspora Conference, Founder/Director. Attucks Theatre, Norfolk, VA.
2009	Once on This Island (Musical), choreographer. Hampton Roads Academy Newport News, VA.
2009	"Faju," choreography. <i>A Choreographer's Showcase</i> . Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA.
2008	<i>Imani</i> . Suwabi African Ballet's 12 th Annual Kwanzaa Concert. Director, producer, choreographer. The Attucks Theatre, Norfolk, VA.
2007	<i>Nia</i> . Suwabi African Ballet's 11 th Annual Kwanzaa Concert. Director, producer, choreographer. The Attucks Theatre, Norfolk, VA.
2006	Bena. Choreographer. The Governor's School for the Arts, Norfolk, VA.
2006	Choreographer/Director. Suwabi African Ballet. Elizabeth State University, NC.
2006	<i>Kuumba</i> . Suwabi African Ballet's 10 th Annual Kwanzaa Concert. Director producer, choreographer. The Attucks Theatre, Norfolk, VA.
2004-2009	First Night at Colonial Williamsburg, Suwabi African Ballet was commissioned annually to perform. College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2022-Present	Consultant. Historian/Humanities Specialist/Researcher: Non-profit organizations,
	cultural agencies, etc.; Faculty Development: academic grant writing, dissertation
	development, humanities research methodologies, monograph/book proposals.

2014-2016 Cultural Historian/Researcher. National Park Service (NPS). Washington, DC.

- 2014 Project Curator and Research Associate for the exhibit, "Polyrhythm: The Evolution of African American Dance and its African Roots." Museum exhibit. The National Afro-American Museum and Cultural Center, Wilberforce, Ohio. Co-Investigator. Ethnographic and Historical Project, National Park Service 2013-2014 (NPS), Washington, DC. 1996-2011 Artistic Director/Founder. Suwabi African Ballet. *Directed/managed a company of 50 dancers and drummers, operated the dance school, conducted research and choreographed African dance ballets based on findings, wrote grants, curated seasons, created and managed budget, etc. Norfolk and Newport News, VA. 2005-2011 Director. CampRize! Dance Camp, Norfolk, VA. 2004-2009 Director. Stage Norfolk Theatre Company, Norfolk, VA. 2000-2009 Artist in Residence. Governor's School for the Arts. Norfolk, VA. 2000-2003 Artist-in-Residence. Old Dominion University, African dance choreographer. Norfolk, VA. 2000-2002 Artist-in-Residence. Christopher Newport University, Newport News, VA. INVITED SPEAKER/LECTURER 2024 Keynote speaker. Igniting Emancipatory Possibilities through African Diaspora Dance. Summit. Connecticut College, (Forthcoming, February 9th). 2024 Invited lecturer. "Improvisation, Embodied Narratives & Afrikinesis." University of California-Irvine. (Forthcoming, January). Invited panelist. Grovin' Griot: The Role of Dance in African Diasporic 2023 Storytelling. Podcast. Media & Social Change Lab, Columbia University. December 7th. 2022 Keynote speaker. Mellon Center for Faculty Excellence/Prairie View A&M University, Faculty Conference. "Leveraging Your Scholarship Currency: Writing Proposals for Fellowships and Grants." Prairie View A & M University, Prairie View, Texas, August 15.
 - Rama Yade. Panelists included, Nana Addo-Akufo (President of Ghana), and other high-level officials. Smithsonian National Museum of African Art, Washington, DC, October 15.

Invited panelist. The Atlantic Council, Africa Center, *High-Level International Summit on the African Creative and Cultural Industries*. Hosted by Ambassador

2021

2021 Invited panelist. HBCUx Focus Group, Black Seed Fund (a \$10 million national strategic plan to facilitate HBCU theatre and dance Programs). Occurred digitally in diverse cities including Washington, DC, California, New York, Florida, among others. October 9. 2021 Invited speaker. Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company. Spotlight Series: Arts Education & Leadership. The Spotlight Series is in collaboration with Howard University's Theatre Arts Department. Washington, DC, October 25. Invited speaker. U.S. State Department, "African Dance in the Diaspora." Recife, 2020 Brazil, March 23-29, 2020. (Postponed due to Coronavirus). 2014 Invited panelist. "Africa, the Ring Shout, and Hand Dancing: Exposing the Ancient Foundations of DC Hand Dancing," in the panel, "Hand Dance Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow," the Annual Conference of the National Hand Dance Association, Arena Stage, Washington, DC. Invited speaker. "Fortitude and the Embodiment of a Movement," DC National 2012 Archives' Commemoration of the 150th Anniversary of Emancipation in Washington, DC. 2013 "Research and the Arts," invited lecturer for the course, Dance History I, Department of Theatre Arts, Howard University, Washington, DC. 2011 Invited speaker (and performance and choreographer). "African Dance and the Utility of Tradition," The International Arts Festival, Chrysler Museum, Norfolk, VA. 2011 Invited speaker (and workshop). "Historic Vistas of African Dance," Norfolk State University Annual Dance Conference, Norfolk, VA. 2011 Invited speaker (and performance and choreographer). "History, Traditional African Dance, and the 21st Century," Thomas Nelson Community College Annual Black History Month Conference, Hampton, VA. 2010 Invited speaker (and choreographer). "Moving Forward: African American Dance," Norfolk State University Annual Dance Conference, Norfolk, VA. 2010 Invited speaker. "Manjani: Conceptualizing the Rite of Passage in Mandinka Dance," The Office of International and Intercultural Programs, Wesleyan College, Norfolk, VA.

FEATURED SCHOLAR

Featured in, Southern Theatre, "Opening Doors: Professional Theatres Partner 2022 with HBCUs to Help Develop Black Leaders." Vol. LXII no. 1 (Winter 2022), p. 32-34. 2019 Interviewed on ABC's *Good Morning Washington* (February 7, 2019). 2019 History Dances: Chronicling the History of Traditional Mandinka Dance, featured on Howard University's "Hot 15" Books for Black History Month. 2018 Afro-American Newspaper, "Howard Fine Arts Professor Shows How African Dance Chronicled History." (December 15, 2018). 2018 Perspectives on History, Spotlight Scholar. American Historical Association (AHA). (December 6, 2018). 2018 Dance Spirit, "Step By Step," article. Interviewed and provided historical content for article on African American Step Dancing (April 2018 issue), p. 44-45.

CONFERENCES

- Roundtable Discussion with Hon. Railia A. Odinga, African Union High Representative and former Prime Minister of the Republic of Kenya. Exclusive invitation from Ambassador Rama Yade, Director of the Africa Center, Atlantic Council, Washington DC. April 25.
- Summit, *Africa Fast Forward: Building A Pathway to an Emerging Continent*. The Visionary Leaders' Summit, GE7 Initiative, and The George Washington University Institute for African Studies. Exclusive invitation. December 11th. Washington DC.
- Summit, *Investing in Africa's Creative Industries*. Exclusive invitation from Ambassador Rama Yade, Director of the Africa Center, Atlantic Council, Washington DC. December 15th.
- 2019 "Les Ballets Africains and the Restoration of Black Identity in Africa and the Diaspora," presentation. Paper accepted in Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD) conference. November 5-9, Williamsburg, VA.
- 2018 "Dance, Performance, African Rock Art, and the History of the Earth," paper accepted in the panel "Making People of African Origins Visible in the STEM Curriculum." Association for Science Teacher Education (ASTE) International Conference. January 4-6, 2018, Baltimore, MD.

2018 "Dancing Off Blackface: Vaudeville and the Construction of Black Identity in the World War I Era." Paper accepted in Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALAH) annual meeting and conference. October 3-7. Indianapolis, Indiana. 2017 "Jondon/Wolosodon," featured artist, Master Class. Lecture and workshop, Wazee African Dance and Culture, The Hampton Performing and Creative Arts Center, Hampton, VA. 2016 "Nangadef: August Wilson, Dance and Ritual," discussion. The August Wilson Society, Armour J. Blackburn Center, Washington, DC. "When They Stood Up: 19th-Century African American Cemetery Ritual," paper. 2014 Organization of American Historians (OAH), Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia. "Revelations of Africanisms: The History of Washington DC's Emancipation," 2013 paper. District of Columbia City Council Emancipation Conference, Washington, DC. 2010 "A Separate Space: Historical Highlights of Gnawa Dance, Arts and Culture in Contemporary Morocco," paper. Cross Cultural Solutions, Morocco, North Africa. 2009 "The State of Black Dance in America," invited speaker and workshop. Office of Student Affairs Black History Program, Hampton University, Hampton, VA. 2008 "Diversifying Dance Venues," invited speaker (and performance). National Folk Festival, National Council for the Traditional Arts, Richmond, VA. "Africa, America, the Arts and Inclusion," invited speaker (and performance and 2007 choreography). America's 400th Anniversary, Jamestown Settlement, Jamestown, VA. 2006 "Incorporating The Arts in the Homeschool Curriculum," invited lecturer. Department of Education, Hampton University, Hampton, VA. 2005 "Kasa: Celebration through Traditional Jola Drumming," invited speaker (and workshop). The Virginia Music Educator's Association Annual Meeting, Norfolk, VA.

JUDGE / ADJUDICATOR / REVIEWER

EXTERNAL REVIEWER, Promotion to Associate Professor with Tenure application, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT.

2023	JUDGE, Ruth Lovell Murray Book Awards, <i>National Dance Education Organization</i> (NDEO).
2022	GRANT REVIEWER, Spotlight on Humanities in Higher Education. National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), Washington, DC.
2022	ACCREDITATION SITE EVALUATOR, National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST), Reston, VA.
2022	REVIEWER, Dance Research Journal. Peer-reviewed journal of the national organization, Dance Studies Association (DSA).
2021	ADJUDICATOR AND GRANT REVIEWER, DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, <i>FY21 Arts and Humanities Fellowship in Dance</i> , Washington, DC.
2021	REVIWER, Tenure and Promotion Application, University of North Carolina-Charlotte.
2021	REVIEWER, Arts and Humanities Research Support Program, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI.
2020	REVIEWER, <i>Journal of the Musical Arts in Africa</i> . Peer-reviewed journal of the South African College of Music, University of Cape Town, South Africa.
2020	GRANT READER, National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), <i>Grants for Arts Projects</i> , Washington, DC.
2020	JUDGE, NAACP ACT-SO (Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics) National Competitions.
2019	ADJUDICATOR, John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts, <i>Kennedy Center Dance Lab</i> , Washington, DC.
2019	ADJUDICATOR AND GRANT REVIEWER, DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, FY20 Arts and Humanities Fellowship in Dance, Washington, DC.
2019	REVIEWER, Arts. Peer reviewed international journal, Basel, Switzerland.
2019	REVIEWER, The Griot: The Journal of African American Studies. Peer-reviewed academic journal.
2016-2019	JUDGE, National Park Service (NPS), Frederick Douglass Oratorical Contest, Washington, DC.
2009-2011	JUDGE, Attucks Theater, CampRize, Dance Auditions, Norfolk, VA.

2006-2008 JUDGE, NAACP *ACT-SO* (Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics) Regional Competitions, Newport News, VA.

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION & COMMUNITY

2023	SPEAKER, <i>Our History in a State of Emergency</i> . Emergency community meeting and teach-in. Blackburn Center, Washington, DC.
2022	KEYNOTE SPEAKER, <i>Celebrating Life in Harmony</i> , Kwanzaa Program. Cramton Auditorium, Washington DC, Dance Institute of Washington.
2022	CONSULTANT, Spirit of Kwanzaa. Program planning, Dance Institute of Washington (DIW), Washington DC.
2022	HUMANITIES SPECIALIST, "Reflections on Justice" <i>Dance Institute of Washington</i> (DIW), DC Arts and Humanities grant project. Washington DC.
2019	CONSULTANT, BREathe Dance Project, Fort Washington, Maryland.
2018	DANCE DRAMATURGE, "Trials to Freedom," Seals Dance Project, Washington, DC.
2019	HOST, talkback for the D.C. screening of the web series, <i>Black Enough</i> , Landmark's E Street Cinema, Washington, DC, November 13.
2017-2022	CONSULTANT, Wazee African Dance and Culture, Hampton, VA.
2016-2017	HUMANITIES SPECIALIST, National Hand Dance Association (NHDA) Washington, DC.
2016	PANEL EVALUATER, Panel discussion, National Hand Dance Association (NHDA). 2 nd Annual Youth and Young Adult Symposium, R.I.S.E. Demonstration Center, Washington, DC.
2016	MEMBER, Planning Committee. Director and choreographer for the opening reception. <i>African American Policy Forum: Center for Intersectionality and Social Policy Studies</i> . African American Women and the Law Conference, National Education Association (NEA) Washington, DC.
2014	ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR, American Historical Association (AHA), Annual meeting, Washington, DC.
2007	TRAVEL COORDINATOR, ACT-SO (Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological, and Scientific Olympics) Gold metal finalists' travel to final competition in Detroit, MI.

2004 SUWABI IN GAMBIA, organized an African dance conference for US dance

artists to travel to The Gambia, West Africa, to study traditional African dance,

history, and culture for three weeks, March-April, 2004.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE: HOWARD UNIVERSITY

(WAC, Writing Across the Curriculum course; WRTG, Writing Intensive course)

Academic Courses

Dance History I (WRTG): Africa, Antiquity to the 20th Century

Dance History I (WRTG): World Dance

Dance History II: (WRTG) Engaging the African Diaspora, 1600 to Present

Theatre History I (*WRTG*): World Theatre to the 18th Century

Introduction to Theatre Performance and Identity

Honors Thesis I. II

Honors Directed Research I, II Arts, Libraries, and Archives

Research Methods in Dance, Theatre, and Performance

African History I

Dance Technique Courses

African Dance I, II, III,

African Dance Performance Workshop

Digital Pedagogy

2021-2023 Pedagogy Website: *The History of Africana Dance*. Published website to enhance

student engagement in the undergraduate courses: Dance History I; Dance History

II; and Performance and Identity. www.ofosuwaabiolaphd.org.

2020-Present 100% Online Course: Dance History I

2020-Present 100% Online Course: Dance History II: African Diaspora

2017-2020 Pedagogy Website: Africana Cultural History. Published website to enhance

student engagement in the undergraduate courses: Theatre History; Dance History; Performance and Identity; and Arts, Libraries, and Archives.

Undergraduate College Courses Created

2020 Arts, Libraries, and Archives

2018 Research Methods in Dance, Theatre, and Performance

2017 Performance and Identity

OTHER ACADEMIC TEACHING EXPERIENCE

African Dance Technique (1997-2006)

Hampton University | Norfolk State University | Old Dominion University | Christopher Newport University | Thomas Nelson Community College | Governor's School for the Arts (VA)

EXTERNAL PH.D. DISSERTATION COMMITTEES

- 2022-Present *Dissertation Director*: Rikiesha Metzger, "A Black Artistic Renaissance: Expressing the Spiritual Element through Black Artistic Thought." Institute for Doctoral Studies in the Visual Arts, Portland, ME.
- 2021-2022 *Dissertation Director*: Truly A. Bennett, "Removed Closeness: A Phenomenological Inquiry into the Black Dancing Body Across Space, Time, and Geographies." Institute for Doctoral Studies in the Visual Arts, Portland, ME. Successfully defended, December 8th.
- 2020-2023 *Dissertation Committee Member*: Dominic King, "Phenomenology of Stepping and its Potential as a Liberatory Praxis." Department of Community, Liberation, Indigenous, and Ecopsychology. Pacifica Graduate Institute, Santa Barbara, CA. Successfully defended, January 20th.

UNDERGRADUATE HONORS THESIS ADVISEMENT

- 2018-2019 *Thesis Director*: Jaylen Wilson, "Theatre is a Weapon: The Efficacy of Theatrical Presentation as a Device for Combating Systemic Racism." Department of Theatre Arts, Howard University. Selected to present at Howard University Research Week, April 2019.
- 2017-2018 *Thesis Director*: Adanna Paul, "Bound to Post-Black: Examining and Redefining Tenets of the Post-Black Arts Movement." Department of Theatre Arts, Howard University. *Won award for best presentation in Arts and Design, Howard University Research Week, April 2018.
- 2017-2018 *Thesis Director*: Mary Morris, "Breaking the Cycle: An Investigation of Drama Therapy as an Intervention on the School to Prison Pipeline and At-Risk Youth." Department of Theatre Arts, Howard University. Selected to present at Howard University Research Week, April 2018.

SERVICE: HOWARD UNIVERSITY

- 2022-Present MEMBER, New Building Committee, Chadwick A. Boseman College of Fine Arts, Howard University, Washington, DC.
- MEMBER, Bylaws Committee, Chadwick A. Boseman College of Fine Arts. Worked as a team member to continue the creation of the bylaws after the initial format and initial draft was completed.
- 2022-2023 CHAIR, Bylaws Committee, Chadwick A. Boseman College of Fine Arts.

 Created and directed the initial process for writing the bylaws that is to govern the newly established college.

2022	JUDGE for presentations, Howard University Annual Research Month, April 2022.
2022-Present	MEMBER, Deans Cabinet, Chadwick A. Boseman College of Fine Arts.
2021-Present	MEMBER, Executive Committee, Chadwick A. Boseman College of Fine Arts.
2021-Present	MEMBER, Alumni, Honorary Degree, and Distinguished Faculty Committee, Chadwick A. Boseman College of Fine Arts.
2020-Present	MEMBER, Interdisciplinary Faculty Consortium (IFC), Howard University Office of Research.
2020-2021	FINE ARTS REPRESENTATIVE, Howard University Faculty Senate.
2020	ACTING CHAIR, Transition Team, College of Fine Arts (CoFA).
2019-2020	MEMBER, Transitional Team Executive Committee, College of Fine Arts (CoFA).
2019	MEMBER, Transition Team, College of Fine Arts.
2019	MEMBER, Transitional Team Bylaws Committee, College of Fine Arts.
2019-2020	MEMBER, Executive Committee, Department of Theatre Arts.
2019-2020	SUPERVISOR, Experiential Learning and On-Campus Placement, Howard University Student Employment Program (HUSEP), Office of Career Services.
2019	JUDGE for poster and paper presentations, Howard University Annual Research Week.
2019	REVIEWER for abstract submissions to Howard University Annual Research Week.
2018-2019	MEMBER, CoFA Working Group, Committee for reinstating the College of Fine Arts.
2018	MEMBER, Department of Theatre Arts Sabbatical Committee.
2018	MEMBER, Search Committee, Department of Theatre Arts Lighting Designer.
2018	JUDGE for poster and paper presentations, Howard University Annual Research Week.
2017-2018	CHAIR, Department Chair Search Committee, Department of Theatre Arts.

2017-2021	MEMBER, Academic Policy, Standards, and General Education (APSAGE) Committee, College of Arts and Sciences.
2017-2020	CHAIR, Curriculum Committee, Department of Theatre Arts.
2017-2019	MEMBER, Honors Council, College of Arts and Sciences.
2017-2018	COORDINATOR, Theatre Arts Minor Program, Department of Theatre Arts, Howard University, Washington, DC.
2016-2019	MEMBER, Executive Committee, Department of Theater Arts.
2015-2019	CHAIR, Library Committee, Department of Theater Arts.
2014-2017	MEMBER, Curriculum Committee, Department of Theater Arts.
CONTINUE	D EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
2023	WORKSHOP, Navigation Excellence: Exploring the Federal Peer Review Ecosystem & Peer Review Fair. White House Initiative on Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence, and Economic Opportunity Through HBCUs. September 26, Arlington, VA.
2023	WORKSHOP, Pre-Meeting Workshop for Seasoned Theatre Administrators in Higher Education, NAST 58 th Annual Meeting and Retreat for Administrators of Theatre Programs in Higher Education, March 14-18, St. Louis, MO.
2022	TRAINING, Cybersecurity Awareness Training, Office of Enterprise Technology Services, Howard University. (2022, 2023)
2022	WORKSHOP, Workshop for New and Aspiring Theatre Administrators in Higher Education. NAST 57 th Annual Meeting and Retreat for Administrators of Theatre Programs in Higher Education, March 23, Baltimore, MD.
2021	WORKSHOP, NAST Training Workshop for Visiting Evaluators. National Association for Schools of Theatre, Reston, VA.
2020-2021	CERTIFICATION, Chairs Leadership Academy (CLA), Office of Faculty Development, Howard University, Washington, DC.
2020	CONFERENCE, "Specific Procedures for NAST Evaluation," National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST), Reston, VA.
2019	CERTIFICATION, HU-Teach/Quality Matters Online Course Design Standards workshops to convert face-to-face courses to 100% online format. Howard University, Washington, DC.

2020	CERTIFICATION, Blackboard Certified, Center for Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Assessment (CETLA), Howard University, Washington, DC.
2017	CERTIFICATION, Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC), Center for Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Assessment (CETLA), Howard University, Washington, DC.
2017	CERTIFICATE, Faculty Writing & Creative Works Summer Academy, Office of Faculty Development, Howard University, Washington, DC.
2015	CERTIFICATE, Preparing Future Faculty (PFF), Howard University, Washington, DC.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

The Center for HBCU Research, Leadership, and Policy
National Dance Education Organization (NDEO)
National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST)
American Historical Association (AHA)
Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD)
West African Research Association (WARA)
West African Research Center (WARC) Affiliated Scholar
Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society
National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC)
International Association of Blacks in Dance (IABD)

FIELD WORK AND ARCHIVAL RESEARCH

Senegal, West Africa | The Gambia, West Africa | Morocco, Northwest Africa | Nassau, Bahamas | Freeport, Bahamas | United States

LANGUAGES

French (Reading) | Wolof (Basic) | Spanish (Basic) | Arabic (Basic)

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

(Original Full-Length African Ballets, Abridged list)

Choreographer, wrote the script, director, drumming arrangements, designed and made costumes

Wasalunke and the Three Virtues, 2008 Imhotep, 2006 Waters of Despair, Waters of Hope, 2004 The Voices of Shu, 2002 The Dismal Swamp, 2000 Africa: A Song of Me, 1998 MUSICALS (Abridged list)

Choreographer

Rainbow Park, 2007 Outliers II, 2006 Outliers, 2005 Once On This Island, 2004 The Wiz, 2000

COMMISSIONED TO CHOREOGRAPH SITE-SPECIFIC WORKS

(Abridged list, 2000-2011)

America's 400th Anniversary, Jamestown, VA (Commissioned by the US Government)

The Chrysler Museum

The Norfolk Botanical Garden

The Mariner's Museum

The SS Rotterdam (Holland/America cruise ship)

The Spirit of Norfolk (cruise ship)

Norfolk Zoological Museum

The Peninsula Fine Arts Center

Hampton University Museum

FESTIVAL PERFORMANCES & PRESENTATIONS

(Abridged list)

2010	Gnawa Arts, Rabat, Morocco, Northwest, Africa.
2006	Lyceum Series for Cultural Engagement, Elizabeth City, NC.
2004	Corichow Dance Company, Kololi, The Gambia, West Africa.
1997-2011	Newport News Folk Arts Festival, City Government, Newport News, VA.
1997-2007	African American Arts Festival (Afr-Am Festival), Norfolk, VA.
2005	National Arts Festival, Richmond, VA. (The festival toured the US)
2000-2005	Umoja Festival, Portsmouth Parks and Recreation, Portsmouth, VA.
1999	African American Festival of the Arts, Charles City, VA.

FEATURED ARTIST

(Abridged list)

VFH Radio VFH Radio Productions Program, "Suwabi African Ballet." I was featured as the

Founding Artistic Director of my dance company. Interview by Connie Stevens,

2007.

NBC WAVY 10 Performance at the NTELOS Pavilion, Suwabi African Ballet. I was

featured with my dance company, 2007.

Book In Good Keeping: Virginia's Folklife Apprenticeships. Featured as a Master

Artist, pp. 114-117. Published by the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities,

Charlottesville, VA, 2007.

WOWI "The Morning Show." Interviewed by Cheryl Wilkerson (Radio) 2006.

PBS "Interview with Master Folk Artist Ofosuwa Abiola." Interviewed on PBS, aired

in all US states including Hawaii, 2005.

CBS "A Day with Suwabi African Ballet." I was featured with my dance company on

the "Ester Pierre is Everywhere" show, 2002.

CBS "Live at Nine." Performance, 1999.

OTHER OVERSEAS PERFORMANCES & PRESENTATIONS

(Abridge list)

The Gambia | Senegal | Morocco | Bermuda | Bahamas | Puerto Rico | St. Thomas

KWANZAA DANCE CONCERTS

1997-2011 Choreographed, Directed, and produced, 14 annual Kwanzaa concerts which opened on the second day of Kwanzaa, Kugichagulia (Self-determination), from

1997 to 2005, and on the first day of Kwanzza, Umoja (Unity), from 2006 to

2011.