

WITH AND FOR ALL PEOPLE



If dance is an expression of the human spirit, then it is best expressed by people of all abilities. With a composition of dancers representing a spectrum of age, ethnicity, gender, and physical abilities, the Dancing Wheels Company has the unique capability to connect with children and adults with and without disabilities on a very personal level.

“With and For All People” is a mixed repertory concert that explores the themes of diversity, inclusion, and accessibility.

The Company’s repertoire features over 100 pieces created by nationally-esteemed choreographers. Please find below a sample of featured repertory and the Company’s full repertory list [here](#).

- **“Walking on Clouds”** – choreographed in 2005 by David Roussève at the request of Artistic Directors Mary Verdi-Fletcher and Michael Medcalf (of then Cleveland Contemporary Dance Theatre) to bring to the stage a work that would reflect the similarities and challenges encountered throughout history by people with disabilities and people of color. (Duration: 30 minutes) [<https://vimeo.com/653782986/0a2d07f110>]
- **“Od:yssey”** – choreographed in 2019 by disabled choreographer Marc Brew on the Dancing Wheels Company for “Reverse * Reboot * Reveal,” a landmark concert where disabled choreographers were selected to create commissioned works for the company. This work explores the intersection of pathways along one's journey or experience. Stylistically, Mr. Brew combines his modern approach infused with dancers’ influences. His partnering brings out the strength and ingenuity of both the disabled and non-disabled dancers. (Duration: 16 minutes) [<https://vimeo.com/683015167/395b853676>]
- **“Incommunicado”** – choreographed by Catherine Meredith, was created as part of Dancing Wheels’ 35th anniversary Lasting Legacy Project. The inspiration for this work came from Title IV of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA): Telecommunications, which ensures functionally equivalent services for consumers with disabilities. Using American Sign Language (ASL) as a base for the movement, the piece examines what can happen if that breakdown in communication occurs. (Duration: 11 minutes) [<https://vimeo.com/225299575>]

- **“Going Up”** – choreographed by Mark Tomasic, is a work of dance theater set in an imaginary elevator. Personal stories reveal universal truths via live and recorded text fused with a divergent range of music. With each new floor the elevator reaches, riders and audience members come face-to-face with stereotypes and obstacles people with disabilities encounter daily. (Duration: 25 minutes)
- **“This Day”** – choreographed by award-winning choreographer Donald Byrd for the Dancing Wheels Company’s National Physically Integrated Dance Festival: “Beyond Barriers, Boundaries & Belief!” The abstract work piece displays relationships between the dancers and represents the normalization of the ‘integrated dance’ company, where whether a dancer is a ‘sit-down’ or stand-up’, their world IS the world. (Duration: 25 minutes)
[\[https://vimeo.com/user12030731/thisday2022premiere\]](https://vimeo.com/user12030731/thisday2022premiere)
- **“Clamor”** – choreographed by Sarah Swenson, is dedicated to the memory of Kenneth Irving Zola (1935 to 1994), an early disability rights activist, proponent of Independent Living, and prominent advocate for the ADA. Zola was a participant in the “Capitol Crawl”, an act of civil disobedience that helped propel the passage of the Act, and which was the inspiration for this work. (Duration: 12 minutes)
[\[https://vimeo.com/207026632\]](https://vimeo.com/207026632)

