Project Title
MFA Thesis concert- “Codeswitching for Survival”

Project Description
As part of the requirements to fulfill an MFA in Dance degree, I will be creating, producing, and presenting a choreographed work to be performed in the Coleman Dance Theater at UNCG. The work will be approximately 30-minutes in length.

I aim to present a work that addresses the ways in which society monitors, controls, and polices people based on their identities, specifically those who identify as-part of the queer community (people who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, gender non-binary, transgender, etc.). I plan to do this by focusing on codeswitching and the ways that queer people use codeswitching as a survival tool in the world.

I plan to use the space in both conventional and non-conventional ways. In the entry of the theater, I plan to create a gallery-style presentation showing a wide range of gender identities and sexualities expressed through the choreography that follows. These will be shown through video recordings on screens. I also plan to use props to manipulate the architecture of the space by extending the appearance of the curtains, moving these panel backdrops, and segmenting the space in non-traditional ways to “hide” dancers while onstage.

It is my goal to present a work that creates more visibility for the queer community by showing how people navigate their interactions with others within society as a whole. I hope to shed light on the challenges that queer people experience in their everyday lives.

Project Proposal Start Date
8/24/2020

Total Amount Requested
$2,000

Cost Justification Detail
I am requesting funds that will make the creation and performance of this work possible. Ranging from costumes and props to marketing tools and recording measures, the funds will allow me to fully realize this artistic work. Please see below for a breakdown of the funds requested:

EXPENSES
Costumes $1000 [Costumes for approximately 8 dancers]
Stage Props $600 [Materials for props (wood, fabric, metal, wheels)]
Technology Supplies $250 [Cables, connectors, supplies]
Marketing/Promotion $500 [Posters, Online Advertisement, Promo Reel]
Videographer $300 [App. 2 hours]
Photographer $150 [App. 2 hours]
TOTAL EXPENSES $2,800

Other Funding Sources for this Project
I will be applying for funds through the Kristina Larson Grant within the School of Dance, specifically intended for the support of MFA work. Additionally, I have identified a Regional Artist Project Grant through ArtsGreensboro that I am applying for, however it will not be available for acceptance until October 2020.