

Artistic Director: Robert McKee

Summer Intensive Director: Sarah Baker

Rehearsal Directors: Michael Artrip and Hailey Wood

Youth Training Program Directors: Kenna Johnson and Katie Zale

Business Manager: Amancay Kugler

Program Director: Mitchell Haley

Company Members: Michael Artrip, Sarah Baker, Sydney Markert, Hailey Wood, Katie Zale

Performing Apprentices: Riley Bliss, Alyssa Decker, Hannah Eicherl

# Saturday, October 24th, 8:00 PM Show Sunday, October 25th, 2:00 PM Show

# **Sentimental Leap**

Choreographer: Shanna VanDerwerker

Dancers: Michael Artrip, Sarah Baker, Riley Bliss, Alyssa Decker, Hannah Eicherl, Sydney Markert,

Hailey Wood, Katie Zale

Music: The Les Brown Orchestra, Django Reinhardt, Lake Street Drive

# **Going Up**

Choreographer: Fernando Rodriguez

Dancers: Michael Artrip, Sarah Baker, Alyssa Decker, Hannah Eicherl, Sydney Markert, Katie Zale, Hailey

Wood

Music: The Black Dog, Coil

# **Charging through Stillness**

Choreographer: Katie Zale

Dancers: Ella Brody, Shaelin Dunn, Olivia Harmon, Autumn Holmstrom, Ember Keel, Lorelei Lynott,

Angelica Mendoza, Aleah Newman, Sofia Vincent, Bri Yttri

Music: Louis Armstrong, Olafur Arnalds

### **Conscious Choice**

Choreographer: Robert McKee

Dancers: Michael Artrip, Sarah Baker, Riley Bliss, Hailey Wood

Music: Forest Swords

### **Pieces**

Choreographer: Robert McKee

Dancers: Michael Artrip, Sarah Baker, Riley Bliss, Alyssa Decker, Sydney Markert, Katie Zale, Hailey

Wood

Music: Bill Evans

# Unyielding

Choreographer: Sarah Ford-Hardy

Dancers: Michael Artrip, Sarah Baker, Riley Bliss, Alyssa Decker, Hannah Eicherl, Sydney Markert, Katie

Zale, Hailey Wood Music: Hans Zimmer

We would like to thank Definition Dance Academy and Intrigue Dance and Performing Arts Center for allowing us to use their beautiful studios for rehearsal.

We would like to give a special thanks to Dr. Schoene for her injury prevention services.

# **About Inaside Chicago Dance:**

Inaside Chicago Dance advances innovative artistry through choreography, performances, and educational programs to heighten the state of the art in the Midwest. The vision of Inaside Chicago Dance is to enrich the art form of dance by nurturing the dancer as a performer, choreographer, and teacher and by making dance accessible to all ages through performances, workshops, and outreach.

# The History:

Founded in the fall of 2003, Inaside Chicago Dance is a nonprofit jazz dance company that builds off the foundations of the art form, while leading the way for contemporary jazz dance in the present and future. New Artistic Director Robert McKee strives to make Inaside a supreme outlet of artistry, knowledge, and growth for each dancer and choreographer who comes through the company's presence.

Inaside employs a highly trained diverse ensemble of male and female dancers, as well as instructors from across the US and various cultural backgrounds. The company's repertoire has evolved since its inception with works from diverse choreographers ranging the spectrum of jazz.

Inaside is a dynamic resource for the discipline. Known for their highly entertaining annual performances, Inaside Dance Project, Inaside Dance promotes excellence in the performing arts on and off the stage. The ideals of integrity, passion, and pride allow Inaside to advance innovative artistry through choreography, performances, and educational programs; and heighten the state of the art within the



Midwest.

# **Robert McKee - Artistic Director**

Robert Mckee attended Point Park University and is a former company member of Giordano Jazz Dance Chicago. He has been a guest dancer and choreographer most recently with Chicago Dance Crash, Cerqua Rivera, and other Independent projects. Robert began an interest in teaching and choreography at a very young age. Influenced by percussive rhythms and dynamic shapes, he finds himself always inspired to create.

Robert has been on faculty at the Dance Center of Columbia College Chicago, a teacher for Chicago National Association of Dance Masters, and teaches throughout the Chicagoland area. He has worked with Rockford Dance Company, The Giordano Project, Giordano Juniors, McDonald Dance Academy, Barrington High School, Northshore School of Dance Performing Ensemble, the Giordano on Giordano choreography showcase, Riverside Brookfield High School, Northern Illinois University, and Framework Dance Chicago.

# The Company:

### Sarah Baker

Sarah is originally from Clayton, Michigan, and graduated from Chapman University in Orange, CA with a B.F.A in Dance Performance and B.S. in Business Administration. She has joyfully danced with Inaside for four and a half years and is performing her farewell concert with the company. After this, she will continue in vocational ministry and dancing in other capacities. "I can't say thank you enough: Inaside for the incredible opportunity and honor to dance with these wonderful friends; her family for their sacrificial love, support, and embrace; and, God for the gifts of life and this amazing chapter with Inaside.



# **Michael Artrip**

Starting his training in Kalamazoo, MI, Michael graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Dance from Western Michigan University studying ballet, modern, and jazz techniques. While at school, he also had the pleasure of working with such artists as Michael Sayfan of Gaga People, John Gardner and Amanda McKerrow of American Ballet Theatre, and Leslie Young of San Francisco Ballet. Michael teaches dance and fitness classes in Chicago and the surrounding areas.



This is Hailey's fifth season with Inaside. She is originally from Olympia, WA, and graduated with a BFA in dance performance and choreography at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Hailey is a Pilates instructor and loves sharing her passion for dance with kids. She could not be more excited to share the stage with her Inaside family.





### Katie Zale

Katie graduated from the University of Illinois with a BFA in dance. While at Illinois she was on the Illinettes dance team and also served as a captain. Katie has been working with Universal Dance Association (UDA) for the past 8 years instructing middle school - collegiate dancers. This is her 3rd season with Inaside and 1st as a company member. Katie absolutely loves sharing the stage with her Inaside family. for being great role models for her during their time together with Inaside Chicago Dance.

# Sydney Markert

Sydney began her early dance training in lowa under the direction of Nancy Overturff and studied extensively in ballet at Iowa Ballet Academy under Ami Yarrow. She graduated summa cum laude from the University of Arizona with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance and a minor from the School of Information Systems. Sydney has had the privilege of working with many teachers and choreographers throughout her career including Amy Earnst, Tammy Dyke-Compton, Sherry



Zunker, and Miguel Perez. Sydney is excited to be in her second season with Inaside Chicago Dance and looks forward to sharing her love and joy of dance on the stage!

# **Performing Apprentices/Apprentices:**



# **Alyssa Decker**

Alyssa is originally from East Dundee, IL, and trained with the Visceral Studio Company under the direction of Nick Pupillo and Laura Wade. She graduated from the University of Michigan with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance with a minor in Movement Science on a merit scholarship in December 2018 and currently teaches and choreographs for studios in the Chicagoland area. Alyssa is so excited to be in her second season with Inaside Chicago Dance.

### Hannah Eicherl

Hannah Eicherl began her dance training at the Algonquin Academy of Dance in Lake in the Hills, IL. She went on to receive her Bachelor of Arts in Dance from Dean College in 2019. While attending Dean, she performed works choreographed by James Morrow, Levi Marsman, Todd Shanks, and William (Bill) Evans. Upon graduating, she returned to the Chicagoland area and trained at Joel Hall Dancers and Center. Hannah is thrilled for the opportunity to be dancing with Inaside Chicago Dance.





# Riley Bliss

Riley is so excited to be in his first season with Inaside! Originally from Southern Utah, Riley began his training at Diamond Talent Productions studying dance, acting, and voice. He is a recent graduate of the University of Arizona School of Dance where he performed works from choreographers including Michael Williams, Sam Watson, Autumn Eckman, Tamara Dyke-Compton, among other esteemed faculty. Riley would like to thank his family, friends, mentors, and boyfriend for supporting him in his transition to Chicago!

Thank you for attending our show and continuing to support us. As a nonprofit organization, we rely solely on the community to exist. If you've enjoyed this show, and the education we are providing to people across the world, we ask for your help. Any donation you could make to help make this company continue to thrive would be greatly appreciated. All donations can be made at www.lnaside.org.

# **Upcoming Events:**

# Winter Workshop-In-person and Zoom options available. December 29 & 30, 10-3 pm daily

Stay up to date on your technique during the holiday season and train with Inaside.







