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Emerging Voices Seek to Push the Boundaries of Contemporary Dance at Urbanity NeXt

BOSTON, MA--Urbanity Dance will present [NeXt](#), a showcase of rising choreographers from the New York and Greater Boston areas, at the Multicultural Arts Center on March 8th and 9th at 7:30 p.m., and March 10th at 2:30 p.m. This year's selected choreographers are Styles Alexander, Hollis Bartlett, Dorothy Cherry, Cayley Christoforou, Alexander Davis, Carrie Kerstein, and Nattie Trogdon.

When asked what inspires their work, choreographers gave a range of responses, including “the polarity of desire and denial” (Bartlett and Trogdon), “the complexities of privilege” (Cherry), and even the “feelings of insecurity” and visual environment of a high school prom (Alexander). Hollis Bartlett and Nattie Trogdon, two choreographers creating a collaborative piece, bring a wealth of experience to *NeXt*. Having recently performed at The Juilliard School, Mark Morris Dance Center, Gibney Dance Center and Dixon Place, their work probes feelings of innate human desire, ranging from “instinctual impulses to utopian aspirations.” Their piece explores “denial as a defense mechanism to avoid dealing with painful traumas or the refusal to accept reality,” says Trogdon.

The selected choreographers were chosen from a pool of 40 applicants from around the nation to develop their work and will receive feedback from Urbanity Founder and Director Betsi Graves. Throughout a four-month residency, choreographers have been provided with rehearsal space and access to Urbanity's [Company](#) and [Creative Class](#) dancers to create new work.

The Multicultural Arts Center is located at 41 Second Street, East Cambridge, MA 02141. Tickets for *NeXt* range from \$23-\$50 and are available [here](#). For more information about *NeXt* and this year's choreographers, [click here](#). For press ready photos, please contact jason@urbanitydance.org

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Urbanity Dance exists to engage, inspire, and empower through the art of dance and movement.

Founded in 2008 by Director Betsi Graves, Urbanity Dance offers audiences a challenging, entertaining, and visionary experience. The Company's hyper-athletic aesthetic is a true fusion,

aiming to bridge the gap between concert and commercial dance. Known for its effortless curves and use of breath, Urbanity places a strong emphasis on the foundations of modern, jazz, and ballet, while also utilizing the highly detailed gesture work and hard-hitting articulation usually associated with hip-hop. The Company was voted Boston's Best by Improper Bostonian in 2013, announced Best of Boston by Boston Magazine in 2015, recently shortlisted for Bostinno's 50 on Fire, and named a Top Ten Critics' Pick by The Boston Globe. Urbanity has presented at Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, The Alvin Ailey Citigroup Theater, The Institute of Contemporary Art, and venues across New England, New York, Virginia, Texas and Florida.