

**Faculty Mentor Statement for Lilly Runion  
Application for 2021 College of Creative Arts Faculty/Student Mentored Research Award**

My mentorship in the research and creative activity of student Lilly Runion has been primarily in the discussion and questioning of connections she makes between dance and other topics of interest, and in this particular research project, Women and Gender Studies. I often confer with Lilly about topics she chooses for choreography projects and I mentor her as a dramaturg, helping her to find clarity and clear communication in her subjects and in the construction of her work, through feedback and discussion. I organized two separate Dance on Film Workshops for WVU dance majors in the Fall 2020 semester (which Lilly attended) to support them in presenting their work in a virtual format. Lilly successfully presented her Fall 2020 choreographic work, *La Femme*, in this Dance on Film format.

Lilly was taking my DANC 370 (Dance History) course in the Fall of 2020 and requested a supplemental research assignment to do an Honor's project. I suggested that she design a Powerpoint Presentation, chronologically categorizing artists that she learned about in the course readings, summarizing their contributions to the field, their philosophies and backgrounds. After brainstorming with Lilly, we decided that her focus would be on female artists – performers, choreographers, shape-shifters – and would feature more information on personalities from the readings as well as others that were not mentioned.

Lilly and I have also begun the process of submitting a proposal for the 2021 Women In Dance Leadership Conference, taking place in October, in Chicago.

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