

# WELLSPRING

CORI TERRY & DANCERS



# UNBOUND

2021–2022 SEASON

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# WELLSPRING CORI TERRY & DANCERS

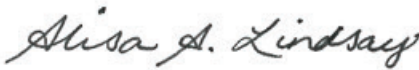
## Welcome!

The past year has been anything but typical. It has been a year of uncertainty, adaptation, and resilience. In 2020-2021, Wellspring Cori Terry & Dancers 'celebrated' its 40th Anniversary of professional modern dance in Kalamazoo. Though the year did not unfold as we had imagined, we certainly learned yet again the essential nature of the arts. Not only do they entertain and connect us, they also keep us grounded and provide an avenue to express ourselves when words alone do not suffice.

For Wellspring's 2021-22 season, *Unbound*, we emerge from the past year with a sense of renewal, energy, and gratitude. We are excited to continue celebrating our 40-year legacy while also embracing change and liberating ideas to guide the future of Wellspring. As we move forward, we are committed to making authentic modern movement accessible to all in our community and to provide a welcoming and safe environment for free artistic expression.

We are elated to be performing live while also providing virtual options so that we can share the joy of modern dance with audiences near and far. We encourage you to join us throughout this season and to experience our performances from your own unique perspective. Thank you for your continued support of our art form and for keeping Wellspring a part of Kalamazoo's cultural fabric.

Be well,



Alisa A. Lindsay  
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Judah Gesmundo  
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# “One of Kalamazoo’s Artistic Gems”

In 1981, Wellspring/Cori Terry & Dancers was founded in Kalamazoo, Michigan, under the artistic direction of dancer/choreographer Cori Terry. As Southwest Michigan’s only professional modern dance company, Wellspring offers a unique and diverse artistic voice not found elsewhere in the region. The company presents its critically-acclaimed, original choreography plus the work of award-winning guest artists, while serving the community through education, scholarships, and accessible events.

Wellspring is the proud torch-bearer of the *normative* method of dance, a style pioneered by Erick Hawkins as a foil to ballet and traditional dance education. This method is now considered one of the most influential developments in the art form. In the early years of her career, Cori Terry studied and performed all over the world with the Erick Hawkins Dance Company; this experience firmly established her among an elite group of nationally acclaimed professional dancers. Wellspring has built its 35-year history on this foundation of artistic excellence and historical ties to the most influential figures in dance.

Highlights of Wellspring’s history include performances with leading names in the dance industry, such as Mathew Janczewski of Arena Dance Company in Minneapolis, New York’s Christopher Williams, the Artichoke Dance Company of New York, Zephyr Dance of Chicago, and several years as guest artists for the Erick Hawkins centennial and the Hawkins/

Graham celebration at New York’s 92nd Street Y. Musical collaborations include world-premiere choreography set to the music of Philip Glass and John Adams, performed by the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra, as well as performances with critically-acclaimed musicians such as the Grand Valley State University New Music Ensemble, Bruce Brubaker, eighth blackbird [sic], Cavani String Quartet, Opus 21, and the Red Sea Pedestrians. Local collaborations include work with Fontana Chamber Arts, the Irving S. Gilmore International Keyboard Festival, and the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts. In addition, Wellspring showcases regional choreographers and presents works of national guest dance artists through the *Midwest Regional Alternative Dance Festival*, which has experienced rapid growth in size and notoriety since its establishment in 2010.

**Cori Terry**  
*Founder and  
Artistic Director,  
Wellspring*



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WELLSPRING  
CORI TERRY & DANCERS



Photo © Gabriel Giron

# UNBOUND

## SPRING CONCERT OF DANCE

Friday & Saturday, May 20 & 21 @ 8 pm

Sunday, May 22 @ 2 pm

Wellspring Theater, Epic Center | Downtown Kalamazoo



Discover | KALAMAZOO



**Wellspring/Cori Terry  
& Dancers**

Cori Terry, *Artistic Director*

Alexis Harris, *Rehearsal  
Director*

Marisa Bianan, *Associate  
Artistic Director*

Emily McKee

Andrew Niedbala

Carolyn Pampalone  
Rabbers

Angel Sutton

**Planets (2022)**

Choreography: Cori Terry

Costumes: Patricia Plasko

Music: *The Spiral Symphony* by Urmias Sisask  
and *Gravity* by David Lang

Dancers: Marisa Bianan, Alexis Harris, Emily  
McKee, Andrew Niedbala, Carolyn  
Pampalone Rabbers, Angel Sutton

*Originally performed live at the Gilmore Piano Festival  
on May 8, 2022 with the piano duo ZOFO, this dance is  
inspired by celestial imagery: the centrifugal pull of the  
planets in orbit, gravity, eclipses, shooting stars, meteor  
showers, and the deep vastness of space. . . .*

i. *Intertwined Spirals* (Sisask)

Danced by the entire company

ii. *The Peace of Rod* (Sisask)

Danced by Carolyn Pampalone Rabbers  
and Angel Sutton

iii. *The Sleeping Beauty* (Sisack)

Danced by Marisa Bianan and Andrew  
Niedbala

iv. *Broken Spirals* (Sisack)

Danced by Emily McKee and Andrew  
Niedbala

v. *gravity* (Lang)

Danced by the entire company



vi. *The Disorder of Spirals* (Sisack)

Danced by Marisa Bianan, Alexis Harris,  
Carolyn Pampalone Rabbers and  
Angel Sutton

vii. *The Spiral Final* (Sisack)

Danced by the entire company

— INTERMISSION —

**Infolding** (1992)

Choreography: Cori Terry

Music: *Tabula Rasa* by Arvo Pärt

Costumes: Kristin Hanley

Dancers: Alexis Harris and Carolyn

Pampalone Rabbers

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*Ms. Terry will speak to the audience*

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**Only in Passing** (2010)

Choreography: Cori Terry

Costumes: Joanna Medioli / Patricia Plasko

Music: *We Insist* and *Legions (war)* by Zoë  
Keating

Dancers: Marisa Bianan, Alexis Harris, Emily

McKee, Andrew Niedbala, Carolyn

Pampalone Rabbers and Angel Sutton

Lights & Stage Design  
Samantha Snow

Technical Director  
Samantha Snow

Photography  
Gabriel Giron

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# Artist Biographies



**Cori Terry** (Artistic Director), Wellspring's founder and Artistic Director, was born in Brooklyn and attended

the State University of New York at Stony Brook before moving to New York City to complete her dance training. In 1974, she joined the Erick Hawkins Dance Company, performing and teaching throughout the US and Europe. She moved to Kalamazoo as Artist-in-Residence at Western Michigan University in 1980 and founded Wellspring in 1981. In 1987, she received Kalamazoo's prestigious Community Medal of Arts Award. She completed a BFA in dance from WMU in 1989 and has taught master classes there as well as throughout Michigan and the Midwest. In 2006, Ms. Terry was honored by Kalamazoo College as recipient in the first-ever Women In Town Awards, recognizing the artistic achievements of local artists. Ms. Terry was awarded the 2008 Community Dance Advocacy Award from WMU's Partners in Dance for her outstanding contributions in dance in the Greater Kalamazoo community, and was a finalist for the 2008 Governor's Lifetime Achievement Award. She received a Women of Achievement Award from the YWCA in 2019. To date, she has choreographed more than 85 major works for Wellspring. Ms. Terry is a certified Advanced Rolfer®, in practice since 1996.



**Marisa Bianan** (Associate Artistic Director) obtained her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Western Michigan University in

April 2018. In 2019, Marisa collaborated with Grand Rapids artist Lauren Donahue to present *Phased* at the 2019 Midwest RADFest. In March 2020, Marisa created a dynamic trio for Inaside, a Chicago-based Jazz Dance Company, which later premiered in July 2020 during Inaside's in-person/virtual hybrid concert. In Fall 2020, Marisa then premiered her new work, *from the embers, and back again...* in Wellspring's virtual Fall concert, and once again in Wellspring's live Spring concert. More recently, her new work, *Take Back the Sun*, was accepted as a finalist for the 2021 Maggie Allesee Choreography Competition, and was also performed in Wellspring's fall concert: *UNBOUND*. Marisa was also recently commissioned to create a new work, *Variable Transfiguration*, for Western Michigan University's First Year Performance class, which premiered in February 2022. Finally, her most recent work, *(with) You*, premiered in Lachan Jaarda's "Perspectives Dance Concert" in April 2022. 2021-2022 is Marisa's fourth season with Wellspring/Cori Terry & Dancers.

*(continued on next page)*

# Artist Biographies



**Alexis Harris** (Rehearsal Director) has been a company member with Wellspring since 1997, providing many opportunities to develop and strengthen herself as a performer, teacher, choreographer, rehearsal director and human. She also is having the pleasure of digitizing and archiving all the Wellspring pieces and concerts through the past 41 years. Ms. Harris holds a Bachelor's degree in Biomedical Sciences from Western Michigan University. She is a practicing licensed massage therapist, a certified clinical hypnotist in Heart-Centered Hypnotherapy, a consulting Astrologer and this summer is completing her apprenticeship in contemplative, nature-based philosophies and practices. Alexis is thrilled to be creating her new business, Windwater Healing LLC, which is an integration and offering of all her life studies. Along with her work, Alexis loves exploring and sharing space with her teenagers, Eli and Lily.



**Emily McKee** began dancing at the age of 5 in Kalamazoo and has since then competed and performed with numerous studios before her enrollment at Grand Valley State University, where she is currently receiving her Bachelor of Arts degree as well as a minor in Marketing. In recent achievements as a student, Emily's solo choreography was chosen by the professors as one of two senior pieces to be performed in the Spring Concert. She also was given the opportunity to perform in the 2017, 2018, and 2019 American College Dance Association shows. Emily is currently working as an intern, instructor and marketing assistant for Wellsprings Dance Academy. She also is an instructor for Vicksburg Community Education Dance & Tumbling program and at Academy of Dance Arts. In her free time she enjoys photography and other art projects.



**Andrew Niedbala** joined Wellspring/Cori Terry & Dancers in autumn of 2019. He graduated from Hope College in spring of the same year, with degrees in dance performance and civil engineering. Originally from Sterling Heights, Michigan, Andrew began dancing at an early age. Through the studio he attended Anita's Elite Dance, and through university, he

was blessed with opportunities to perform in such places as Branson, MO; Salt Lake City, UT; Adelaide, SA, Australia; and Paris, France. Since moving to Kalamazoo in 2019, Andrew has also taught at the Academy of Dance Arts in Portage, where he provides instruction in multiple styles, including tap, jazz, and ballet. His most recent 'side gig' is in the paint department at Lowe's, where he has worked since summer 2021. He is active in his church, Zion Lutheran, and is extremely excited to wed his fiancé in the coming summer.



**Carolyn Pampalone Rabbers** received her MFA at UArts and graduated as the Presidential Scholar with a BFA from WMU. Her

dance-based works, *CPR Dance: Inhale Movement*, have been featured nationally and internationally, have been a finalist for Maggie Allessee's Choreography Competition, and awarded support in a KADI grant of the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo. Carolyn has worked in NYC, Miami, and LA. She can be seen as "Abby" in *Moondance* (2020) and has performed for Coldplay, Omi, Starbucks, Jockey Bra, Kaplan University, Royal Caribbean Cruises, Celebrity Cruises, Diavolo EdCo, The Union Project, ClairObscur, LACDC, and Vox Lumiere. Carolyn teaches adjunctly at GVSU, WMU and at Blue Lake Fine

Arts Camp. She has also taught for The Gabriella Foundation, honored by Michelle Obama in 2015. She is certified as an ABT NTC in Pre-Primary through Level VII & Partnering, Reiki and Yoga.



Angel Sutton completed her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance from Western Michigan University in Spring of 2021, and she

is taking the next year to finish her minor in Biology. During her time at WMU, she had the opportunity to perform in *experts of Happy Little Things: on a Gruff Cloud of Wanting* by Azure Barton, "Three Themes" from George Balanchine's *Four Temperaments*, and works by Jermemy Blair and her peers. Also at Western, Angel was able to foster her love for choreography and collaboration as well as train primarily in Modern dance. She is looking forward to her first season at Wellspring and cannot wait to experience all of the opportunities this next year has to offer.

## Wellspring Dance Academy Summer 2022 Programs

### YOUTH DANCE OPPORTUNITIES (AGES 3+)

#### **Train Like a Dancer (Ages 7+)**

June 27th - 30th, 9 am - 12 pm

#### **Story Telling Through Dance (Ages 3 - 6)**

July 12th - 14th, 9 am - 12 pm

#### **Choreography Camp (Ages 7+)**

July 18th - 22nd, 9 am - 12 pm

### ADULT DANCE OPPORTUNITIES (AGES 15+)

#### **Master Class Summer Series**

Weekly on Wednesdays, 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

June 22nd - August 10

#### **Adult Summer Workshop**

July 23rd, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

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Wellspring is grateful for the support of the following individuals, businesses and organizations. On behalf of the artists, board members and staff, thank you for continuing to support our work in the community.

**This list represents gifts given or pledged during the 2020/21 fiscal year.**

The 2021/22 Annual Fund campaign is currently underway and will extend through August 31, 2022. Please consider joining this list of contributors or renewing a past gift. Any amount is appreciated and invested wisely in unique and innovative programs.

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*(continued on next page)*

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Marisa Bianan, *Associate Artistic Director and  
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**SAVE THE DATES FOR OUR 22-23 SEASON!**

September 17, 2022 | Season Launch Party\*

November 18-20, 2022 | Fall Concert

March 3-5, 2023 | RAD Fest

May 19-21, 2023 | Spring Concert



**WELLSPRING  
CORI TERRY & DANCERS**

*\*By invitation only*

*Please note: Dates are subject to change. Please check our website in September for more information.*

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