

PRESENT

PROLOGUE PERFORMANCE NEW CHAPTERS

ARTISTS

Featuring EnbyBallet

Columbia Repertory Dance Company

Moving Bodies Dance Company

Marlanda Dekine

Poet & Hub City Writers Project Author

Dr. Steven Graff, Pianist



*A genre-defying event that explores justice,
empathy, identity, and human connection*

Friday, August 22 7³⁰PM

Fernwood Baptist Church 200 Fernwood Dr, Spartanburg



presents

PROLOGUE PERFORMANCE NEW CHAPTERS

A 2025/2026 ARTSUP SC STORYLINE SERIES PRODUCTION

Friday, August 22, 2025
Fernwood Baptist Church
Benefiting Uplift Outreach Center

DANCE COMPANIES

Moving Body Dance Company
Columbia Repertory Dance Company
EnbyBallet

WRITTEN WORD

Marlanda Dekine

ACCOMPANIMENT

Dr. Steven Graff, Pianist



STORYLINE SERIES

A Program of ArtsUp SC



You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view...until you climb into his skin and walk around in it"

— Atticus Finch, *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

This season, ArtsUp SC invites you to experience storytelling through every artistic lens. Our *Storyline Series* is inspired by the enduring words of Harper Lee's beloved novel, *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Through the wisdom of Atticus Finch, we explore themes of justice, empathy, identity, and the deep threads of human connection.

We open with *Prologue Performance: New Chapters*—an immersive journey of dance, spoken word, and music. Every element, from movement to melody, has been thoughtfully crafted with Finch's words as our guide.

The stage is set.

The story awaits.

Join us.

PROLOGUE PERFORMANCE NEW CHAPTERS

Arabesque in C, Op. 18.

By Robert Schumann

Performed by Dr. Steven Graff

A Queer Meditation

By Marlanda Dekine

Performed by Marlanda Dekine

This Place of Ours (Excerpts)

Moving Bodies Dance Company

Choreography by Erin Bailey

Music *12 Houses/OCD Love* by Ori Lichtik

Performed by Victorious Bright,

Emily Jordan, Shaeleigh Person, Olivia Timmerman

Notes: This piece has been reimagined as a glimpse into a larger evening length work, *This Place of Ours*. In a dystopia where circumstance brews skepticism, fear, and polarization, we explore separation and connectivity. What is at stake when we refuse to connect?

entering in

By Marlanda Dekine

Performed by Marlanda Dekine

Impromptu in flat G Op. 90 No. 3

By Franz Schubert

Performed by Dr. Steven Graff

The Only Way is Through

COLA Rep Dance Company

Choreography by Stephanie Wilkins

Music *Fur Elise – Batiste* by Jon Batiste

Performed by Erin Bailey, Bonnie Boiter-Jolley, Jack Thompson

"Life does not fairly dole out elements and experiences, good or bad. It's how we react to those factors that speak to our character."

— Tammy Jenkins

PROLOGUE PERFORMANCE NEW CHAPTERS

the river

By Marlanda Dekine
Performed by Marlanda Dekine

Sonata in D minor, Op. 31 No. 2

3rd movement: Allegretto
By Ludwig van Beethoven
Performed by Dr. Steven Graff

His Romeo

EnbyBallet
Choreography by Joshua Stayton | Music by Sergei Prokofiev
Performed by Chris Collins, Roberto Vega Ortiz

The Dying Swan

EnbyBallet
Choreography by Mikhail Fokine
Music by Camille Saint-Saëns | Performed by Carlos Hopuy

Carmen (Solo)

EnbyBallet
Choreography by Alberto Alonso
Music by Georges Bizet | Performed by Lelo Rosado González

Gnossienne No. 1

By Erik Satie
Performed by Dr. Steven Graff

Metamorphosis

EnbyBallet
Choreography by Carlos Hopuy & Roberto Vega Ortiz
Music by Philip Glass
Performed by Chris Collins, Roberto Vega Ortiz

Pas de Quatre (Excerpt)

EnbyBallet
Choreographed by Jules Perrot | Music by Cesare Pugni
Performed by Lelo Rosado González,
Carlos Hopuy, Abby Inglett-Brant, Amy Novak

ABOUT THE PERFORMERS

COLA Rep Dance Co. is dedicated to enriching Columbia, SC's artistic landscape by bringing together professional dance artists and audiences through multidisciplinary, collaborative performances year-round. COLA Rep's work fosters a vibrant environment where South Carolina's dance talent can thrive, offering a spectrum of professional opportunities that encourage artists to stay and create here at home. Through these performances, the organization strives to inspire, engage, and deepen the community's understanding and appreciation of dance in all its forms. To learn more visit: www.colarep.com/

Moving Body Dance Company (MBDC) is a nonprofit contemporary dance company based in Columbia, SC, founded by Erin Bailey in August 2018 to unite professional dancers from the Columbia area and beyond. Known for creating works that embrace improvisation and challenge traditional performance methods, MBDC debuted at the Free Verse Poetry Festival's *Physical Poetry* concert in Charleston, SC, and went on to perform at the Charlotte Dance Festival, BOOM Intersection, and Capital Fringe during its first season.

Through community performances, classes, and movement-based research, MBDC seeks to connect diverse communities, foster meaningful dialogue, and inspire the body to keep moving in an increasingly disembodied culture. Their work invites exploration of the questions that shape the cultures in which we live. To learn more visit: www.movingbody.org/mbdc

EnbyBallet is a project-based ballet company in the Eastern United States that exists to develop and nurture an inclusive organization where dancers can express themselves freely "en pointe." The company seeks to present dancers past gender stereotypes. EnbyBallet focuses on creating new narratives as well as modifying existing works to allow queer representation to be showcased in classical and contemporary ballet.

Organizations like EnbyBallet are essential today because they diversify the art form and open a range of possibilities that hadn't been explored before. EnbyBallet would be the first company in its class to exist in the Eastern us and Caribbean region. To learn more visit: <https://www.enbyballet.com/>

Dr. Steven Graff: Since making his concerto debut with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra at age 15, Steinway Artist Steven Graff has built an acclaimed career as a performer and educator. A Chicago native, he earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees from The Juilliard School as a Petschek Scholarship recipient, later completing his Doctorate of Musical Arts at the City University of New York. His performances have taken him to Weill, Zankel, and Stern Auditoriums at Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall, and venues across Norway, Japan, and China, where he toured Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*. Known for his imaginative interpretations, he often improvises his own cadenzas for Mozart concertos and has premiered numerous contemporary works, with recordings on Centaur, Capstone, Zimbel, and Convivium labels.

An active advocate for new music and music education, Dr. Graff has performed on national and international broadcasts, given master classes at major festivals, and presented on topics ranging from audience development to classical improvisation. He has served as an adjudicator for prestigious competitions including the Steinway Piano Competition, the International Keyboard Institute and Festival, and the Fontainebleau Festival in France. In 2020, he joined the faculty of the Petrie School of Music at Converse University, where he has twice been honored with the Steinway Top Teacher Award. His recent CD recordings of John Carbon's piano music are receiving worldwide airplay, and in 2026 he will record Carbon's Concerto with the Janáček Philharmonic Orchestra in the Czech Republic. To learn more about Steven and his work, visit www.stevenlgraff.com/

Marlanda Dekine is a poet whose work braids memory, ancestry, and the living present into language that heals and transforms. They are the author of *Thresh & Hold* (Hub City Press) and serve as the inaugural Poet Laureate of Georgetown County Libraries. Their work appears in *Poetry Magazine*, *Orion*, and The Anthology *This is the Honey*. Beyond the page, Dekine founded Dekine Cultural Strategies to help communities listen, connect, and transform together, sharing their poetry in spaces ranging from churches and community centers to universities, galleries, and festivals. To learn more about Marlanda, visit www.marlandadekine.com/



Our work at ArtsUp rises from artistic expression, shared experience, and bold collaboration. We exist to help lift visual and performing artists and to provide the resources they need to bring innovative work to life. We want to create spaces where people can experience art in all its forms, connect with one another, and share stories that matter. ArtsUp is helping to elevate the thriving, multidisciplinary arts scene in the Upstate of South Carolina. Most of all, we're about inspiring a vibrant, inclusive community where art intersects with daily life. To learn more visit www.artsupsc.org.

ArtsUp SC LEADERSHIP

Founder & Executive Director

Mike Ethridge

Artistic Programing & Development Director

Carrie Preus

Research & Resource Development Director

Amy Novak

Gallery Manager & Curator

Carrie Caldwell

Director of Video Production

Rhodes Farrell

Outreach Coordinator

Abby Inglett-Brandt

Social Media Manager

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Ryan Colvard

Sound Engineer

Lloyd Calloway

Videography

Rhodes Farrell

Photography

Betsy Weiner

ArtsUp SC would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Fernwood Baptist Church for the use of their beautiful space and their continued support. We would also like to thank Uplift Outreach Center and Jason Patterson for their contribution and effort to help make this incredible performance possible. Thank you for helping to #ElevateUpstateArts.

ArtsUp SC

TRAILBLAZER PROGRAM

Art Trailblazers are energized individuals who are excited to advance artistic collaboration and support the creative spirit that makes our region thrive.



The Summit Club

\$500

One-Time Fee

Summit Club members are Trailblazers who give \$500 or more to help foster community and collaboration among artists and art lovers in the Upstate.

- ✓ Early sign-up access for all events
- ✓ Two free tickets to a small event of choice
- ✓ 25% off all items in our online store
- ✓ A free hat, koozie, sticker, tote bag, and travel mug
- ✓ Invitation to a special Trailblazer's event in the spring — includes two free extra tickets
- ✓ Exclusive invitation to a members-only house concert in spring 2026



Expeditionist

\$65

One-Time Fee

Enjoy our most popular perks and exclusive access:

- ✓ Early sign-up access for events
- ✓ Two free tickets to a small event of your choice
- ✓ 25% off our online store
- ✓ Free hat, koozie, sticker, tote bag, and travel mug
- ✓ Invitation to a special Trailblazers event in the spring — includes one free guest ticket



Explorer

\$35

One-Time Fee

Get more involved and enjoy added benefits:

- ✓ Early sign-up access for events
- ✓ 50% off two tickets to a small event of your choice
- ✓ 15% off our online store
- ✓ Free hat, koozie, sticker, and tote bag
- ✓ Invitation to a special Trailblazers event in the spring



Base Camper

\$25

One-Time Fee

Start your journey with these great perks:

- ✓ 10% off our online merchandise
- ✓ Free hat, koozie, and sticker
- ✓ Invitation to a special Trailblazers event in spring

Scan the QR code or visit artsupsc.org/trailblazers to become a member of our ArtsUp journey!



Trailblazer Apparel

Blaze the way with this year's stunning Trailblazer T-shirt, featuring an original design by Upstate artist Kristi Welch. Inspired by our 2025/2026 Storyline Series quote from *To Kill a Mockingbird*, this wearable work of art is the first in an annual collection. Don't miss your chance to own the inaugural edition! Scan the QR code or visit bonfire.com/store/artsup-sc-store/ to order your apparel. A portion of each item sold will support ArtsUp SC. *Multiple color choices, styles, and sizes are available.*



Upcoming Events

August 27 @ 5:30 PM | Alix Refshauge Artist Talk & Creative Flow

September 18 @ 5:00 PM | Artist Reception for Alix Refshauge

September 21 @ 2:30 PM | Brush Hour - Paint & Sip Class with Kristi Welch

September 27 @ 6:00 PM | *Unbound Voices: A Theatrical Encounter With Literature* with Hub City Writers Project (A Storyline Series Event)

October 3 @ 5:00 PM | BPWU Induction Ceremony & Art Show

November 20 @ 5:00 PM | Jennifer Bonner Artist Reception

December 4 @ 5:00 PM | *From Another View: A Juried Art Exhibition* (A Storyline Series Event)



We are always adding new events! Scan the QR code or visit artsupsc.org/events to see all of our upcoming events.



ArtsUp SC #ElevateUpstateArts

Who We Are

Our work at ArtsUp SC rises from artistic expression, shared experience, and bold collaboration. We exist to help lift visual and performing artists and to provide the resources they need to bring innovative work to life. We aim to create spaces where people can experience art in all its forms, connect, and share stories that matter. ArtsUp is helping to elevate the thriving, multidisciplinary arts scene in the Upstate of South Carolina. Most of all, we are about inspiring a vibrant, inclusive community where art intersects with daily life.

Core Values

- Creative Empowerment
- Community Connection
- Bold Collaboration
- Education & Outreach

Connect With Us!

artsupsc.org

[@artsup_sc](https://www.instagram.com/artsup_sc)

[f ArtsUp SC](https://www.facebook.com/ArtsUpSC)

[✉ artinfo@artsupsc.org](mailto:artinfo@artsupsc.org)

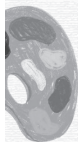


Brush Hour

Sip & Paint Class with Artist Kristi Welch

Life is busy — so we're inviting you to go "easy-like-Sunday-morning" on the 3rd Sunday of every month at our Brush Hour with local artist Kristi Welch!

Bring your favorite beverage, gather a friend or two, and enjoy a relaxed afternoon of creativity and conversation as you paint your own South Carolina and Trailblazer-inspired masterpiece! Scan the QR code or visit artsupsc.org/events to register.



What's Included:

- Pre-sketched 16" x 20" canvas (no drawing skills required!)
- All painting supplies
- Step-by-step guidance from Kristi Welch
- A fun, relaxed environment where you can sip, laugh, and paint

Details:

- Date: 3rd Sunday of the Month (excluding December)
- Time: 2:30 - 4:30 pm (Arrival time at 2:20)
- Price: \$37 per person
- BYOB: Bring your favorite wine, beer, or beverage of choice
- 10 person maximum

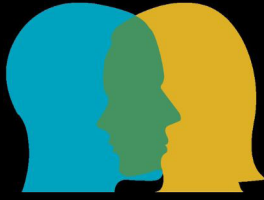


A portion of this evening's tickets sales will help support Uplift Outreach Center. We would like to thank the Uplift team for supporting ArtsUp SC.

The Uplift Outreach Center is committed to providing a safe and inclusive space for LGBTQ+ youth in Upstate South Carolina. Our mission is to empower LGBTQ+ youth by fostering personal growth, educational achievement, and mental well-being, ultimately contributing to a more equitable and affirming community for all.

To learn more about Uplift Outreach Center and to donate, scan the QR code.





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Scan the QR code or visit artsupsc.org to learn more, make a donation, and get connected.

