



## **Darryl T. Pilate**

### **Biography**

Darryl Pilate begins his sixteenth year in education as the Dance and Theatre Resource Teacher for Baltimore County Public Schools. Darryl received a Bachelor of Science degree in Dance with a minor in Health Administration from Texas State University and a Master of Business Administration from Texas Woman's University. He studied under various dance artist in genres such as ballet, jazz, Hawkins technique, hip hop, and contemporary. Darryl Pilate has taught in several middle and high schools choreographing many styles of dance. He serves on the Maryland Dance Education Association board as Executive Member at Large and on the National Dance Education Organization as e-Communications Advisor. As a District of Columbia resident, Darryl has danced with the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington DC and choreographed for the DC Congressional Chorus. He is the Artistic Director for Light Switch Dance Theatre. Pilate is the owner of Dazza Entertainment, LLC.

### **Statement of interest and intent**

It would be an honor and a privilege to serve our state's dance community and the members of the Maryland Dance Education Association as President-Elect. I am interested in discovering new ways to retain members and recruit new leaders in dance education and our organization. Moreover, in this role, I hope to advance the field of Dance through the following:

- Advocate for dance education on the state and national level
- Broaden the scope and offerings of professional development for dance educators
- Increase MDEA membership annually.
- Create opportunities for networking to build a stronger Maryland dance community

Additionally, it is important to continue programs started by previous executive boards. These programs such as assisting new dance educators, engaging K-12 students in performance and leadership opportunities, promoting our private studio and schools, and supporting college programs in training future dance educators advances the field. In my current role as Executive Member-at-Large, the Regional Representative positions started as my initiative to connect our state members with the organization through a representative closer to their location. The

representatives have become a key part in the organization's strategic plan in connecting the field and cultivating leadership. As President-Elect, dance educators can rely on Maryland Dance Education Association as an information and resource hub statewide.