

Job Survey/Self-Assessment for Modern Dancers

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Developed by Jill Randall, Director of the blog *Life as a Modern Dancer*

This simple survey can be a useful tool for college students - freshman through seniors - to evaluate their current skills and passions. The survey can be used by students on their own or within a course. It can also be something to complete before a student meets with his/her advisor. Dancers of all ages are welcome to use this simple tool anytime as well.

Whether you want to secure a 40-hour a week job or create a schedule of several freelance jobs, this self-assessment can help a dancer imagine the numerous possibilities for the near future and long term. Whether making work - or helping to make dance happen - there are numerous options and opportunities within the world of dance companies, studios, arts education programs, community centers, arts councils, theaters, and festivals.

If unfamiliar with the job titles on the survey, spend 15-30 minutes on various websites and read over the staff/contact lists, such as:

*Jacob's Pillow
Dance Festival*

*Mark Morris
Dance Group*

Utah Arts Council

Luna Dance Institute

*Joe Goode
Performance Group*

Dance/USA

Check if you are interested		Qualifications, Skills, Personality Traits You Already Possess	Training and Skills You Need to Gain
✓	Job Title		
	Performer		
	Choreographer		
	Teacher: preschool		
	Teacher: elementary school		
	Teacher: middle school		
	Teacher: high school		
	Teacher: adults		
	Professor: college level		
	Teacher: yoga		
	Teacher: Pilates		
	Teacher: Gaga		
	Teacher: Dance for Parkinson's Disease		
	Studio Owner		
	Studio Manager		
	Lighting Designer		
	Lighting Board Operator		
	Sound Board Operator		
	Set Designer		
	Costume Designer		
	Costume/Wardrobe Coordinator		
	Stage Manager		
	Assistant Stage Manager		
	House Manager		

Check if you are interested		Qualifications, Skills, Personality Traits You Already Possess	Training and Skills You Need to Gain
✓	Job Title		
	Artistic Director of a Company		
	Executive Director of a Company		
	Production Manager		
	Company Manager		
	Executive Director (arts org)		
	Program Director		
	Education Director		
	School Director		
	Development Director		
	Theater Director		
	Technical Director		
	Ticket Sales Director		
	Ticket Sales Staff		
	Communications and PR Director		
	Grant writer		
	Office Manager		
	Administrative Assistant		
	Archivist		
	Web Designer		
	Graphic Designer		
	Outreach Coordinator		
	Online Content Manager		
	Booking Manager		
	Dance Critic		

This self-assessment is a starting off point. If you check jobs that interest you, but you are lacking the skills and experience, talk with a professor, advisor, friend, or mentor to learn more about the skills needed for that particular job.

Are there courses you can take in the near future? Workshops in the community? Research internship opportunities in your community or opportunities during the summer at organizations such as the American Dance Festival, Jacob's Pillow, and Mark Morris.

Life As a Modern Dancer