



SEASON 43:  
PERSPECTIVE



**DANCE**

**DISCUSSION**

HUBBARD  
STREET  
DANCE  
CHICAGO



As part of our virtual presentation of Season 43, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago has created a series of multi-media study guides exploring dance choreography and performance in practice. These guides are designed for middle and high school students and contain videos, discussion questions, activity prompts, and pre-recorded lessons. These Dance Discussions are designed to stand alone or accompany the dance films in our virtual season as we invite you to CONNECT, EXPLORE, CREATE, AND RESPOND.

# LET'S GO!

	WEEK	1	CONNECT: INFERENCE AND CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT
	WEEK	2	EXPLORE: DANCE AS TEXT - INTRODUCING CHARACTER
This is 	WEEK	3	CREATE AND RESPOND: CHOREOGRAPHY & CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

# VOCABULARY USED

\* **Gesture**



A movement in part of the body used to express meaning.

\* **Abstract**



A idea separate from reality or concrete thought.

\* **Setting**



The environment, time period or place in which a story exists.

# TO DANCE WITH US YOU'LL NEED

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## ① *SPACE TO MOVE*

Clear a small part of your space to practice your choreography.

## ② *A SHORT MOVIE CLIP*

Select a 15-30 second clip of a character speaking. You'll use this as inspiration for your choreography. You could watch the [trailer for Soul](#) or [A Wrinkle in Time](#) if you have trouble finding your own.



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**DANCE AS  
TEXT**

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Designed for grades k-6, this online curriculum supports student learning in language arts and dance standards as students explore character development and choreography.  
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## Choreographing Character Traits - Lesson 1

We'll pair descriptive language tools such as adverbs and adjectives with a universal dance vocabulary to create original choreography based on a movie character.

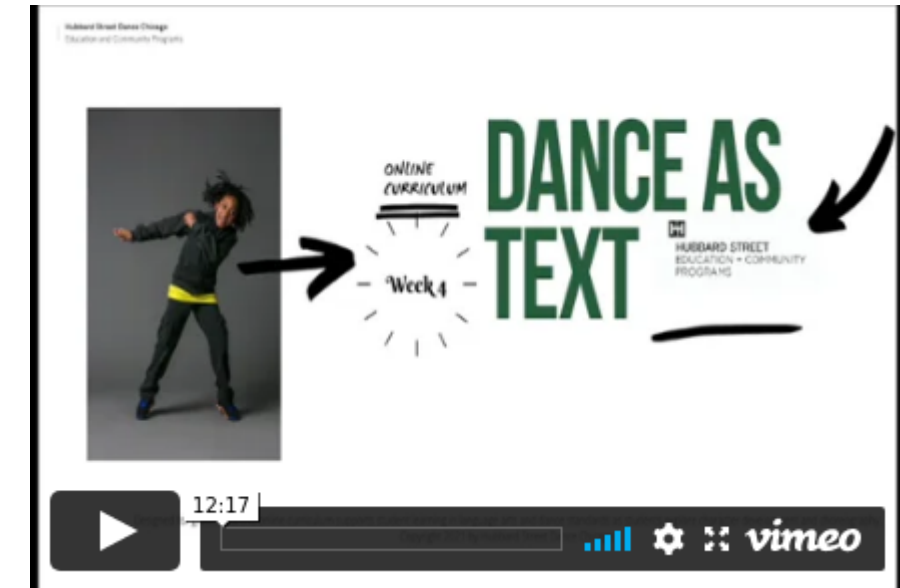
LET'S  
CREATE  
TOGETHER

# CHOREOGRAPHING CHARACTER TRAITS



## Lesson 2

What can we communicate without speaking? Gesture will guide the next step in our dance-making process as we explore intention through literal actions.



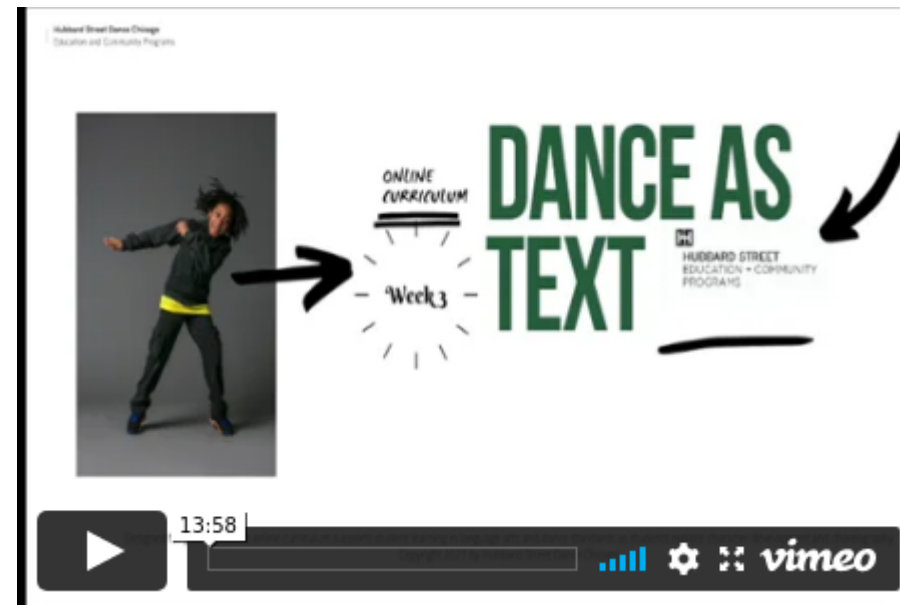
## Lesson 4

A time and a place: We'll investigate the setting in which our movie character lives and how that environment might impact choreographic choices.



## Lesson 3

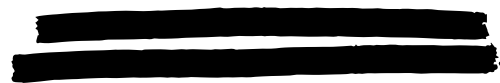
Using a new set of dance tools, or devices, we'll move into an exploration of abstract: Ideas that expand beyond the literal into a more imaginative sensibility.



# REFLECTION



*How do we use character traits  
to create choreography?*



# SHARE YOUR DANCES



We'd love to see your dances. Tag us on Instagram  
@hubbardstreetdance or #characterchoreography



# Choreographic Devices

Canon  
Repetition  
Retrograde  
Expansion/Diminution  
Accumulation  
Transposition

# Choreographic Forms

ABA  
Rondo  
Theme and Variation  
Narrative  
Pattern  
Abstract  
Call and Response

### BODY

**Parts** head, neck, shoulders, arm, wrists, elbows, hands, fingers, hips, pelvis, trunk, spine, stomach, sternum, ribs, legs, knees, feet, toes, heels, ankles, etc.

**Relationships** over, under, around, through, above, below, between, beside, near, far, in, out, together, apart, connected, etc.

**Shapes** straight, curved, angular, twisted, symmetrical, asymmetrical

**Balance** off balance, on balance

### ENERGY

**Force** sharp, smooth, shaky, swingy

**Weight** strong, light, active, passive

**Flow** free, bound

### SPACE

**Place** personal, shared

**Size** big, medium, small

**Level** high, medium, low

**Direction** forward, back, right, left, up, down

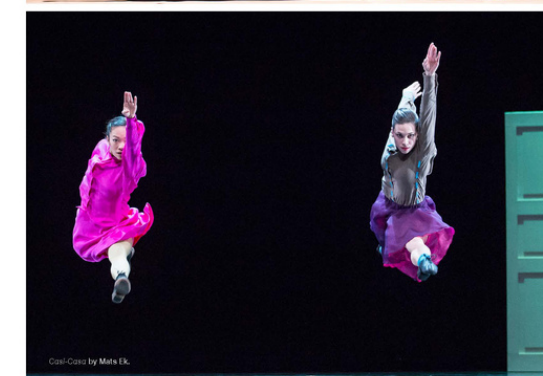
**Pathway** curved, straight, zigzag

**Focus** single, multi

### TIME

**Speed** fast, medium, slow

**Rhythm** pulse, pattern, grouping, breath



# Standards Addressed

## National Core Arts Standards

DA:Cr2.1.3b Develop a dance phrase that expresses and communicates an idea or feeling. Discuss the effect of the movement choices.

DA:Cr2.1.4b Develop a dance study that expresses and communicates a main idea. Discuss the reasons and effectiveness of the movement choices.

DA:Cr2.1.5b Develop a dance study by selecting a specific movement vocabulary to communicate a main idea. Discuss how the dance communicates nonverbally. TH:Cr1.1.3c Collaborate to determine how characters might move and speak to support the story and given circumstances in drama/theatre work.

TH:Cr1.1.4c Imagine how a character might move to support the story and given circumstances in a drama/theatre work.

TH:Cr1.1.5c Imagine how a character's inner thoughts impact the story and given circumstances in a drama/ theatre work.

MU:Pr4.2.3 Demonstrate understanding of the structure in music selected for performance.

MU:Pr4.2.4 Demonstrate understanding of the structure and the elements of music (such as rhythm, pitch, and form ) in music selected for performance.

MU:Pr4.2.5 Demonstrate understanding of the structure and the elements of music (such as rhythm, pitch, form, and harmony ) in music selected for performance.

## Common Core Standards

ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.1 Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.

ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.3 Describe characters in a story (e.g., their traits, motivations, or feelings) and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events  
ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.5 Refer to parts of stories, dramas, and poems when writing or speaking about a text, using terms such as chapter, scene, and stanza; describe how each successive part builds on earlier sections.

ELA-LITERACY.RL.4.1 Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

ELA-LITERACY.RL.4.2 Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text; summarize the text.

ELA-LITERACY.RL.4.3 Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., a character's thoughts, words, or actions).

ELA-LITERACY.RL.4.5 Explain major differences between poems, drama, and prose, and refer to the structural elements of poems (e.g., verse, rhythm, meter) and drama (e.g., casts of characters, settings, descriptions, dialogue, stage directions) when writing or speaking about a text.

ELA-LITERACY.RL.5.1 Quote accurately from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from the text.

ELA-LITERACY.RL.5.2 Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text, including how characters in a story or drama respond to challenges or how the speaker in a poem reflects upon a topic; summarize the text.

ELA-LITERACY.RL.5.3 Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., how characters interact).

ELA-LITERACY.W.3.2 Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.



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For more information about all of available our education programs, please visit our website.



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