This year’s dance-focused theme encourages us to consider our process as individuals as well as when we collaborate with others. It beautifully complements our goals for the first core project to build community, awareness, and knowledge. We will work with some of Twyla Tharp’s *The Creative Habit*, knowing that you will explore this book in a variety of classes this year. Enjoy getting to know your own work ethic as an artist. Try on some new ideas and see where they take you!

**In this first project, you will work in groups of 3-5 with a mix of juniors and seniors.** You can self-select a group, but don’t get attached until all yellow team students are in a group. You will create from a point of inspiration: the Bill T. Jones interdisciplinary film, other videos shown in dance history, a duet with Spenser Theberge (alumni), or a dance performance of your choosing that you get approved by your Core teacher. You will create an interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary piece where movement is somehow included, either live or recorded, that you will present to the Yellow Team before Thanksgiving Break. We will have from September 22 to November 24 to complete all aspects of this project (9 weeks).

As connection to the theme as well as relevant to you as artists, we are placing emphasis on process. Connect some aspect of your learning from the dance history seminar to your project. This can look quite different group to group, but it will be incumbent upon each group to make an authentic connection and be able to articulate it in your presentation. To help you with this, select your piece of inspiration and explore it in your Initial FQs. You need to write about where it fits in dance history and the attributes of that period/genre, and you will write about what came immediately before it, so you can show your awareness of how it fits into the bigger picture of dance.

**This project encourages you to consider your own creative habits.** As a group, you will be experiencing a few exercises from Twyla Tharp’s book as they connect to this project as well as the theme. You will read chapter 8: “spine” and complete Exercise #21 Spinal Tap to help you dig into the piece that inspired you. You will read chapter 6: “scratching” and if you are struggling to get going, you may complete any one of the exercises (or a reasonable variation of one). Finally, you will read chapter 9: “skill” and develop ten questions inspired by Exercise #24 Play Twenty Questions about the piece you are creating. Recommended timing is included in the calendar to help you.

**Calendar:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 3-18</td>
<td>Dance History with Jackie Sacks in the Black Box—note taking in some form is required</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 22-24</td>
<td>Introduce first Core project, get into groups, and request Core teachers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 24</td>
<td>Get into new Core class: Goff/Lauderbaugh (301), Swatosh/Berhow (306), Tang (202), Winkley (218)</td>
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<td>Sept 24</td>
<td>Group Agreements by the end of class (Group paper with signatures from all members)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept 29</td>
<td>Read chapter 8 “spine” before class (emailed to you), so you can discuss Exercise #21 Spinal Tap in Core (Senior meeting this day during enrichment A in room 210)</td>
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**Most papers are due by midnight on Thursdays, either via paper form in Core on Thursday or electronically via turnitin.com by midnight. The Final FQ Self Assessment is due on a Tuesday.**
Oct 1       Initial FQs based on the dance film inspiring your work, the dance history that surrounds it, and the work you gleaned from reading chapter 8 and Exercise #21 (which nicely weaves in dance history).

Oct 6       Read chapter 6 “scratching” in class and consider the exercises there to help you get going.

Oct 13      Read chapter 9 “skill” in class and develop 10 questions that will help you create your piece.

Oct 22      Audience Paper Due (Group paper with signatures from all members)

Oct 22      Artist Statement (Individual papers due to the whole group; signed off by Core teacher)

Oct 27      Senior meeting during enrichment A in room 210

Oct 29      Portfolios due:

            • Including all previous individual and group papers as well as
            • The final group version of your Artist Statement
            • Notes and exit slips from the Dance History seminar
            • Evidence of how you organized your process with your group

Nov 10-20   Presentations (7 classes due to no school on Nov 11/Veterans Day)

Nov 24      Tuesday—Final FQ Self Assessment due by the end of Core (before Thanksgiving Break if you are leaving school prior to this date)