

The dance program of Northwestern University is pleased to announce three of its faculty in The A.W.A.R.D. Show! 2009 Chicago

[The A.W.A.R.D. \(Artists With Audiences Responding to Dance\) Show! 2009: Chicago](#) features the work of 12 promising choreographers over the course of three evenings -- June 24 through June 26. Audiences will vote to select a finalist each evening; the finalists will advance to the fourth and final night of the series on June 27. The event is held at The Dance Center of Columbia College in Chicago.

Molly Shanahan, full-time lecturer in the dance program, and Joel Valentin-Martinez, senior lecturer in the dance program, will be showcasing their original works on Friday, June 26 at 8 p.m. Meghann Wilkinson of Lucky Plush Productions and adjunct faculty member in Northwestern's dance program will be featured on Wednesday, June 24 at 8 p.m. The faculty of the dance program is pleased to have such a strong presence in the first A.W.A.R.D. show in Chicago. As Wilkinson said, "I am going to be in a real-life 'So You Think You Can Dance.'"

On the final night, Saturday, June 27, the audience along with a panel of dance experts will vote again to choose the winner of the \$10,000 prize. The two runners-up will receive \$1,000. These awards are to be used toward the creation of new dance works.

A moderated artist and audience discussion will follow each performance. To encourage further dialogue between the audience and artists about the work, The Dance Center will also host a post-performance reception each evening.

The A.W.A.R.D. Show! 2009: Chicago participants include:

Wednesday, June 24, 8 p.m.

Francisco Aviña
Rachel Bunting – The Humans
Archana Kumar
Julia Rhoads – Lucky Plush Productions presenting Meghann Wilkinson of Northwestern University

Thursday, June 25, 8 p.m.

Lisa Gonzales & Darrell Jones
Lizzie MacKenzie – NoMi LaMad Dance Company
Enid Smith – Enid Smith Dance
Jessica Miller Tomlinson

Friday, June 26, 8 p.m.

Allyson Esposito & Megan Schneeberger – The Space/Movement Project
Carrie Hanson – The Seldoms
Molly Shanahan – Molly Shanahan/Mad Shak – also of Northwestern University
Joel Valentin-Martinez - Northwestern University

Saturday, June 27, 8 p.m.

The three finalists will compete on this final night for the \$10,000 prize.
The winner of the \$10,000 prize will be announced on The A.W.A.R.D. Show! 2009 web site.

The A.W.A.R.D. Show! 2009 is presented by The Joyce Theater Foundation in association with The Dance Center of Columbia College Chicago, Philadelphia Live Arts Festival and On the Boards (Seattle) This expansion of *The A.W.A.R.D. Show! 2009* into Chicago, Philadelphia and Seattle is made possible by a generous grant from The Boeing Company Charitable Trust.

Tickets are \$15 and are available at www.colum.edu/dance_center/