

# Cherie “Breezie” Gendron

Hip Hop Dance Educator, Choreographer, & Movement Artist

[www.cheriebreeziegendron.com](http://www.cheriebreeziegendron.com) (contact)

## Education

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- **MFA in Dance, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa** 2022  
Performance and Choreography Concentration
- **BA in Dance, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)** 2019  
World Arts and Cultures/Dance, Dance Concentration
- **AA in Dance, Cabrillo College** 2017

## Awards & Grants (selection)

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- **UH Mānoa SEED IDEAS Grant** 2023
- **National Endowment for the Arts Grants for Arts Projects** 2022
- **UH Mānoa, Department of Theatre & Dance Friends of Dance Fellowship** 2022
- **Bank of Hawaii Waipahu Community Foundation Grant** 2021-2022
- **UH Mānoa ASUH RIO Funding Award** 2021
- **Filipino Community Center (FilCom) FilCom CARES Grant** 2021
- **UH Mānoa, Department of Theatre & Dance Friends of Kennedy Theatre Scholarship** 2021
- **UCLA International Education Office IEO Travel Study Scholarship** 2018
- **UCLA Vice Provost’s Award for Undergraduate Research** 2018
- **Cabrillo College Roberta Bristol Scholarship for Choreographic Achievement** 2017
- **Cabrillo College Tandy Beal Award for Excellence in Dance** 2016
- **American Dance Festival ADF Six Week School Scholarship** 2015
- **Living Jazz Gabriel Trupin Memorial Scholarship** 2014

## Choreography (selection)

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### *Original Works*

- **“Naatu Naatu Remix”** (3 minutes, live performance) 2023  
Commission, Bollywood and South Asia Film Festival.
  - Doris Duke Theatre, Honolulu Museum of Art (HoMA)
  - Hawaii Polo Club – Waialua, HI
- **“Can’t Take My Feel Good”** (20 minutes, film and live performance) 2022  
MFA Thesis. Fresh Kicks Jam. Studio, Aloha Dancesport – Honolulu, HI.
- **“Seule”** (8 minutes, live solo performance) 2022  
Commission, TheQueeries Performance Company.
  - First Friday Performances, Hawai‘i State Art Museum (HiSAM)
  - “Bare Bones,” Earl Ernst Lab Theatre – Honolulu, HI
- **“Are We There Yet?”** (30 minutes, live performance) 2021  
ART JAM at Sakura Arts Collective – Honolulu, HI

- **“Memoretic Disruptions,” “Limina,” & “Inertia”** (10 minutes, films) 2021  
Exhibition. Live Technology & Performance Reel, HiSAM
- **“ABSORB”** (4 minutes, film) 2020-2022
  - “Virtual Dance Performance I,” UH Mānoa
  - “Creativity in the Time of COVID-19,” Michigan State University
- **“BUBBLES”** (8 minutes, live performance) 2019  
“Re: Configure,” Gloyra Kaufman Dance Theatre – Los Angeles, CA
- **“About Face”** (5 minutes, live performance) 2018  
“Culture Crossing,” University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)
- **“Funk(ie)”** (15 minutes, live performance) 2018  
Centro de Teatro do Oprimido - Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- **“A Work In Progress”** (10 minutes, live performance) 2016  
“MAX 10,” Motion Pacific. Collab. W. Manners, H. Rouwhorst – Santa Cruz, CA

## Performance (selection)

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### *Live Performance*

- **House Ohana** Crew Member 2020-2023  
Founding Artistic Director & Choreographer: KāleoTen
  - “Cypher Showcase” at East-West Fest, Jefferson Hall - Mānoa, HI
  - “Shake it to the Left” at The Vill Kickoff Party - Honolulu, HI
- **The Bounty** Guest Performer 2021-2023  
Founding Artistic Director & Associate Choreographer: Henry Harrison II
  - “Worlds on Fire,” *What the Truck?!* Golden Anniversary – Ewa Beach, HI
  - “All The Way Up” in the Shelter Exhibition at HiSAM
- **TheQueeries Performance Company** Guest Performer 2022  
Founding Artistic Director & Choreographer: Sami “Cocoa Chandelier” Akuna
  - “TheQueeries” in the First Friday Performances at HiSAM
- **Nina Flagg** Student Performer 2018  
UCLA “First Hand” Residency
  - “The Birds & The We’s: Simulations in Love” in Gloria Kaufman Hall, UCLA
- **Água Doce Dance** Guest Performer 2017  
Founding Artistic Director & Choreographer: Stephanie Emmanuela Da Silva
  - “Elemental Essence” at Process Dance Festival – Moraga, CA
- **Cid Pearlman Performance** Guest Performer 2015-2017  
Founding Artistic Director & Dance-Maker: Cid Pearlman
  - “Coiled” in Looking Left at Motion Pacific – Santa Cruz, CA
  - “Bridged” at Ebb & Flow River Arts Festival, TWDC – Santa Cruz, CA
- **Urban Industry Dance Company** Company Member 2015-2016  
Founding Artistic Director & Choreographer: Casandra Hillman
  - “9 Rhymes” at Santa Cruz Hip-Hop Festival – Boulder Creek, CA
  - “Shroud,” Faculty Concert, Cabrillo College – Aptos, CA

- **Yabás Dance Company** Guest Performer 2015  
 Founding Artistic Director & Choreographer: Jessamine DeLancey
  - “Tierra Pura” at the Santa Cruz Ethnic Dance Festival – Santa Cruz, CA
  - “TIERRA PURA Corazón del Bosque,” Tannery World Dance & Cultural Center

### Films

- **“Telling the Stories of The Movers”** Guest Freestyle Artist 2022  
 Instagram Reels Project, Director & Videographer: Tyler “J Boogx” Bernabe
  - “Lost Souls” filmed on Queens Walkway Into the Ocean – Waikīkī, HI
  - “Calm Down” filmed at Stan Sheriff Center - Mānoa, HI
- **The Bounty** Crew Member 2022  
 Artistic Directors: Makana Chong, Henry Harrison II, & Isabella Herron
  - “LIKE A BOY” filmed at Māhāna Skatepark – Pearl City, HI
  - “Leave Me Alone” filmed in Treasure Box Studios – Waipahu, HI
- **“Strike a Pose”** Featured Performer 2016  
 Documentary Film, Directors: Ester Gould, Reijer Zwaan (selection)
  - Premiere at Berlin International Film Festival – Berlin, Germany
  - Key West Film Festival – Key West, FL
  - Bartos Theater, MIT List Visual Arts Center – Cambridge, MA
  - Queens Fim Theatre – Belfast, United Kingdom

## Practitioner (selection)

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### Battles

- **House Ohana: “BATTLE! BATTLE!”** (2v2 Open Styles – Top 4) 2023  
 Dance Building, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa
- **World of Dance, “All Style Tournament”** (1v1 All Styles - Top 16) 2023  
 John F. Kennedy Theatre, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa
- **Endless Summer Jam** (1v1 Open Styles – Top 16) 2023  
 Hawaiian Aroma Caffe – Waikīkī, HI
- **SouthSide Breakers: “Rumble in the South”** (Cypher Showdown – Top 20) 2022  
 Treasure Box Studios – Waipahu, HI
- **Style Monarchs Festival** (1v1 Open Styles – Top 8) 2022  
 The Barn @ SALT Kaka‘ako – Honolulu, HI
- **Cypher Room HNL** Sakura Arts Collective – Honolulu, HI 2022
  - Cypher Queen – 2nd Place (5/22), Cypher King – 2nd Place (4/22)
- **Da Get Down** (2v2 Open Styles – Top 4) 2022  
 The Warehouse – Honolulu, HI
- **The EBDi & Unity Jam: “DA VBYZ Hawaii”** (2v2 Breakin – Top 16) 2022  
 Dream House – Kapolei, HI
- **Lucky Kids & House Ohana: “HOUSE BREAK”** (1v1 All Styles – Top 8) 2021  
 NextDoor – Honolulu, HI

## *Hip Hop Jams*

- **Fresh Kicks** Founder, Producer, & Director 2022
  - Produced and directed donation-based jam
    - Battle Categories: 2v2 Breakin (Adult & Keiki) & 2v2 Open Styles
    - Custom awards in collaboration with East3
    - Served 200+ community members
  - Social Media & Marketing Manager
    - Designed marketing materials and marketing campaign
    - Designed digital media and created social media content
  - Organized and managed 35+ performers, vendors, and volunteers
- **The Vill Kickoff Party** Assistant Coordinator
  - Organized jam and directed battles
    - Battle Category: 1v1 Open Styles
    - Served 100+ community members

## **Teaching & Organizing (selection)**

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### *Colleges & Universities*

- **UH Mānoa, Department of Indo-Pacific Languages & Literatures** Guest Lecturer 2023
  - IP 303 Bollywood Dance, Music, and Film (3), 5 units
- **UH Mānoa, Department of Theatre & Dance** Guest Lecturer 2021
  - DNCE 140 Hip Hop Dance (1), 3 units
- **Cabrillo College, Dance Department** Guest Instructor 2015
  - DNCE 19D Hip Hop Dance IV, 3 units

### *Private & Public Schools*

- **Punahou School, Dance School, Street Dance** Co-Curricular Faculty 2022-Present
  - Academic Years 22/23 and 23/24: 11 courses
    - Jr Street, Kindergarten & Grades 1-9: Hip Hop Dance
    - Street I, Grades 8-10: House Dance
  - Summer Program:
    - Jr Street, Grades 1-6: Hip Hop Dance
  - Choreographer: "Universal Dreams," Dance School, Annual Production
    - 5 dances, 15 minutes, live performances
- **Nuʻuanu Elementary School, After-School Programs, Hip Hop** Dance Teacher 2021-Present
  - Academic Years 21/22, 22/23, and 23/24: 6 courses
    - Kindergarten & Grades 1-5: Hip Hop Dance
  - Annual Friends & Family Night, Talent Show (2023)
    - 2 dances, 6 minutes, live performances

### *Intensives & Summer Programs*

- **McKinley High School, GWK Hooligans Summer Intensive** Dance Teacher 2023
  - House Dance Workshop (20+ students)

## Community Projects

- **All Styles Freestyle Sessions** Co-Founder & Director 2022
  - Co-founded and directed the program
    - Weekly freestyle session and donation-based community class
    - Served 75+ community members
  - Teacher, Community Class
    - House, Hip Hop, Freestyle Workshop
- **Each One Reach One Collective (E1R1)** Co-Founder & Executive Director 2020-2022
  - Co-founded and directed registered independent organization (RIO)
    - Served 300+ community members
  - Designed organization structure and programs (still running today)
    - Utilized RIO to make university dance spaces accessible to community
      - “BATTLE! BATTLE!” Jam & Workshop, Dance Building
      - LiteFeet Jones & Flii Boogie Workshop, Dance Building
      - 808Breakers Anniversary Jam, Campus Center Ballroom
    - Monthly freestyle sessions funded by the Theatre & Dance Department
    - Featured 25+ national artists and guest teachers
  - Teacher, Community Class
    - 100% Free weekly community class funded by ASUH
    - University students and community members
    - House, Hip Hop, Cypher Fundamentals

## Scholarship (selection)

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### Presentations

- Gendron, Cherie. “I Can Do It Too: Hip Hop Social Dances, Appropriation & Whiteness on TikTok.” Paper presented at Dancing Resilience: Dance Studies and Activism in a Global Age, Dance Studies Association and Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada, October 2022.
- Gendron, Cherie. “I Can Do It Too: Hip Hop Social Dances, Appropriation & Whiteness on TikTok.” Paper presented at 8th Annual Theatre and Dance Graduate Symposium, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, Honolulu, HI, March 2022.
- Gendron, Cherie. “Critical (Hip-Hop) Pedagogy: Examination and Analysis of Three Nonprofits.” Paper presented at Performing Resilience and Innovation, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, Honolulu, HI, March 2021.
- Gendron, Cherie. “From the Streets to YouTube: Popularization of Hip-Hop Social Dances Through Social Media.” UCLA Undergraduate Research Week, Los Angeles, CA, May 2018.

### Oral Histories

- **Nishimura, Ken “East3.”** “Hip Hop in Hawai‘i Archive: Building the Hawai‘i Chapter of Rock Steady Crew, Rock Steady Hawaii.” By Cherie Gendron. Collections, Digital Materials, Thomas Hale Hamilton Library, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. (2022)

- **Hina, John “Prime.”** “Hip Hop in Hawai‘i Archive: Kānaka Maoli Presence in the Hip Hop Cultural Element of Writing & Literacy Through Hawaiian Lettering on O‘ahu.” Collections, Digital Materials, Thomas Hale Hamilton Library, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. (2020)
- **Harrison, Henry II.** “Hip Hop in Hawai‘i Archive: Filipino and Asian Presence in Hip Hop Culture & the Choreo Scene on O‘ahu.” Collections, Digital Materials, Thomas Hale Hamilton Library, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. (2020)
- **Ramey, Roy “Skillroy.”** “Hip Hop in Hawai‘i Archive: Hawaiian Bboyin, Skittles, The Hawaiian 3 Step, & Hitting in Waikīkī.” Collections, Digital Materials, Thomas Hale Hamilton Library, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. (2020)

## Additional Teaching History (selection) \_\_\_\_\_

### *Dance Studios*

- **Paradise Tango** Dance Instructor 2022-2023
  - Adult Hip Hop Dance
  - Adult House Dance
- **Treasure Box Studios (TBS)** Dance Instructor 2021-2023
  - Hip Hop (18+)
  - Crew Trainer: Hip Hop and House Dance
  - Additional Positions Held:
    - Grants Administrator
    - Newsletter Writer
- **Sakura Arts Collective** Community Artist 2021-2022
  - Hip Hop Freestyle (all levels)
  - House Dance and House Open Session
- **Infinity Movement Studio** Dance Instructor 2021-2022
  - Hip Hop Dance
  - House Dance
- **Pacific Arts Complex** Guest Instructor 2016
  - Adult Hip Hop
  - Teen Hip Hop

### *Intensives & Summer Programs*

- **Wellness Weekend by Shift Culture** Wellness Instructor 2022
  - House Dance (18+)
- **Beaternity Dance Intensive by Treasure Box Studios** Dance Instructor 2022
  - House Freestyle Workshop (2 hours)

## Additional Training (selection) \_\_\_\_\_

### *Conferences & Panels*

- **Rennie Harris University** Unearthing The Phenomena of Hip Hop Lecture Series – virtual 2023
- **DSA** Dancing Resilience: Dance Studies & Activism in a Global Age – Vancouver, Canada 2022

- **Ladies of Hip Hop LA** Afrobeat Workshop & Panel Discussion – Los Angeles, CA 2019

*Intensives & Workshops*

- **Endless Summer Jam** Workshop Series – Honolulu, HI 2023
- **Versa-Style Next Generation Summer** Online Summer Dance Intensive – virtual 2020
- **Los Angeles Performance Practice** Grant + Proposal Writing for Performance Projects 2021
- **Open House 10 Year Anniversary** Open House Dance Intensive – Los Angeles, CA 2019
- **Center for Theater of the Oppressed** CTO International Training – Rio de Janeiro, Brazil 2018
- **American College Dance Association** West Region Conference – Modesto, CA 2017
- **American Dance Festival** ADF Six Week School – Durham, NC 2015
- **American College Dance Association** BAJA Conference – Long Beach, CA 2015