Black Masking Tradition: Study Respectfully | Student Dance Brief

6–8 | Louisiana Dance & Movement Lab | gesture abstraction and cultural critique | 2–4 sessions of 35–60 minutes

Your movement challenge

Document makers and community meaning, then compose an original abstract work about respect and visibility without copying ceremonial dance

What to investigate

Black masking traditions of New Orleans and community ownership

Technical focus

gesture abstraction and cultural critique

Before you dance

01. Name one movement you observe in a credited source and one thing you do not yet know.
02. Show a safe four-count baseline phrase.
03. Experiment with three different movement qualities or spatial directions.

Create and improve

01. Plan a short original sequence with a beginning, a change, and an ending.
02. Apply gesture abstraction and cultural critique and rehearse the movement challenge.
03. Request one observation and one question from a peer, then make one significant change.

Turn in

Movement score or sketch; three trials; final performance/filmed excerpt/accessible notation; source credit; annotated revision; reflection.

Reflect

01. How did gesture abstraction and cultural critique improve from beginning to end?
02. Who is credited for the tradition?
03. Which movement is your own invention?
04. How did you make choices safe and inclusive?

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