

Greer Reed '16, Ed.D.

Arts Director
Lausanne Collegiate School

For Dr. Greer Reed, teaching dance has never been only about technique. It is about nurturing the whole child. A Pittsburgh native, she has worked as a teacher, choreographer, conservatory leader, and artistic director, guided by the belief that arts education develops exceptional artists as well as thoughtful, confident, and engaged human beings.

As the inaugural Arts Director at Lausanne Collegiate School in Memphis, Tennessee, Dr. Reed leads arts education from prekindergarten through 12th grade. She builds meaningful arts experiences, supports educators, cultivates young artists, and champions the essential role of the arts in schools and communities.

Her career includes leadership and teaching roles at The Chicago High School for the Arts and Pittsburgh CAPA. She is also the owner and CEO of I Love Dance, founder of the August Wilson Dance Ensemble, and a former professional dancer with Ailey II and Dayton Contemporary Dance Company.

"My studies at La Roche University gave me the foundation to articulate what I had long practiced intuitively: that the arts cultivate confidence, discipline, empathy, and resilience by nurturing the connection among mind, body, spirit, and community," Dr. Reed said. "That philosophy has guided my career ever since."

Dr. Reed chose La Roche for its commitment to justice, compassion, inclusion, and the education of the whole person. "The University helped me build on my experience and develop a foundation for scholarship, leadership, and service. My time at La Roche also reinforced my belief that growth is possible at every stage of life."

She fondly recalls Sister Rita Yeasted, who supported her as she returned to school while grieving the loss of both parents. "Her gentle, unwavering support reminded me of my ability and purpose when I couldn't recognize it myself."

Selection for the La Roche University Distinguished Alumni Circle is a full-circle honor for Dr. Reed. She arrived at the University as an adult student, rebuilding her life after a 12-year professional dance career.

"As a proud La Roche alumna, I carry forward the values that helped shape my education while ensuring future generations understand the arts as a powerful way to discover who they are. To be honored by the institution that first affirmed my potential is deeply moving."

Outside of work, Dr. Reed is a self-proclaimed foodie who enjoys discovering great restaurants and binge-watching a good series. She also treasures quiet moments at home with her standard poodle, Beni, her constant companion.