

# Teaching Statement

David K Bagley

---

[davidkbagleyartist@gmail.com](mailto:davidkbagleyartist@gmail.com)

[www.davidkbagley.com](http://www.davidkbagley.com)

I, David K Bagley, am a firm believer that one must have an in-depth teaching philosophy before he/she takes on the responsibility of educating any emerging artist. Many times teachers often get lost in teaching only the mechanics of a subject and often forget to stress the importance of any artistic philosophy, theology, history, and pedagogy involved. I believe this approach is transformative and is key to successful self-development and growth. Without these perspectives, one does not have the creative seeds from which to grow. But like the human spirit, I try to keep my teaching methods always in a state of perseverance and adaptation, so my methods are always changing, fluid, or adaptable for each particular individual and their goals.

My outlook as a dance educator is not to teach at my students, but rather teach them how to identify their own learning processes and apply their newly discovered content so they can continue to grow and teach themselves when I am no longer there. This ability to successfully push oneself cognitively and creatively in high-intensity situations, whether social or performance, is one of the qualities I always strive for my students to master. I try to teach them to recognize opportunity and use their established and honed abilities to seize it. By adapting my teachings to and for each individual I personally try to see each student's true potential. I try identifying their goals and passions, pulling it out of them, and then presenting it back to my students in a way that makes them want to pursue a better idea of himself/herself. I try to implement a safe scientific and kinesthetic approach depending upon each individual's body type and goals allowing them to achieve a better understanding of their body's capabilities and artistry. This mind to body connection of energy will help establish the full enlightenment of each individual's personal and artistic vessel.

I want my students to view dance and its applications through multiple lenses and really understand how to train and learn something foreign to them. But most of all I want my students to experience the passion, expression, and beauty that is dance and gain an ability to transcend their mortal bonds. Dance is applicable as a form of deep human expression and can be used as a clear communicative language that can speak on subjects just as clear as speech can. I will stay committed to my philosophies and hunger to educate others.