

LONNIE HIGHTOWER

Mr. Hightower began his journey in the Arts at the age of 4 training and building his craft

Mr. Hightower attended Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts studying dance and voice. During his 4 years there he worked one on one with Gregory Hines, Vanessa Williams, Ann Reinking, Ben Vereen, Donald McKayle, Louis Montero, Seth Riggs, Reginald Yates, Frank Katoola, and many more respected artists who helped mold him. His Modern technique performance ability, his choreography & ability to grasp and perform West African dance was recognized by the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts. He became one of two choreographers chosen in the United States to be named Presidential Scholar in the Arts. His modern work was performed in the prestigious John F. Kennedy Performing Arts Center in Washington, DC. He was also presented with a Gold Medallion from former President Bill Clinton.

He then attended California Institute of the Arts studying dance/choreography. While there he began traveling all over the US as a solo artist. Mr. Hightower later choreographed on or danced with such companies as New York Baroque, Dallas Black Dance Theater 1st Company, Beckles Dance Company, Contemporary Ballet Dallas, Images Contemporary Dance Company, and Paul Taylor Dance Company. His television credits include American Idol, So You Think You Can Dance, and various commercials. He also performed in such musicals as The Festival of the Lion King, Applause, Hair, and Smokey Joe's Cafe. He's won 100's of choreography awards within the National Dance competition circuit in solo, group, duo, trio, and production divisions in Modern, Contemporary, Ballet and Jazz categories.

In 2010 Mr. Hightower was commissioned to set a piece for the premiere of the Georgia O'Keefe Art Exhibit in Washington, DC. He was then recognized as a Nationally Acclaimed Choreographer by the "Phillips Collection" of DC.

Mr. Hightower is currently a Teacher and choreographer at XD2, and Power House of Dance choreographing. He's teaching and lecturing in and around the USA. He continues his journey in the arts because of his love, dedication, and respect for the arts as a professional. Also because of the joy he feels when teaching and choreographing on those who love performing and understand the joy the stage brings.

"Be a dancer who's remembered and loved, not just seen and liked." quote by Lonnie J. Hightower III