

THE PERFORMANCE LAB

BUILDING THE NETWORK

Mary Harding

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Mary Harding is the department head of the dance program at the Arts High School, a component of the Perpich Center for Arts Education. In her position since 1990, Ms. Harding created the curriculum for the current dance program. She has contributed to a video on assessment for the Minnesota FACS (Framework for Arts Curriculum) project and has presented at the Minnesota Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development conference, the International Network of Performing and Visual Arts Schools conference, the National AAPHERD convention and at the Dance Educator's Coalition summer workshop. In her dance career she has performed professionally with ballet, jazz and modern companies in repertory ranging from Pas de Quatre to works by Bebe Miller. While a member of the Zenon Dance Company, Ms. Harding taught master classes and dance residencies in schools across the nation. In addition to her work at the Arts High School, she continues to freelance as a choreographer, performer and teacher in the Twin Cities. Ms. Harding received the Surdna Arts Teachers Fellowship for 2002 and will study at Bates Dance Festival and create new work as a result of this fellowship. She is honored to have received the National Dance Teacher of the Year for 2002. from the National Dance Association and Sportime. She will be presenting work developed at the Arts High School around the country next year.