



2021 Adjudicator Panel

Rick McCullough's professional experience includes performing with the Netherlands Dance Theater from 1975 to 1984, with the Harkness Ballet of New York from 1971 to 1975, and with the North Carolina Dance Theater from 1970 to 1971. He served as Ballet Master for the Pittsburgh Ballet Theater from 1986 to 1988. He was also the Artistic Director of the North Carolina School of the Arts Summer Institute on Roanoke Island Dance Company from 1998 to 2008. He was artistic director of the Tallahassee Ballet from 2009 to 2013.

Rick graduated high school in 1969 from North Carolina School of the Arts in and received his BFA Degree in Dance there in 1986. He received his MFA Degree in Dance from UNC/Greensboro in 1995. He was an Assistant Professor at the University of North Carolina, Greensboro from 1995 to 2000. In 2004 he completed an associate arts degree in Photographic Technology at Randolph Community College, and apprenticed with photographers Lois Greenfield and Eduardo Patino in New York City. He has taught either ballet or contemporary technique at Oklahoma University, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, University of North Carolina School of the Arts, Mercyhurst University, University of South Florida, Southern Methodist University, University of Alabama, Ohio State University, Western Michigan University, the University of Utah, the Metropolitan Opera Ballet, the American Dance Festival, and the Pacific Northwest Ballet, among others. Rick taught for thirteen years at Florida State University, before retiring as Professor Emeritus.

Rick has received five choreographic fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts. He also has had choreographer's fellowships from the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs, the National Choreographers' Initiative, two fellowships from the North Carolina Arts Council, and a choreographers fellowship from the Pennsylvania Arts Council. He received second prize at the Tokyo International Choreography Competition in 1991, and a gold medal at the Boston International Choreography Competition in 1990. His work has been commissioned by the Washington Ballet, Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, North Carolina Dance Theater, Ballet Pacifica, Pacific Northwest Ballet, Columbia Classical Ballet, School of American Ballet, Chautauqua Institution, Perry-Mansfield Performing Arts Camp, and the North Carolina School of the Arts, among others.

Rick's dance photography has been published in Dance Magazine, Dance Magazine of Florida, several dance company websites, Eliza Minen's "The Ballet Companion", and Dr. Tom Welch's "Conditioning for Dancers". Rick has served as a grant panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts, the North Carolina Arts Council, and the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs. He has adjudicated for Regional Dance America for two different regions, and for the American College Dance Association. He served as representative for the Southeast region for the Board of Directors of the American College Dance Association.

He is married since 1972 to Susan McKee McCullough, has two lovely daughters, and two adorable granddaughters.