HISTORY IN MOTION

One way students can explore dance’s past is by learning historical repertory. Ailey/Fordham BFA students take Black Traditions in American Dance and World Dance History, which are often coordinated with repertory classes. “The movement shows you a different side of what you’re learning in the classroom,” says Marie Paspe, a recent graduate of the program, who learned Blues Suite and Revelations from Ailey II artistic director emerita Sylvia Waters. “When you study dance history, you receive knowledge from past generations that you wouldn’t normally consider in the studio. This changed the way I move and think of dance.”