

# Ryan K. Johnson

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2010 Dance Metro DC Award Winner: Outstanding Solo Performance

## Profile

A virtuosic creator, choreographer and Artistic Director of SOLE Defined with 10+ years of arts administrative experience. An innovative artist with a focus in Tap, Stepping/Body Percussion, South African Gumboot Dance, and nonverbal acting.

## Arts Administrative Experience

### Step Afrika! 2006- 2011

Production & Tour Manager

- Supported senior staff, including Executive Director, Company Manager, and Artistic Director, and represented the company at national presenter conferences.
- Lead and organized tour logistics, including air and land travel, meals.
- Technical budget development and created tour riders and audio plots, supervised load-in/outs, assisted in the lighting desing for the touring shows.
- Designed and maintained social media outlets

### SOLE Defined | 2011-present

Co- Founder & Artistic Director

- Grant research and writing for funding to support non-profit
- Maintain artistic vision for the company while creating new works and designing marketing materials
- Created a branding scheme and designed all marketing collateral
- Establish partnerships with national and international theaters and festivals with 92% rebooking rate including: The Kennedy Center, Shakespeare Theater, Jacobs Pillow
- budget development and contract negotiation
- hire and train creative personnel and theater management staff
- direct national and international touring productions

## Performance Experience

### BROADWAY'S AFTER MIDNIGHT (2015-2016)

Character: Tap Brother 1 | Ensemble Dancer

### THE BEATLES LOVE BY CIRQUE DU SOLEIL, LAS VEGAS, NV (2014)

Character: Sugar Plum | Featured Dancers: Gumboot & Body Percussion Solo

### STOMP, NYC AND TOUR OF THE AMERICA'S 2011 - 2013

Dancer/ Drummer: Particle Man and Ringo

### STEP AFRIKA! NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL TOUR 2006-2011

Tap & Body Percussion Soloist | Dancer | Production Manager

## Choreographic Experience

Sole Defined 2011-Current: Creator and Artist Director fusing theater and percussive dance.  
| A Choreographers' Showcase by Cirque Du Soleil w/ The Nevada Ballet 2014 | Extreme Makeover Home Edition: 2010 Season Premier | Human Orchestra: New York City Tap Festival- Tap | International Body Music Festival | Step Afrika! Trio | Studio & University

## **International Experience:**

Cajon Festival Lima, Peru | IBMF Sau Pablo, Brazil | DansEncore Quebec, Canada | TDC Cairo, Egypt | Ghaoua Festival, Morocco | HIFA, The Republic of Zimbabwe | US Embassy: Republic of Chile | US Embassy: Republic of; Ecuador, Paraguay, South Africa, Madagascar and Luxembourg, Germany | Hamilton, Bermuda

## **Artistic Directing**

### **SOLE Defined Black Amer-I-Can (2013)**

Black Amer-I-Can is the story of a young man facing internal racism within the black community. During his journey we see his journey of being black in one area code and not black enough in another. Fusing tap dance and body percussion with multimedia, SOLE Defined brings his many lessons to life!

### **SOLE Defined The Experiment (2014)**

The Experiment is just that; an experiment of music and movement from the human body. Using tap dance, stepping, body percussion, vocal percussion, and spoon playing to bring the rhythms of the world to life.

### **SOLE Defined Phenix (2015)**

Phenix is the story of a mad scientist on a search for the perfect equation to percussive dance. Dancers turned lab assistants; search high and low for the perfect combination of dance and multimedia.

### **SOLE Defined Frequency (2016)**

Its the first of it's kind for SOLE Defined. Frequency is a percussive dance musical set in the mid 90's. A look into the life of a up and coming radio DJ who's looking to use music to enhance the community. This roller coaster of emotions takes the audience on a ride that we can all relate too: love, good music, dreaming and bringing those dreams to life. Actors, dancers and musician bring this show to life, turning any theater into a true experience.

## **Education**

Towson University, Towson Maryland: Theater Production  
Carver Center for the Arts and Technology

## **Training**

Tap: Mary Slater | Drop-in Classes at: BDC, Step and ATDF | Stepping/ Body Percussion: Kappa Alpha Psi | Step Afrika | STOMP | Max Pollak | Nicolas Young | David Pleasant

## **Additional Skill:**

Production Management | Tour & Artist management | Stage Managing | Travel planning | Microsoft Office | Movie and Audio Editing | FOH Audio | Making people smile | Rehearsal Directing | Carpentry | Motivational Speaking | I clap loud: 113.2 dbspl | dope Running Man! | AutoCad | Logic | Excel | PowerPoint | iMovie | Garage Band