



# UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH

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## CONNECTICUT

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## **Sonia Plumb Dance Company in Residency at the University of Saint Joseph**



Credit Nicole Battistone

WEST HARTFORD, CONN. – The Carol Autorino Center at the University of Saint Joseph welcomes the Sonia Plumb Dance Company in residence throughout the spring semester. The two organizations will collaborate on several dance productions and training sessions.

“The residency with Sonia Plumb Dance Company furthers the Autorino Center’s mission of serving students and professional artists, while strengthening the arts within our community,” said Robert Smith, Ph.D., director of the Carol Autorino Center. Since its founding in 2000, the Autorino Center has become a leading venue for dance in the Greater Hartford area, hosting numerous dance ensembles and producing the annual 5x5 Dance Festival and the Arts Integration through Multiple Intelligences Project, a collaboration with the National Dance Institute.

The Sonia Plumb Dance Company (SPDC) was founded in 1989 and has performed throughout Connecticut in concerts, festivals, and adjudicated showcases. The Company's recent work, "Water Wars," premiered at the University of Saint Joseph in September 2012.

Plumb is a dancer, choreographer, educator, and two-time recipient of the Connecticut Commission on the Arts Choreographers' Fellowship for Artistic Excellence. Throughout the semester, she will collaborate with the University's Dance Ensemble, teaching master classes and choreographing a piece for the Ensemble's spring production on April 27, 2013.

Plumb said, "This residency is a wonderful opportunity to further the collaborative relationship between Sonia Plumb Dance Company, Dr. Smith, and the University of Saint Joseph community."

SPDC will also premiere its new show, *Shadow and Light*, at the Autorino Center in September. University students are invited to audition for the piece, which features four dances that explore light, darkness, and shadows.

The Dance program at the University of Saint Joseph is under the direction of Susan Murphy, M.A., instructor of Dance and director of the USJ Dance Ensemble.

For more information on the dance program at the University of Saint Joseph, visit [www.usj.edu/dance](http://www.usj.edu/dance). For information on dance performances, visit [www.usj.edu/arts](http://www.usj.edu/arts). For information on the Sonia Plumb Dance Company, visit [www.soniaplumbdance.org](http://www.soniaplumbdance.org).

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