

## BRAVO Guest Choreographer Kristi Faulkner visits

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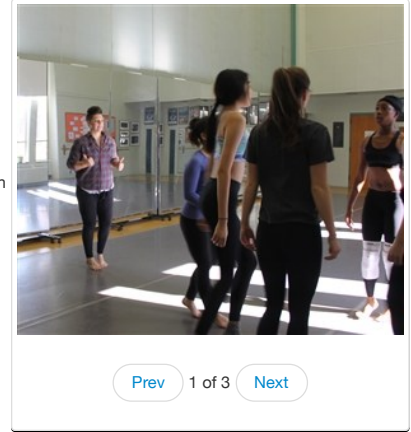
On November 13th, Upper School dance students had the opportunity to work with choreographer Kristi Faulkner, thanks to the support of BRAVO!

Every year, the **Bravo Guest Choreographer** has the opportunity to bring a relevant topic to life through working with the Cranbrook Dance Program. This fall, more than ever before, **Kristi Faulkner** took this occasion to speak to the issue of "treatment of women in society", highlighted by events in the most recent election season. Kristi Faulkner joined the Advanced Dance students in the Kingswood Dance Studio to teach her dance *Object/object*. This dance investigates the subject of "women as objects" versus "women as objecting figures". Through this work, the dancers confront assumptions about femininity while demonstrating their physical prowess. As such, *Object/object* ignites the fierceness underlying the female form.

The CK dance students have totally embodied their dance characters, as expressed in their written reflections on the effect that *Object/object* has had on them since they started rehearsing it. They are extremely excited to perform the strong movement and feel empowered presenting this meaningful dance. They are very eager to share it with the entire Cranbrook community.

While at Cranbrook, Kristi also taught Master Classes to the Advanced and Intermediate Dance classes, as well as the Movement and Conditioning class.

Kristi Faulkner (Founder/Artistic Director of Kristi Faulkner Dance) is a choreographer, performer, educator and arts advocate. Based in Detroit, she creates highly physical and humorously theatrical work that embodies difference and challenges gender roles. Community engagement is integral to her artistic practice. Kristi Faulkner Dance was recently a Knights Arts Challenge award winner for their project *Not in My House*. This project will be a collaboration between Kristi Faulkner Dance and the Ruth Ellis Center, a youth social services agency with a mission to provide short-term and long-term residential safe spaces and support services for runaway, homeless, and at-risk LGBTQ youth. Kristi holds an MFA in choreography/performance from SUNY Brockport and is part time faculty at Bowling Green State University.

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