



Honouring the Legacy of Tap Legend
Bill 'Bojangles' Robinson



TAP DAY



*Community
Concert*

MAY 18, 2025
7:30PM
DJD DANCE CENTRE

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR WELCOME

Welcome to Tri-Tone Productions' 7th Annual Tap Day Celebration!

We are delighted to collaborate with DJD as we honour the legacy of Tap Legend, Bill "Bojangles" Robinson.

Tap Dance is an African American art form, born from the innovation and resilience of Black artists. As guests to this tradition, we move forward with deep gratitude, acknowledging the many trailblazers who paved the way. We are committed to uplifting its history, celebrating its roots, and sharing its joy with respect and reverence.

Our mission is to educate and inspire an inclusive tap dance community, to honour the form's history, and to provide a platform for both traditional and new works. We are dedicated to advancing rhythm tap and the percussive arts across Alberta and beyond.

This year's Tap Day weekend features over 100 tap dance enthusiasts from across Canada and the U.S., including submissions from studios, independent artists, and professionals. We are thrilled to premiere a new work by Jeffrey Dawson, created for Tap Day faculty Emma Ritchie, Connor Denison, Jordyn Lemire, and Mary Thomas.

We are also excited to welcome Leah Silva and Reverb Tap Company from Los Angeles. This season, Leah and I created a cross-border collaboration between Reverb and Tri-Tone, exchanging choreography during visits to Calgary and L.A. Today marks the first time these works are performed together – and the dancers will reunite this July at the Orange County Tap Festival.

We are grateful to the families, and to the dedicated educators who inspire the next generation and help shape our community. A heartfelt thank you to our incredible volunteers, whose support ensures the weekend runs smoothly.

As artists, every time we step on stage, we hope to be met by a receptive audience – so feel free to tap, clap, or snap along! Without you – our patrons of the arts – we would be dancers without spectators, musicians without listeners. Your presence and support make this celebration possible, and we are deeply grateful.

Thank you for celebrating with us.

Tasha Lawson

Producer & Artistic Director

ABOUT TAP DAY

May 25 officially became National Tap Day by U.S. Congress in 1989.

The day was marked to recognize tap dance as an American Art Form. It also became a day to celebrate the enduring legacy of Bill "Bojangles" Robinson, (May 25, 1878 - November 25, 1949), and his outstanding contribution to the art of tap dancing on both stage and in film through the unification of diverse stylistic and racial elements.

Known as the grandfather of tap dance, you may recognize Bill "Bojangles" Robinson from his on screen time with Shirley Temple, or seen his infamous "Stair Dance." He danced for live audiences and films, became famous for his cheerful demeanour and "Everything's Copacetic" catchphrase, and remained in the public eye his whole life. Tap Day is now celebrated internationally, from Tokyo to New York City and throughout Canada, Europe and Asia. On Robinson's Birthday, we honour his legacy and generous spirit by bringing together our tap dance community.

Thank you to the participating studios and artists for making our 7th Annual Tap Day Community Concert a success!



CREDITS

Artistic Director & Production Manager

Tasha Lawson

Production Assistant & Administrator

Aminata Traore

Stage Manager & Social Media

Alicia Molinski

Assistant Stage Manager

Brynna Doucette

Lighting Design

Anton Degroot

Sound & Lights

DJD Dance Centre

Lobby Team Leads

Nova Bias & Jamie Leong-Huxley

Front of House

DJD Dance Centre & Volunteers

Volunteer Coordinator

Aminata Traore & Tasha Lawson

Tap Floor

Tri-Tone Rhythm Society

Photography

Gideon Paramonov

Videography

Splice Media Studios

Program Design

Alicia Molinski & Tasha Lawson

Special Thanks

Nova & Daryl Bias, Teagan Bendig, Donovan Volk,
Kirstin Anderson, Sarah Minor, Kristian Alexandrov

ABOUT THE TRI-TONE RHYTHM ENSEMBLE

2024 - 2025 Season Dancers

Advanced Division

Francine Adriano, Avery Bais, Baylee Bais, Teagan Bendig, Alexzandria Burke, Aviva Courte, Brooke Emery, Lucy Hillson, Madison Hoe, Hannah Howitt, Kai Nahorniak, Ryan Newman, Joyce Tsoi, Iris Tsoi, Gerrilyn Vandekerkhove, Grace Volk, Bella Vogelaar

Intermediate Division

Andie Clarke, Miles Chan, Reagan Deliman, Luke Ho, Naomi Huszti, Annika Keatley, Jacey Power, Morgan Powell, Tara Svorcan, Maria Vandekerkhove

Tri-Tone Rhythm Ensemble provides a home for Calgary tap dancers who are passionate about the art of Tap.

We are a non-competitive program rooted in strong technical training, collaboration, creativity, and process-based learning. Our dancers are encouraged to develop individual artistry and expression, while cultivating discipline, focus, teamwork and a strong work ethic.

Ensemble members engage in the creation of new works, the study and preservation of tap history and repertoire, and the development of improvisational skills. We work with live musicians, perform in both community and full-length concert settings, and collaborate with guest artists, tap masters, body percussionists, movement specialists, and musicians from around the world.

Additional travel opportunities allow dancers to deepen their technical training and performance experience, further expanding their connection to the global tap community.



Leon Collins' Routine 2

Tri-Tone Rhythm Ensemble;
Advanced Division
Choreographer: Leon Collins
c/o Dianne Walker,
staged by Tasha Lawson
Music: Oscar Peterson

Diablo Rojo

Tri-Tone Rhythm Ensemble;
Intermediate Division
Choreographer: Tasha Lawson
Music: Rodrigo y Gabriela

Echoes Of The Dance

Creative Expressions
Dancers: Claire Best, Lucy
Hillson, Kayla Kingshott
Choreographer: Connor
Denison
Music: Tacit

Connect

Boundless Dance Studios
Dancer: Kai Nahorniak
Choreographer: Laura
Donaldson
Music: Vampire Weekend

Dose

Collective Studios
Dancers: Alex Campbell,
Catherine Duffy, Claire
Fischer, Amanda Kostur, Taylor
Raby, Dayne Riche, Laura
Shepherd, Anastasia
Symchych
Choreographer: Jaimie Kopeck
Music: Teddy Swims

Fast Car

Tricia Hatch School of Dance
Dancer: Blair Hatch, Drew Hatch,
Reese Hatch
Choreographer: Tricia Hatch
Music: Tracy Chapman

Scrapple from the Apple

Dancers: Avery Bais & Baylee Bais
Choreographer: Tasha Lawson
Music: Scrapple From The Apple

Thats Life

Dance Spectrum
Dancer: Adam Burns
Choreographer: Francine Adriano
Music: Frank Sinatra

Cry Your Heart Out

Boundless Dance Studios
Dancer: Lucy Butcher, Jahniya
Campbell, Hailey Fearn, London
Gacek, Madison Howe, Jasmine
Klassen, Gabrielle Klimpke,
Sydney Kozlik, Abby Mcvagh, Kai
Nahorniak, Cara Noppen,
William Picard, Kaylee Sharp,
Hannah Wock
Choreographer: Laura Donaldson
Music: Adele

Truckin'

Snap Dance Studios
Dancers: Nalah Conti &
Beatrice Gauthier
Choreographer: Connor Denison
Music: Fats Waller

ACT 1

Overdrive

Dancefusion Academy of Dance

Dancers: Madelyne Coughlan, Rielle Gagnon Gorman, Jenna Healy, Halle Livingston, Trystan McGowan, Joshua Pohl, Bree Sirockman

Choreographer: Jeff Gatti

Music: I Believe in a Thing Called Love - The Darkness

Leon Collins 3 - Remix

Tri-Tone Rhythm Ensemble; Intermediate Division

Choreographer: Leon Collins

Staging: Tasha Lawson

Music: Oscar Peterson

KAHN

Dancers: Tri-Tone Rhythm Ensemble & Reverb Tap Company Dancers; Bella Silva Colin Pickard, Emma Rose Barclay, Liz Doubrovsky, Mia Canosa-Carr, Riley Cooke, Riley Goodman, Tallulah Bingham

Choreography: All Steps by Stan Kahn; Arranged by Steve Zee; Originally Commissioned by Sound Effects, Artistic Director Christy Hernandez; Re-Commissioned by Reverb Tap Company, Artistic Direction and Staged by Leah Silva.

INTERMISSION

15 Minutes



Tap & Percussive Arts Summer Intensive

Tap - Body Percussion - Drumming
Collaboration - Composition - History

Special Guest: Nicholas Young (NYC)

July 18 - 21, 2025

Early Bird Deadline June 01, 2025



tashalawson.com

Bill's Bounce

Tri-Tone Rhythm Ensemble;
Advanced Division
Choreographer: Tasha Lawson
Music: The Bill Elliot Orchestra
Special thanks to Thys Armstrong

Reverb Tap Company

An Excerpt from the Reverb Tap Company full-length show,
"The Space Between"
Arrangement/Artistic Direction: Leah Silva
Voiceover: Lee Howard
Improv Artist: Bella Silva

In Seven

Choreographer: Tre Dumas
Staging: Leah Silva
Composer: Dave Brubeck
Dancers: Andrea Tylman, Audrey Terraneau, Bella Silva, Colin
Pickard, Emma Rose Barclay, Paige Caveney, Tallulah Bingham

Take 5

Choreographer: Karissa Royster
Composer: Dave Brubeck
Dancers: Bella Silva, Liz Doubrovsky, Mia Canosa-Carr,
Riley Cooke, Riley Goodman
Additional Notes: With improv by the dancers

Cloud 9

Choreographer: Sean Kaminski
Composer: Dave Brubeck
Dancers: Bella Silva, Emma Rose Barclay, Liz Doubrovsky,
Riley Cooke, Riley Goodman

BP

Choreographer: Chris Rutledge
Staging: Leah Silva
Dancers: Andrea Tylman, Audrey Terraneau, Bella Silva, Colin
Pickard, Emma Rose Barclay, Liz Doubrovsky, Mia Canosa-Carr,
Paige Caveney, Riley Cooke, Riley Goodman, Tallulah Bingham

Echoes of Eddie

Premiere: Third Coast Rhythm Project, San Antonio, TX (2011)

Choreography: Eddie Brown's Chorus'

Transcribed to Body Percussion: Tasha Lawson

Dancers: Tri-Tone Rhythm Ensemble; Advanced & Reverb Tap

Company Dancers; Bella Silva, Colin Pickard, Emma Rose

Barclay, Liz Doubrovsky, Mia Canosa-Carr, Riley Cooke,

Riley Goodman, Tallulah Bingham

Music: Kodi Hutchinson & Johanna Sillanpaa

Echoes of Eddie is a tribute to Tap Master Eddie Brown.

Excursions

Choreographer: Jeffrey Dawson

Music: A Tribe Called Quest

Dancers: Jeffrey Dawson, Jordyn Lemire

Speed Law

Choreographer: Jeffrey Dawson

Music: Mos Def

Dancers: Jeffrey Dawson, Jordyn Lemire,

Connor Denison, Emma Ritchie, Mary Thomas

My 1st Song

Choreographer: Jeffrey Dawson

Music: Jay-Z

Dancers: Jeffrey Dawson, Jordyn Lemire,

Connor Denison, Emma Ritchie, Mary Thomas

Inside Out/ Outside In (The Grid)

Choreographer: Tasha Lawson, LPDA Dancers

Music: Mickey Hart (feat. Zakir Hussain)

Dancers: Tri-Tone Rhythm Ensemble-Advanced

**Premiered in 2022 with Lawson Percussive Dance Arts Company and an original cast of six artists. Now expanded to twelve performers, the work unfolds as a mirror image of itself. Special thanks to Luke Stanich, Emma Ritchie, and Brooke Floyd for their support in the re-mount. Stage one of this work was supported in part by CADA (2022).*

Shim Sham - Full Cast

Choreography: Leonard Reed & Willie Bryant

Music: Sam Webber; Falling In Love with Love

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING OUR TAP DAY WORKSHOPS

Tap Day Workshops

Faculty

Tasha Lawson

Leah Silva

Mary Thomas

Jeffrey Dawson

Connor Denison

Emma Ritchie

Jordyn Lemire

Tri-Tone Productions Staff

Founder & Artistic Director

Tasha Lawson

Administrative Assistant

Aminata Traore

Teaching Staff

Tasha Lawson - Artistic Director

Emma Ritchie - Artistic Assistant

Francine Adriano - Teaching Assistant

Volunteer Assistant

Gerrilyn Vandekerkhove *Semester 1

Socia Media & Website

Alicia Molinski

Interns

Andie Clarke, Brooke Emery, Hannah Howitt,

Kai Nahorniak, Brianna Newman

Costumes

Teagan Bendig, Nova Bias

Michelle Hokanson, Ana Simic

Special Thanks

Thank you to all the volunteers
who helped streamline the weekend!

SUPPORTERS

Tap Day Workshop Scholarship Donors



Changing Times Tap
Jane Goldberg



Margie & Talia Derksen
Peggy Peat Memorial
Scholarship

Tap Day is made possible in part by

