

George Curtiss Randolph, Jr. is a pioneer in performing arts education. With over 35 years of experience in the arts and arts education, his name is synonymous with Triple Threat training in Canada. His legacy is currently represented by award-winning TV and film actors, producers, recording artists, directors, choreographers and musical theatre artists performing on stages and screens around the world. He has been honored as a leader in the arts by The Ontario Black History Society, Dance Immersion, Harbourfront Centre, Toronto Alliance for the Performing Arts' Barbara Hamilton Award for being an Ambassador for the Arts in Canada, and a Proclamation from Toronto Mayor John Tory. He also won a Canadian Screen Award (Best Biography or Arts Documentary Program or Series) as co-producer of *Unsung: Behind the Glee*.

Devoted to nurturing the careers of budding artists, George has leveraged his expertise to generate positive change in the arts community at large. In 2014, he was the sole arts representative in the delegation accompanying Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne in her first-ever Economic and Trade Development mission to Shanghai, China, where he launched talk to co-develop a Triple Threat arts education curriculum for elementary schools in Shanghai, China; he returned to China in 2015, this time to launch the development of a dance education curriculum. Prior to that, George was instrumental in establishing a recreational performing arts program for youth at the Stardust Academy in Amman, Jordan. Also in 2011, George co-founded Show Choir Canada, which produces Canada's only national show choir competition.

Currently, George is President of the Randolph Academy for the Performing Arts, which he founded in 1992. The academy was the first to offer Triple Threat® training to aspiring performers in Canada. Graduates have gone on directly to pursue master's degrees at the prestigious Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and the Guildford School of Acting. Alumni can be found on Broadway, West End, Shaw, Stratford, and Mirvish stages, and include Sergio Trujillo (choreographer, Tony Award-winning *Jersey Boys* and *Memphis*), Paul Nolan (Broadway's *Once, the Musical*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*), and Tara Young (former Artistic Director, Cirque du Soleil, *Michael Jackson THE IMMORTAL World Tour*).

From 1985 to 1992, George presided over the Randolph Dance Theatre, the leading professional dance studio in Canada. There, he developed an exceptional resident and guest dance faculty culled from local and international talent. His studio attracted world-class dancers as well as prominent choreographers in musical theatre, jazz, and hip-hop.

During this time, George also produced and directed four international dance extravaganzas, *The T.O. Hot Shoe Show*, at Toronto's O'Keefe Centre (now The Sony Centre). The shows featured prima ballerinas Karen Kain and Evelyn Hart; members of the New York City Ballet, The Bolshoi Ballet, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre, Desrosiers Dance Theatre, Toronto Dance Theatre, and the American Ballet Theatre under the direction of Mikhail Baryshnikov; and a finale choreographed by Tony Award winner Michael Peters (*Dreamgirls*, Michael Jackson's *Thriller* and *Beat It* videos).

George has choreographed numerous videos, commercials, and features, and has worked on film projects with George Clooney, Whoopi Goldberg, Norman Jewison, Forest Whitaker and Ossie Davis.

In 1984, George represented the U.S. as a Professor of Jazz at the world renowned Ecole Superieure de Dance Rosella Hightower (Cannes, France) and the Centre International de

Danse Jazz (Paris, France), and appeared as a guest soloist at Paris' famed Le Lido cabaret club.

George immigrated to Canada in 1980 as a principal dancer with Les Ballets Jazz de Montréal. He performed with the company for two years, touring four continents and working with Canada's most respected contemporary choreographers, including Brian Macdonald.

From 1977 to 1980, George was a principal dancer with the Alvin Ailey Repertory Ensemble, performing at New York's Carnegie Hall and City Center. He had the privilege of being coached by Alvin Ailey on the ballet *Hard Times Blues*, which Ailey also choreographed. George also worked with choreographer Talley Beatty, a protégé of modern dance innovator Katherine Dunham.

Born and raised in Red Bank, NJ, the home of Count Basie, George received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Hampton University, Hampton, VA, where he was a member of the Military Honor Society.