



KEVIN IEGA JEFF

SHORT BIOGRAPHY

Kevin Iega Jeff, acclaimed for his roles as a dancer, choreographer, and artistic leader, stands among the Juilliard School's 100 Outstanding Alumni, an honor he shares with icons like Viola Davis and Aretha Franklin. His influence extends to Chicago, where he's recognized by Newcity magazine and serves on the city's Cultural Advisory Council by appointment from Mayor Lori Lightfoot.

Iega's career highlights include performances in Broadway's "The Wiz," the 1994 Academy Awards, and choreography for Spike Lee's "She's Gotta Have It." With a portfolio of over fifty works, his talent is sought after by top companies worldwide.

Deeply committed to community engagement, Iega has contributed to international initiatives like Grit & Grace and Swamp Gravy, and educated across diverse institutions, from Howard University to the University of Kwazulu-Natal in South Africa.

A New York native, Iega's journey in dance began at The Bernice Johnson Cultural Arts Center, leading to the foundation of *JUBILATION!* Dance Company and later, Chicago's Deeply Rooted Dance Theater in 1995. Transitioning to an Emeritus role in 2022 after 24 years, he continues to impact the arts with projects like Creative Communities and GOSHEN.

Iega's work is a quest to explore truths and narratives through art, aiming to challenge historical inaccuracies and promote understanding and healing. His legacy is defined by efforts to dismantle racism, celebrate identity, and foster spaces for innovation and joy, aspiring to leave a lasting impact that celebrates human connection and artistic expression.