

## YCI Letter

YCI was meaningful to me because it shifted my aim in studying dance from mastering a technique to a pursuit of communication and expression to the utmost — a physical research through which one ultimately truly achieves the high level of knowledge of physiology and sensation which techniques steward. As a young dancer having the resources offered by YCI to conduct this research for myself gave me organizational and communicative skills to mobilize and give and receive constructive feedback which I've used in all other areas of my studies, and which pushed me to a level of professionalism which would have been difficult for me to find elsewhere.

YCI came out of our desire as young dancers to have more license to express ourselves through movement. At its core, YCI is a student-driven creation; it's our dream. Being part of YCI isn't an opportunity like your other classes to learn from a teacher who you'd like to emulate. You can emulate anyone you want across all time! This is your opportunity to find out how you want to be yourself, to pursue what you find interesting, beautiful, frightening, or problematic, understand why? and share that research with people you care about. While YCI might seem like something you could do outside of class, in my experience it's much harder to understand who you are alone. It helps to have other people being your mirrors—helpful, supportive, loving mirrors—and distance from your home and everyday life as you ask yourself, What is my dream?

Laura Coe



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