



**UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT GREENSBORO  
REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF NAMING PROPOSAL**

**PROPOSED NAME:**

Jan Van Dyke Courtyard

**DESCRIPTION OF THE FACILITY OR UNIT TO BE NAMED:**

The UNCG School of Dance, in coordination with Dean Peter Alexander and University Advancement, propose to name a small, interior courtyard off the Coleman Building dance studio in memory of Professor Emerita Jan Van Dyke.

**MEMORIAL INFORMATION:**

Professor Emerita Jan Van Dyke, who passed away in 2015, was a renowned choreographer, dance educator and scholar with a national and international reputation. She was also a visionary who established multiple institutions that support emerging and established choreographers at UNCG and in North Carolina.

Jan Van Dyke started the Dance Project in 1974 in Washington, D.C. and moved the project to North Carolina in 1989. While she was a professor of Dance at UNCG Van Dyke earned an Ed.D. in curriculum and educational foundations. She taught in the School of Dance for twenty-three years also serving as the Head of the program from 2006 to 2011.

The three major components of the Dance Project - Jan Van Dyke Dance Company, the School at City Arts, and the North Carolina Dance Festival - continue to work together to support dance training and performance in the Triad. The North Carolina Dance Festival seeks to build the state dance community by annually presenting choreographers from across North Carolina. Each performance venue site produces concerts over the course of a weekend supplemented by an array of outreach activities in public schools, museums, libraries and community centers. In 2007, the Dance Project took over management of the City Arts dance program in the Cultural Arts Center in downtown Greensboro. The school offers a variety of dance classes for children and adults and has also expanded their mission to provide rehearsal space grants to choreographers.

These activities, in addition to the Jan Van Dyke Dance Company, have encouraged graduates from the UNCG School of Dance programs to remain in the Triad to add their unique choreographic voices to the vital and growing Greensboro arts scene.

The School of Dance held a fundraiser in February 2018, to cover landscaping costs for the courtyard. It raised \$7,000, enough to pay for design, materials and labor. Although the school would like to try and secure additional funds for future improvements, at this time we feel that it is imperative that the space be finished to the point that it is usable by dance students and faculty. This will make the recently-renovated dance facility even more attractive and such will have positive community and student recruiting outcomes.

**PURPOSE:**

We would like to offer dance students a quiet and intimate green space to enjoy lunch and some fresh air. Knowing dancers, we would not be surprised if some enterprising young choreographers create site-specific choreography or find a way to show their dance films, which seems very appropriate in light of Jan’s commitment to supporting the next generation of choreographers.

**RATIONALE FOR NAMING PROPOSAL (DONOR ACHIEVEMENTS/DONOR RELATIONSHIP WITH UNCG:**

In light of the accolades noted above, the UNCG School of Dance faculty, staff and students wish to honor Jan Van Dyke by naming the courtyard to memorialize her outstanding contributions to dance at UNCG and across the state.

After consulting with Dean Peter Alexander and our colleagues at University Advancement, we are not planning to pursue a naming gift for the small courtyard. This courtyard is only accessible to dance students and not in a public area.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal

Janet Lilly, Professor  
Name of Nominator (*please print*)


Director of UNCG School of Dance  
Title of Nominator



\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Nominator

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date 11.9.18

I certify that this naming proposal and any accompanying agreement(s) comply with UNCG and UNC Board of Governors’ policies.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Beth Fischer  
Vice Chancellor for University Advancement

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date 11.12.18

\_\_\_\_\_  
Betsy Oakley, Chairperson, Advancement  
Committee Board of Trustees

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

- APPROVED**
- NOT APPROVED**

*If not recommended for approval, please include the rationale for the Advancement Committee’s decision.*