Kuchipudi Fundamentals: 6 Wk Workshop Curriculum

1.The Dancer	**Nritta** *pure dance*
1.Basic Vocabulary of Kuchipudi *Mudras, Jatis, & Talam* • Introductions & Warm-Up • Learn first 4 steps with mudras and footwork • Observe how steps layer into larger jatis • Learn Adi Talam and common rhythmic endings	*Tues* *Mar 31st* *7:00-8:30pm*
2.Articulating the Body *Sharp vs Graceful & the Strength Required* • Warm-Up • Discuss Body Conditioning and Joint Safety • Learn first jati • Practice playing with speeds and articulation	*Tues* *Apr 7th* *7:00-8:30pm*
2.The Character	**Natya** *expressive dance*
3.Character Building & Archetypes *Gender Expression, Mythology, & Quirks* • Discuss the origins, mythology, and rasas • Observe a demonstration of abhinaya • Learn a small episode (story) • Perform episode, provide and receive feedback, and discuss how playing with gender and/or understanding mythology can help create better character expression through abhinaya	*Tues* *Apr 14th* *7:00-8:30pm*

4.World Building *Creating Context Through Consistency* • Observe a longer episode demonstration • Identify the props and setting of the scene, and discuss how placement, repetition, and articulation build the world without actual physical props or setting • Learn episode from demonstration • Practice, perform, receive feedback, and reiterate	*Tues* *Apr 21st* *7:00-8:30pm*
3.The Narrator	**Nritya** *dramatic storytelling*
5.Fluidity in Thought & Motion *Storytelling & Learning Out of Necessity* • Discuss the importance of enjoying the learning process, building muscle memory, and the patience required to "learn out of necessity" • Discuss how to balance evolving traditions while paying respect to their roots • Practice choreographing to 30 secs of a song of choice • Perform choreography, share feedback, and reflect	*Tues* *May 5th* *7:00-8:30pm*
6.Authenticity, Presence, & Improvisation *Emotional Honesty Over Performance* • Discuss the difference between performing and experiencing emotion and whether it is noticeable • Discuss emotional honesty in performance as an extension of self-honesty in general life • Perform either your own choreo or the episode we learned, focusing on experiencing the story instead of performing it • Parting thoughts and reflections	