

Alumni Network

KATRENA COHEA "15"



Area of Focus: Dance

Describe your career, especially what you are doing now:

I'm completing a fellowship with CounterPulse in San Francisco and working on building an independent teaching network. I'll be teaching in community centers around the North Bay, and possibly returning to San Francisco Conservatory of Dance (where I trained for several years) to teach for their children's program.

How has your Cal State experience helped your career?

The Dance Faculty at CSUEB helped me build on my past experience as a professional dancer to become a better choreographer, dancer, and teacher. They helped me realize that there are many avenues open to me that can use my skills and expertise, and that I have a strong set of skills to offer both myself and any employer. It was difficult to come back to school as an adult, but EB supported both my past and my future, and made me feel at home, safe, but challenged, and respected while I finished my degree and explored what might come next.

If friends or family are important to your life's story, say so here:

My family was a great support to me while I took on large class loads, a 2 hour commute, and balanced it all with part-time work. I can't thank them enough, and especially my boyfriend, for their support and love over the past 2 years.

Your best advice for students:

Try everything! Try even the things you think you have no interest in, and especially the things that scare you. If you do, and use the professors, staff, and classmates at EB, you'll grow in ways you never imagined.