

*i*DANCE

MAGAZINE



**Shmya
Tolbert**

Issue 10 2020 \$24.99



ISSN 2371-2996

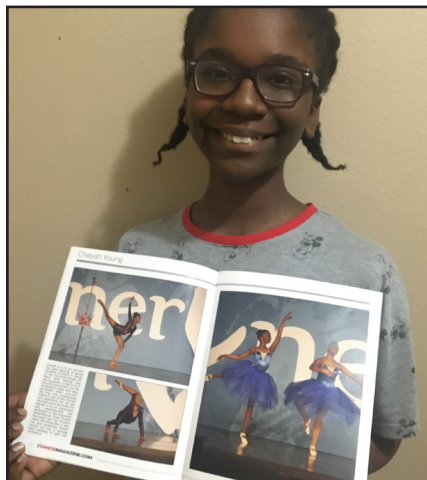
Mission Statement

Our Mission is to Promote Self-Esteem and Recognition to All Talents with Equal Opportunity and without any Discrimination

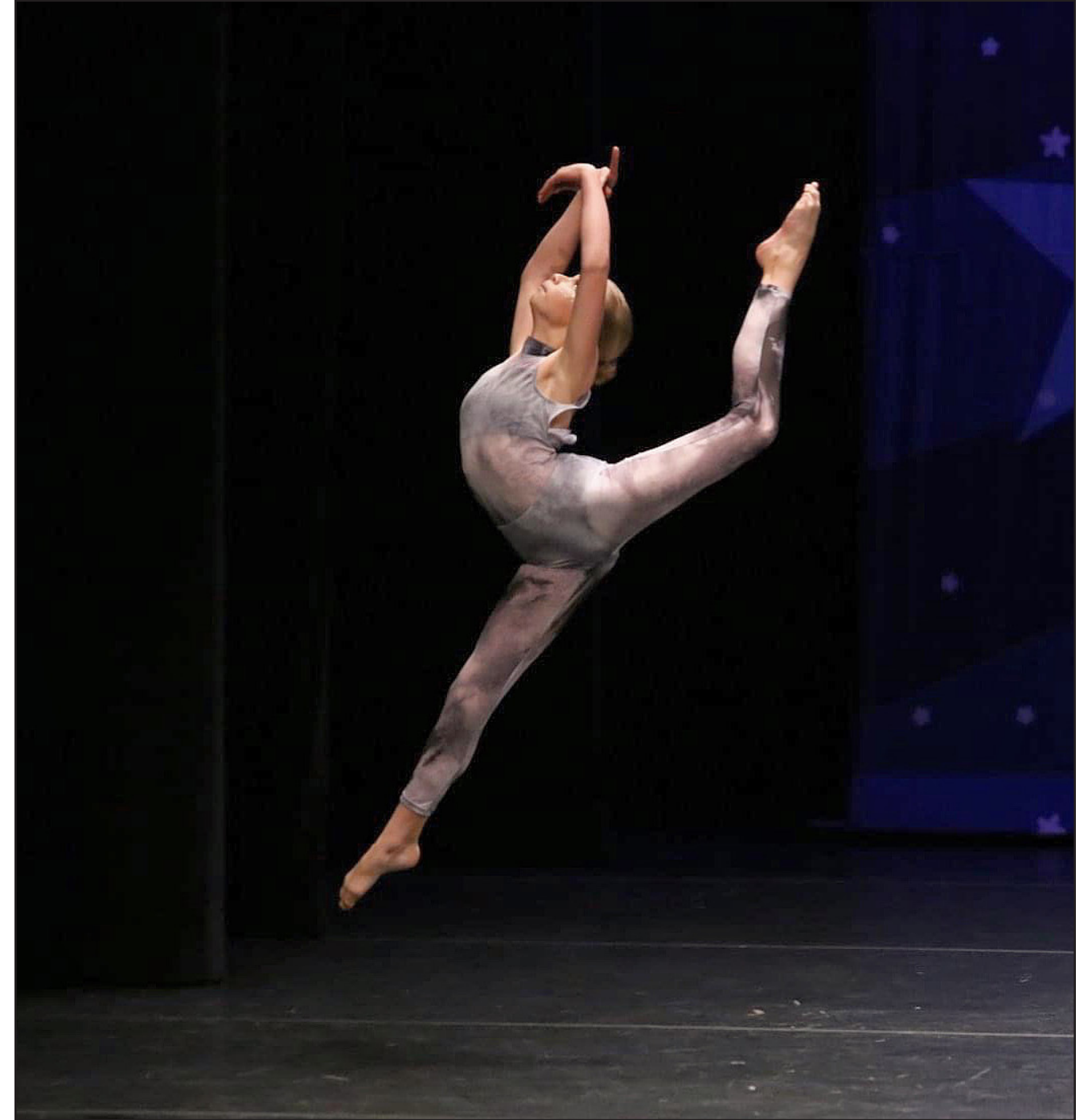
OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Our Mandate is to treat all Talents of all ages, gender, level of ability and expertise equally

PROMOTING SELF-ESTEEM & RECOGNITION



ISSN 2371-2996 COPYRIGHT 2015 TALENT MEDIA PUBLISHING NO PART OF THIS PUBLICATION MAY BE REPRODUCED WITHOUT THE EXPRESS WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE PUBLISHER. PUBLISHER: TALENT MEDIA PUBLISHING INC. EDITOR: FADEL CHIDIAC PRODUCTION: ROBERT BOULANGER PRINTING: DE FEUILLES EN FEUILLES. INC. SUBMISSIONS & ADVERTISING: WWW.SUBMIT.PHOTOS WEBSITES: IDANCEMAGAZINE.COM PHONE: (438) 522-2255 NOTICE TO READERS: ALL PHOTOS PUBLISHED IN THIS MAGAZINE HAVE BEEN VOLUNTARELY SUBMITTED BY THE DANCERS, THEIR GUARDIANS OR PHOTOGRAPHERS THEMSELVES OR THEIR RESPECTIVE COPYRIGHT OWNERS UNDER A PUBLISHING RELEASE AGREEMENT AUTHORIZING THEIR PUBLICATIONS. PRINTED IN CANADA



Ally is 11, and enjoys school and dance. She recently graduated 5th grade with the Presidents award for her grades. When not in school, she can be found at the

studio. She enjoys being in stage and is a competitive dancer, earning awards from mentorship programs for her positive & kind nature, to helping to earn the

sportsmanship award with her team. Her aspiration is to become a Veterinarian when she grows up, and continue dancing as long as she can.

Alyssa Foglia



Hello, my name is Alyssa, I live in West Palm Beach, FL and I have been dancing for 13 years. Growing up my passion for dance has only grown and gotten stronger. I have attended various art schools, competitions, and conventions within my thirteen years. I have trained in the styles

ballet, modern, jazz, contemporary, and hip-hop. My goal is to be a part of a contemporary dance company when I am older.

Achievements: I am a part of the Dreyfoos School of the Arts Dance Program in West Palm Beach, FL. This

is a strong program of many diverse dancers. The curriculum gives every dancer a strong foundation while pushing them to succeed.

Instagram: @dreyfoosdance

Photographer: Deone Wolin



Amelia Lisowe



Nine year old Amelia Lisowe's mother jokes that she has been dancing since she was in the womb. Even as a baby her legs were never still. She stepped into her first dance studio class at age 2. At age 5 she joined the Arkansas Dance Center Company team, and hasn't looked back since.

As a company member Amelia has won more awards than fit on a wall. She even has a shelf in her room to hold her title tiaras. She is the

reigning 8 and under Starpower national champion soloist (for another 3 weeks anyway). But her favorite part of being on the team are the relationships that she has formed. She has built in big sisters and has become a mentor to several of the younger girls. It is nothing for my phone to ring a dozen times a day with calls from her team members.

Her favorite genre of dance is musical theater, which is fitting

because she has the biggest personality on and off stage. In December of 2019 she was able to take the love for her favorite genre onto a different stage when she played Susan Walker in the Royal Theatre's production of Miracle on 34th Street. She was also cast in her first professional dance show at a local dinner theatre, but unfortunately that production was over before it started due to Covid19.

One thing that has kept Amelia grounded during the Covid19 crisis has been dance. She has loved getting to take master classes from people like Twitch and Travis Wall from her living room. She has danced with the Rockettes and cast members of Disney Broadway shows. One of her weaknesses has been learning choreography quickly, so taking these types of classes from home has allowed her to improve that skillset. That will come in handy in the not too distant future

when she auditions to be a member of the Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders. She has attended their camps for the past two summers and was looking forward to attending again this summer, but camps were unfortunately cancelled due to Covid19.

Outside of dance and theatre, Amelia started her own non-profit last year at age 8. Lisowe's Lights provides night lights to foster children all over America.



Amelia McReynolds



Amelia has overcome so much in her time of dancing. She is 14 years old and fell in love with dance at the age of 8. She quickly went from just one class a week to 18 hours of dance a week in just a year and a half.

She has experienced some difficulties along the way. In 2018 she injured herself which resulted in a series of breaks in her foot. She broke her 5th metatarsal 3 times. It was a difficult recovery but she stayed positive through the entire process. In 2019 she injured her SI Joint and it pulled her out of dance

completely for the next 8 months. She worked on healing with Pilates, physical therapy, massage therapy and chiropractic therapy. She never lost her desire to be back in the studio. Her heart was broken but her spirit was positive and joyful. She has made a complete recovery and has started dancing again. She runs 2 miles daily, works on core strengthening, endurance and flexibility everyday. She enjoys listening to motivational speeches to get her mind in full gear. She eats healthy and truly believes that she can fuel her body from the inside

out to be as strong as possible. She will never take for granted her ability to do what she loves. Her joyful spirit and love for dance shine through to everyone she meets.

Achievements: Amelia has danced at a 3 studios in the last 8 years. Each one enriching her in different ways. As she has come out of recovery she hasn't danced at a studio in a year. We will find what's right for her.

Credits: Photographer: Amelia's mom took these photos.

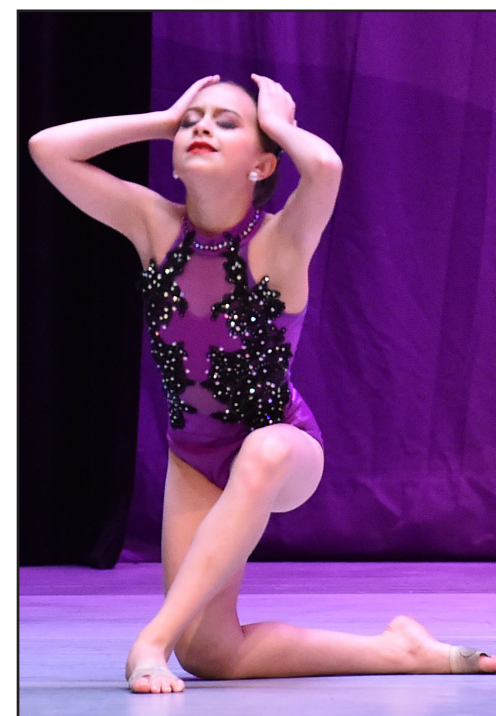


Ariana Monique Ramos



My name is Ariana Monique Ramos and I am 11 yrs old. I live in Brownsville, Texas and I am in 6th grade. I have been dancing for almost 4 years. I am the third of four sisters. I live with my mom and dad. Music and dance have always been my passion. I have done voice, piano, and dance recitals since I was 3 years old. I've participated in school talent shows and a few friendly gymnastics competitions. I have always been a very happy person and not shy of being on stage nor behind a camera. I am currently a dancer at my middle school dance team and look forward to continue being a dancer through my middle school years and also my high school years. I am also a member of my middle school choir group. I currently attend a dance studio where I am also a member of their competition dance team. I look forward into attending future dance competitions. Music and dance have always been a part of who I am.

Achievements: I have learned a lot from all of my teachers and I know I have a lot more to learn. I am very blessed that my family makes sacrifices for me to be able to do what I love and I thank them for that.



Audri Violet



Audri Violet 7 years old, Audri is a 1st grader at Jefferson Elementary in Shadyside, Ohio! Audri is a member of the Turn It Out Dancey academy where she is a member of the competition team! Audri has performed with TIO for 2 years and has competed in group dances and a solo! Mother Bridget violet



Bridie Clark

Bridie started her dance training in Melbourne, Australia in 1998. In 2008 Bridie was the youngest student to be accepted into the National Theatre Ballet School 3 year Advanced Diploma Fulltime course at the age of 15. After graduating in 2010 Bridie hung up her pointe shoes and took up Musical Theater, performing in various productions in Australia such as 42nd Street, Cats, The King and I and Sweeney Todd. In 2014 dream came true winning

a scholarship to study in New York City to follow her dream of performing in a Broadway show. Her dream came true thanks to Sue Samuels' Jazz Roots Dance Company who perform at multiple venues in New York City and promoted her to Principal Dancer and Senior Artist in 2018. Bridie also performed as leading soloist for the Colombian Dance Company of New York. Bridie still performs in Shows and enjoys teaching and

coaching dancers from all walks of life from recreational to coaching competition dancers for competitions like YAGP and Prix de Lausanne. "I believe in sharing my experiences with the next generation, so they can learn from what I had to teach myself at 15 when I first started in the industry and still learn today. If you have the knowledge you should share it."





Brittany knew from a young age that she was destined to be a dancer, she danced competitively for most of her life before concentrating on ballet her sophomore year of high school up until graduation. She then was accepted to the University of the Arts on an artistic scholarship. During her time at

UArts she was blessed to work with great choreographers such as Netta Yerushalmy, Mark Morris/Elisa Clark, Jesse Zaritt, Sidra Bell, and many more. After graduation she was performing in Philadelphia's Fringe Festival then worked with Philadelphia companies such as Roger Lee Dance Company and

most recently Klassic Contemporary Ballet Company. Brittany also is a certified Personal Trainer looking to work with fellow dancers in order to give them a life long healthy career. Right now she is navigating life post graduation while trying to put down roots in the Philadelphia art and fitness scene.



© 2020
Impressions.life



Callie has been dancing since the age of two, starting with ballet. She had the opportunity to dance in the nutcracker 4 times and loved every minute of it. Callie has always been happiest while dancing and that really shows. She started on the competition team after just a few years of ballet, jazz, and tumbling. She went on to win multiple first place overalls, and titles. Her

goal in life is to be able to be on Broadway one day, as she also enjoys singing and acting. Callie has had the opportunity to act and sing with her school drama club and fell in love with theater. Callie really wants to be able to inspire other dancers with her love for dance.

Allison Lemasters and Competition Photographers





Kylie is 12 years old and has been dancing since she's 2. She is a contemporary lyrical dancer but has studied all genres. Kylie has been competing for 6 years. She performed in the nutcracker with the space coast ballet company.

She also has been accepted into the Next Generation ballet and Beach ballet intensive programs. She has also won best dancer at nuvo and has attended dance awards.

Kylie's would love to be a

professional dancer but would like to attend a dance college first.

Achievements: Kylie dancer for Dance by Holly Rock and Pivotal Moments Dance Company.
Credits: Photographer: nuvo





Emerson, or as she's known by friends Emy, is a 16 year old sophomore in high school. But she finds herself most at home at Hawkins school of Performing Arts training with her dance family dancing on the Hawkins Contemporary Jazz Pre-Professional dance company (Director: Jacob Gutierrez Montoya) Emy has been dancing for 13 years in all genres but her passion lies in contemporary. She spent years in the musical theater field before focusing her energy. She was also a member of the Hawkins Contemporary and Classical Ballet Company (Director: Deirdre Hawkins) as an apprentice 2.

2019 Grand Champions at the International Choreography Festival in Palm Desert

2017 Fluid convention Full Scholarship Recipient

2016 ASH Judges Entertainment

pick for her solo Daydream.

Emerson is also a trainee on the Sacramento Contemporary Dance Theater (director: Jacob Gutierrez Montoya), a non-profit dance company raising funds for various philanthropic organization, such as the UCD Comprehensive Cancer Center, LGBTQ Youth Advocacy for Mental Health, and the Mulvanee Organization for the Mental Health and Substance Abuse in the Hospitality Industry.

Emerson is looking forward to pursuing dance as well as her BS in nursing.

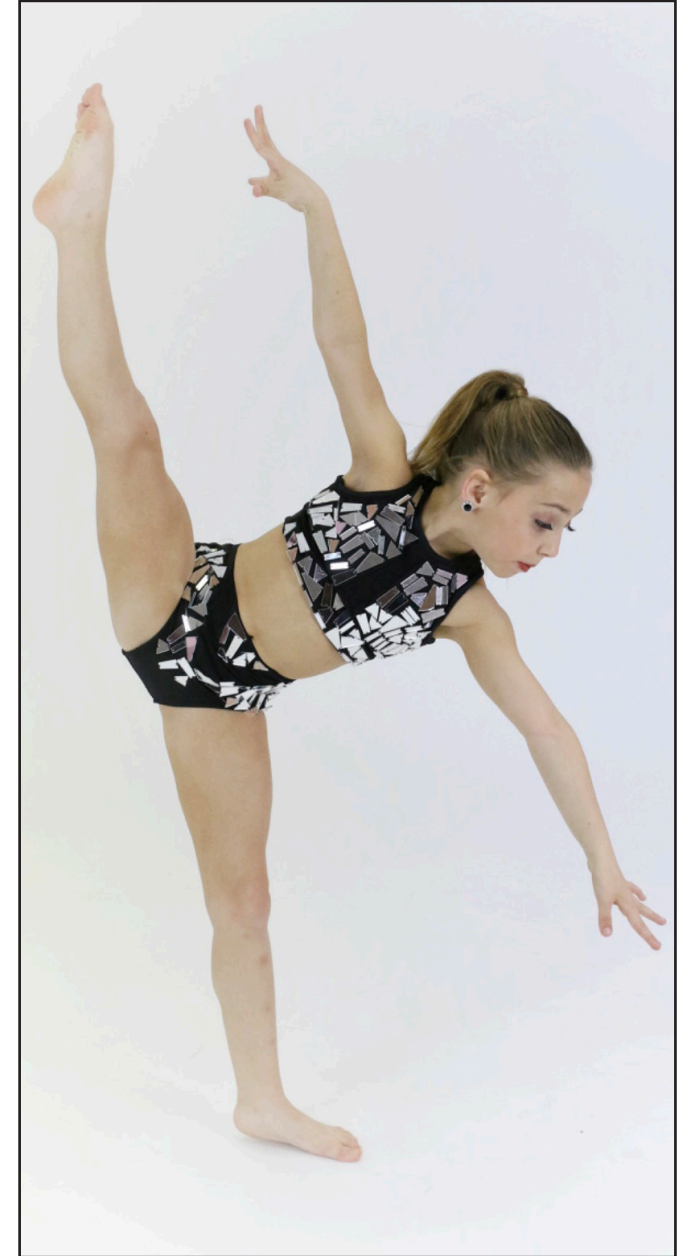
Achievements: Hawkins School of Performing Arts, founded by Deirdre Hawkins and her son tap dancer, Luke Hawkins, has been training dancers in the greater Sacramento area for more than 30 years! Founded in a small house and growing into a vast studio training in Jazz, Contemporary, Classical

Ballet, Hip Hop, Tao, Acro, Musical Theater, Stage Vocals and so much more. Many students go on to dance for major ballet/dance companies such as Joffrey and the Rockettes, several alumni are performing on Broadway or dancing in LA as well as a few dance for the NBA or NFL.

The Contemporary Jazz Company is the 3 time Grand Champions of the International Choreography festival in Palm Desert.

Hawkins SPA is also the home of The Sacramento Contemporary Dance Theater (SCDT) and non-profit raising funds for many charitable organizations.

More than winning awards and creating dancers that are marketable in the dance world, Hawkins turns out humans that are empathetic and caring. They are a dance family building life long bonds and creating many fond memories along the way.



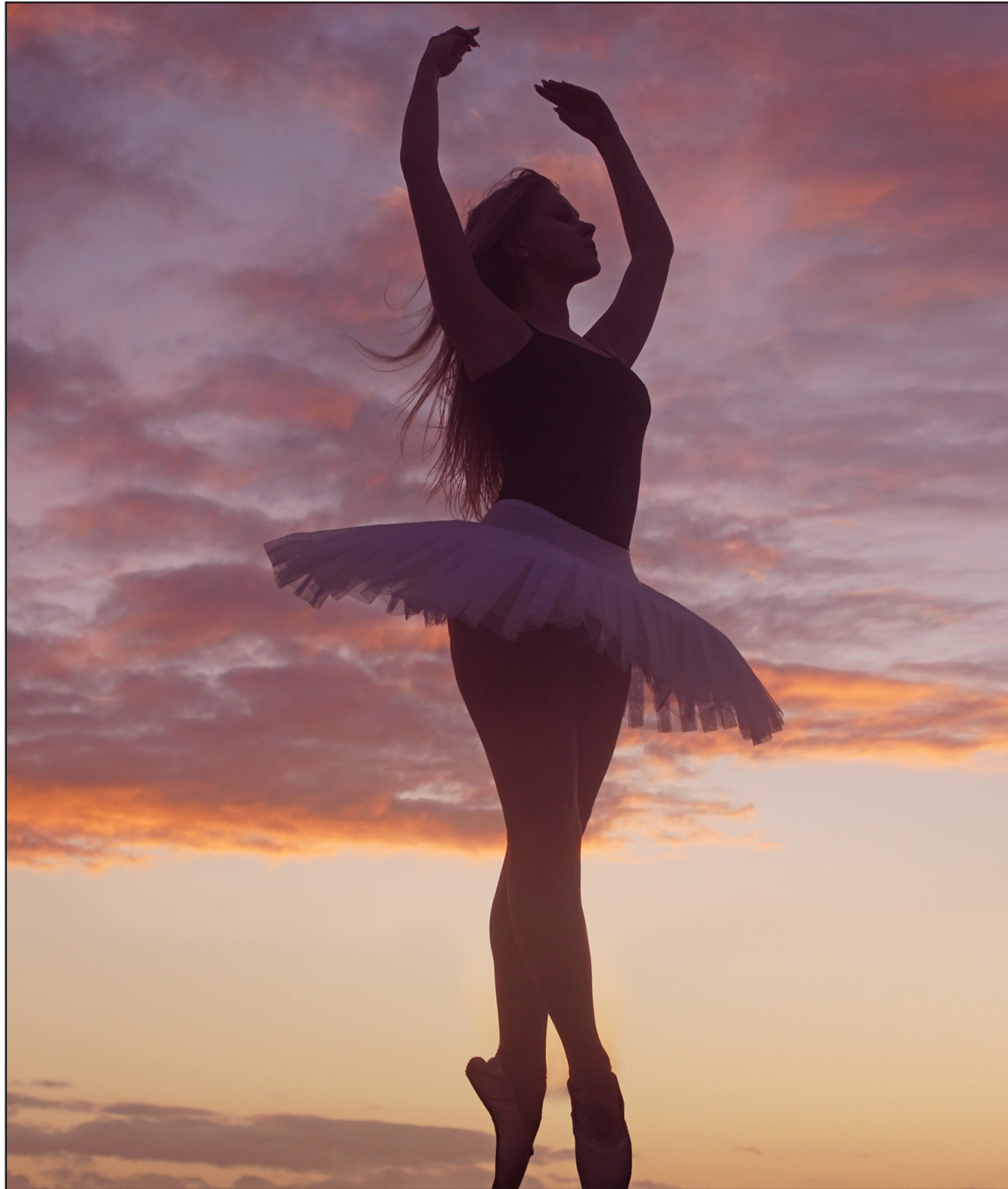
Fallon has been dancing since she was 3. She lives and breaths dance and spends 6 nights a week at dance and gymnastics. She has won a regional dance title and a national dance title along with several first place overall awards at many dance

competitions. She also has won 1st place photogenic in every contest she has entered. She was also in an eyeglass commercial. She is a beautiful girl both inside and out.

Achievements: Fallon dances

for Variations dance company. She is one of the lead dancers and also dances with older girls one to two age levels above her. They are truly a family and the girls all love to be together and cheer each other on. Photographer Tracy Williams

Gabrielle Hogan



I am a 19 year old college student who dreams of one day becoming a professional dancer. I am about to graduate with my AA degree in Business after being dual enrolled in high school for 2 years at the College of Central Florida. I attended Madison Street Academy for elementary school where I was introduced to the art of dance. I fell in love with the sport and knew that I wanted to do it for the rest of my life. Dance is my passion and I truly don't feel more myself than when I am in the movement. Dance lets me completely lose myself and find myself at the same time.

Achievements: I currently dance and teach at the Dance By Sheila studio in Ocala FL. I have been a student there for approximately 4 years and I have been a dance teacher there for going on 2 years, teaching modern and hip hop dance. The studio has been opened for 5 years and has successfully created an original annual Christmas show. Their website is dancebysheila.com

Daniel Bray Photography





Gianna is a soon to be 13 year old dedicated and beautiful dancer. She is an excellent student as she maintains honors throughout all semesters while balancing a strenuous dance schedule. She has been dancing since she was three years old and competitively dancing since she was nine. She loves all genres but her three favorites are contemporary, hip-hop and acro. She has done many dance photography shoots as well as was apart of a nonprofit performance troop for a

short while who raised money for students who can't afford the expenses of the arts but want to peruse it. She wants to peruse dance in her future and is a proud member of The Dancers Workshop in Wall, Nn and apart of their competition team, The Seacoast Dancer's. Please consider her as a model for you magazine as she is a role model to all young inspiring dancers as well as all young girls growing up in today.



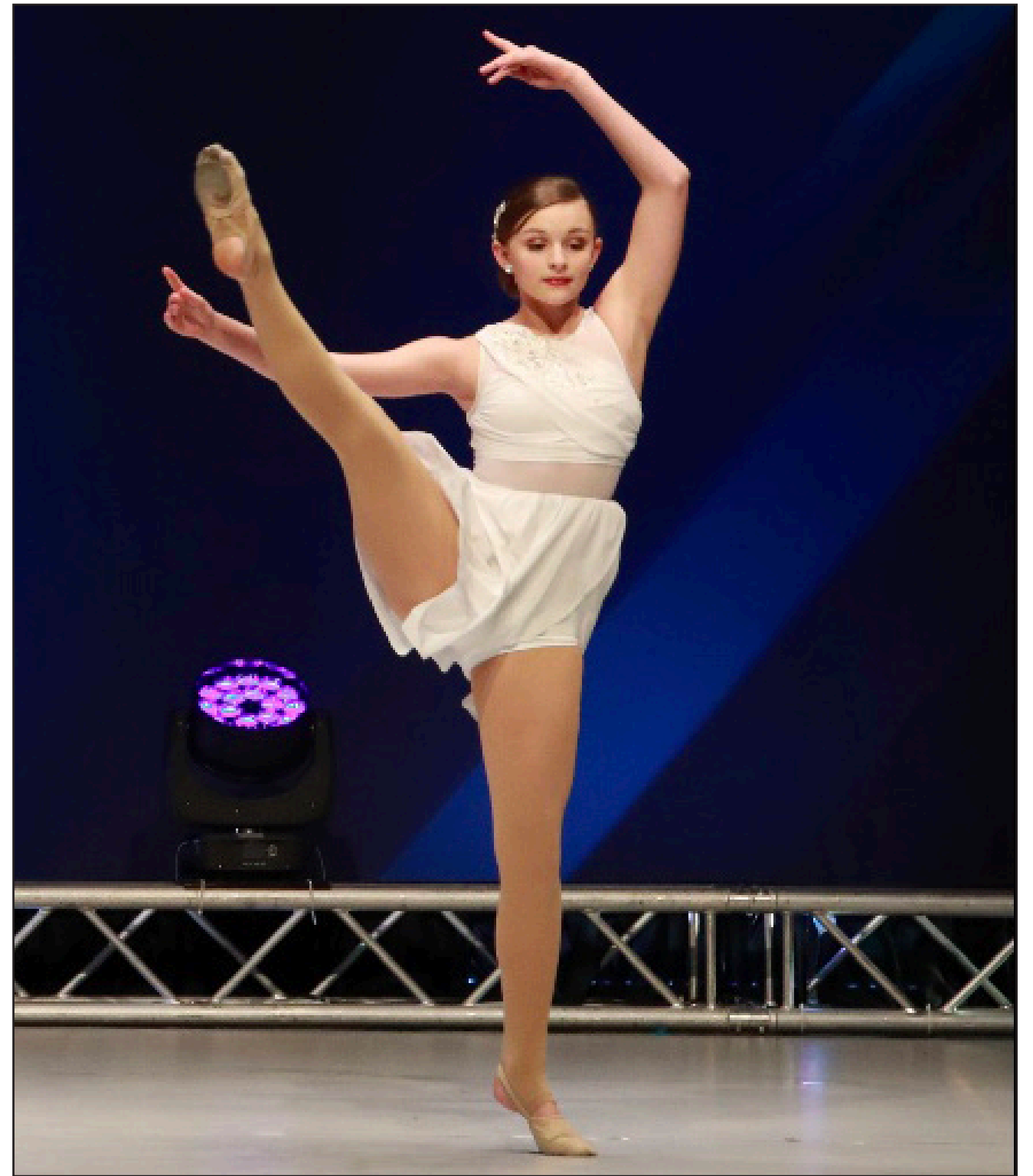
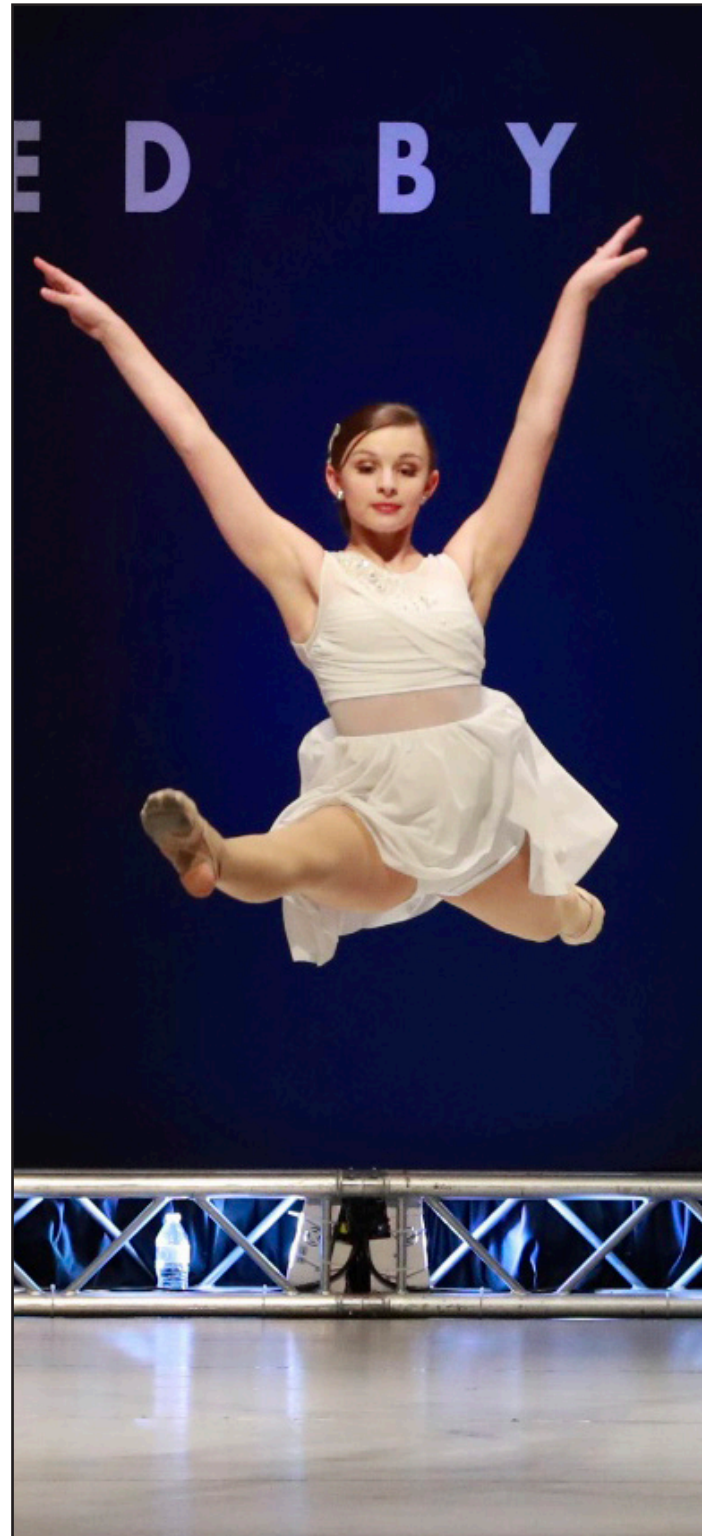
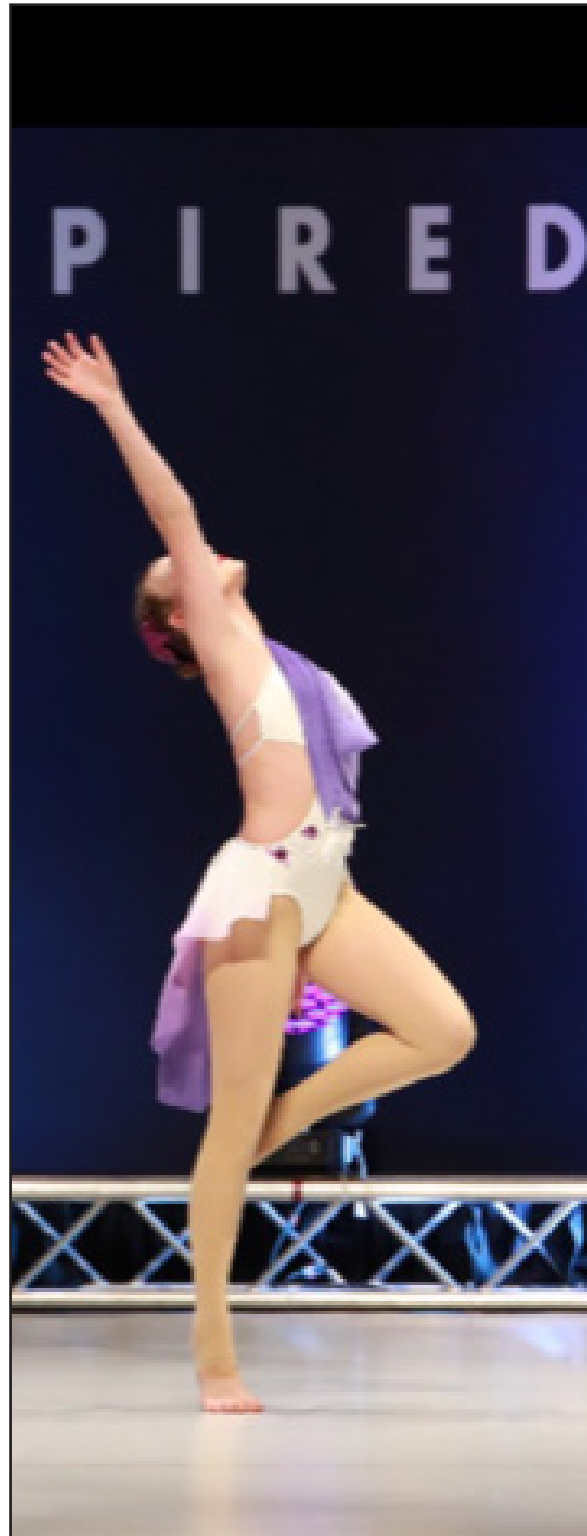
Grace is currently 14 years old and she has been dancing since she was 4. She has won many awards at regional, national, and worldwide competitions. Grace has also received scholarships to renowned dance schools around the country. Grace's dream is to become a professional dancer or a physical therapist/kinesiologist. Grace trains in ballet, contemporary, and Chinese dance mainly, but also has experience in jazz, musical theatre, lyrical, and many other styles. She has participated in the Spotlight Dance Cup National Elite Team for 4 years and won the regional Miss Spotlight title in San Diego as well as grand champion teen soloist. She has placed at Rainbow, KAR, Starquest, NYCDA, World of Dance Convention, Youth Ballet Masters and more. Grace attended the Bolshoi Ballet Academy Summer Intensive last year, which is one of the best ballet summer intensives for youth, and she recently won a full scholarship to the Tanzolymp international competition in Berlin. Fun fact: Grace is also an amazing baker and loves to cook up delicious desserts in her free time!

Elisis Photography





she has been dancing for 11 years. Is in a competitive dance team and does multiple conventions every couple months, constantly auditioning for scholarships. She devotes hours on top on hours to dancing. She's always moving her body. Wether that's at the studio or on our kitchen floor. She wouldn't give it away for the world.





Joie is such a great dancer and such a great person. At only 12 years old she has been dancing since she was three. She loves to dance and she loves to make people happy. She does all types of dance. Ballet, jazz, tap, lyrical, contemporary, and hip-hop. She's such a joy to watch on stage. She's in gifted classes at school already at only seventh grade. She dances for MPower Dance Company in Hamilton, Ohio.

12.9 Dance Photography





As the famous dancer and choreographer Debbie Allen once said "But out of limitations comes creativity". Since the age of three I have lived by that quote through my dance journey and have had the opportunity to learn from great instructors and mentors. The beginning of my training with the Harlem School of Arts opened the doors for me to expand my potential, having danced and cheered with Hampton University's Blue Thunder Cheerleading team as their mascot cheerleader. I am also a Junior All-Star dance team member for a professional football league as well. My dance talents have allowed me to participate in dance competitions such as Dream Dance Challenge, Star Talent, Fusion and Universal Dance Association (UDA), where I have won both solo and team competitive awards. I have also enjoyed attending conventions such as Titans of Dance where I trained in the different genres such as Ballroom, Contemporary, Hip Hop, Lyrical, and Musical Theater. As a two-time national dance champion for the genres of hip hop and jazz I have come to terms that dance is my love and passion. My dream would be to become a professional dancer as a career and I am working hard towards reaching my goal. I thank everyone who is helping me achieve it and supporting me along the way!

Allison Meyer @ally_day_photography





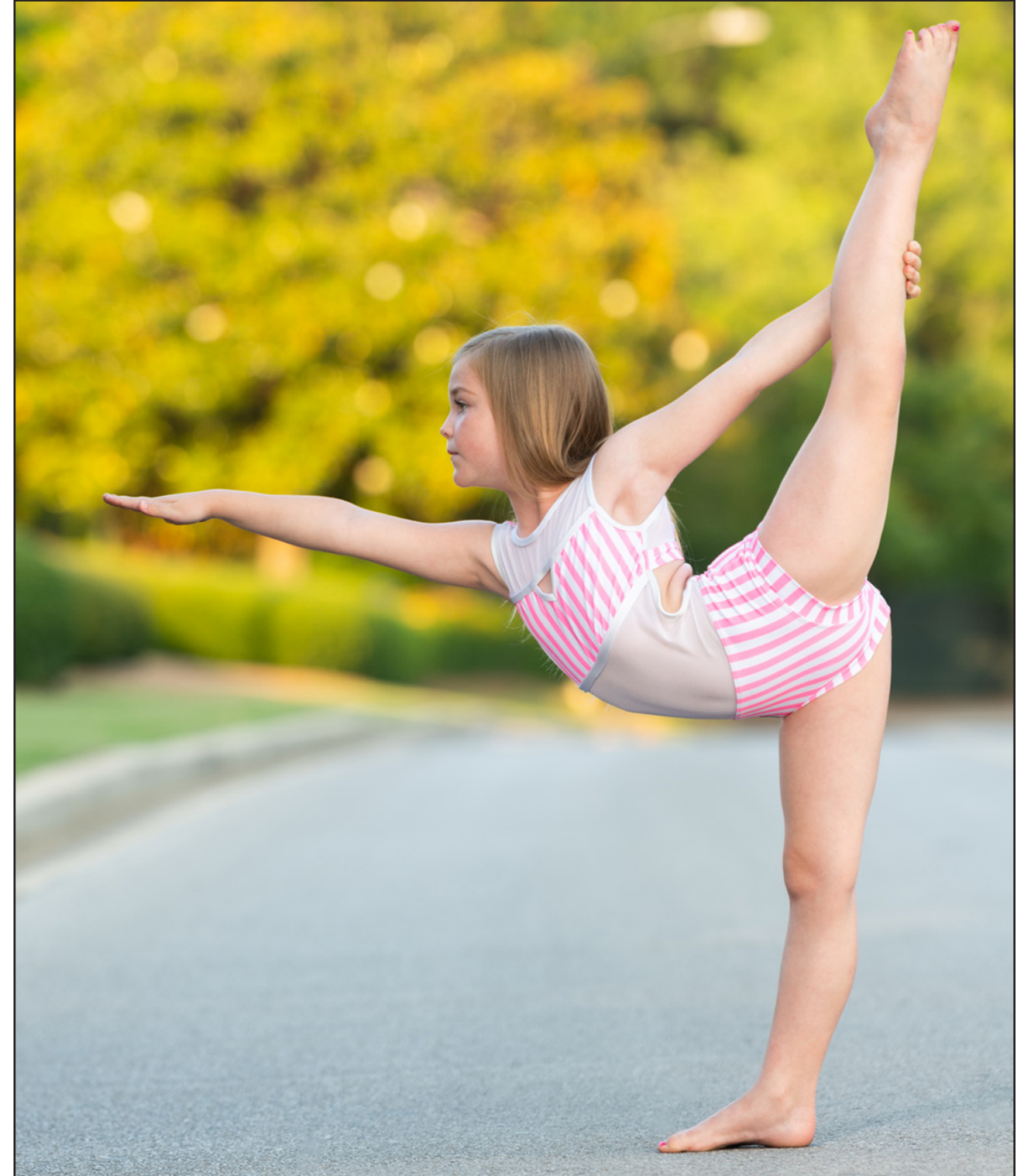
It would be my honor to introduce to you Miss Kinleigh Poe from Alabama. She trains in all forms of dance, and also started Cheerleading this year. She is known for her flexibility and her sassiness.

Kinleigh is just eight nine old, but her strong will only grows stronger on the dance floor. This past season Kinleigh brought home numerous titles, scholarships, and first overalls, but the moment she is most proud

of is being crowned Petite National Champion at Platinum Dance Competition with her contemporary solo "We'll Soon Be Found".

Her favorite quote is "Thanks to dance, I've stopped saying I can't do that, and started saying I will be able to do that, just give me time to practice."

Clay Morgan Photography





Medina began her dance career when she was eight years old. She started off in classical ballet where she was in a pre-professional dance company and performed numerous ballers such as Copelia, The Nutcracker, the Wizard of Oz, etc. After high school she went on to attend University of California, Irvine as a dance major where she broadened her repertoire into contemporary and jazz. During her time in university she performed as a dancer in musicals such as Chicago and Wonderland. After graduating college she took on a new venture of becoming a gogo and pole dancer. Now she performs in bars night clubs and music videos.



Natalie Sear



Natalie Sear is a 9 year old dancer from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She has been dancing competitively at Borellis Dance Gallery for 6 years. She trains in tap, ballet, jazz, lyrical, contemporary, hip hop and acro. Natalie holds 2 National Solo Titles as well as many Regional

Titles. She recently had the awesome opportunity to be a part of Ballerinas Against Bullying's Fashion & Dance Event where she rocked the runway and was crowned BABS Junior Dancer of the Year. This past year, Natalie also participated in the National PTA Reflections Program through her school where

she choreographed and performed an original dance piece of her own. She was awarded 3rd Place in the State of Pennsylvania. In addition to dance, Natalie also enjoys modeling her favorite dancewear brands.

Dana Sear Photography





Nevaeh began dancing at the age of nine. I always had the hardest time getting Nevaeh to commit to any kind of sports or activities. The first sport we ever tried was karate. Nevaeh stood in class the whole time and would not commit. We later tried other sports such as soccer, tennis & softball. I asked Nevaeh if she wanted to do dance and she said no. Of course, me being her mother I put her in it anyways! She would always twirl around in circles as a little child doing ballerina moves because her favorite movie was Barbie and the 12 dancing princesses. This movie was on repeat! So, I put Nevaeh in at Studio 89 Dance Company in Williston, ND where we live. I always laugh when I think about Nevaeh in dance when she first Started. She was in ballet and hip

hop. She was so uncoordinated and was all over the place, but she had fun!! I would cringe during recitals in some moments but mostly smile and watch my daughter do something she liked. Nevaeh continued working in dance and tried out for the competition team. They declined to move her up. That did not stop Nevaeh from working hard. She continued to dance and the following year she tried out for competition line again and was accepted! I still believe to this day they gave her a chance and one thing I taught Nevaeh was to take advantage of this opportunity and show the teachers and owner that it was the right decision. Nevaeh went from liking dance to loving dance! Nevaeh won her first scholarship her first year of dance at the 24/7 dance Convention for ballet

and was able to receive a small discount to attend Dancer Palooza in Long Beach California. It was in Long Beach where she studied under Francisco Gella in his Ballet intensive. Nevaeh learned so much and grew in just the one week. She also took multiple drop in classes and these classes all helped to give Nevaeh the confidence she sometimes lacked, to become even greater. Since starting Dance, Nevaeh has grown tremendously. Before dance, Nevaeh had no passion or motivation for a sport. Dance has truly changed Nevaeh in so many ways. Nevaeh has recently been given opportunities as well to help with smaller children in the dance studio and is in hopes to one day help teach and choreograph.

Paityn Ruff



Paityn is 11 years old and is a competitive dancer. She suffers from multiple food allergies, which cause her lots of anxiety. When she is letting herself go on the stage, it's the only time she truly doesn't think about them. Dance has helped her believe in herself and has helped her grow in so many ways. She has won many multiple first place overalls for many of her dances and continues to constantly push herself to do better.

Achievements: Paityn dances for Denville Dance Arts Center in Denville, NJ. Their website is <http://www.denvilledance.com/> and they have an Instagram and Facebook page. Throughout the

Covid quarantine, they have been the only normalcy for the girls! Hours of classes, story time every night, virtual parties and fun games! They are truly family and my daughters second home! The

level of instruction is amazing and the way my daughter has grown as a dancer is unimaginable!

Photographer Patti Rasmussen



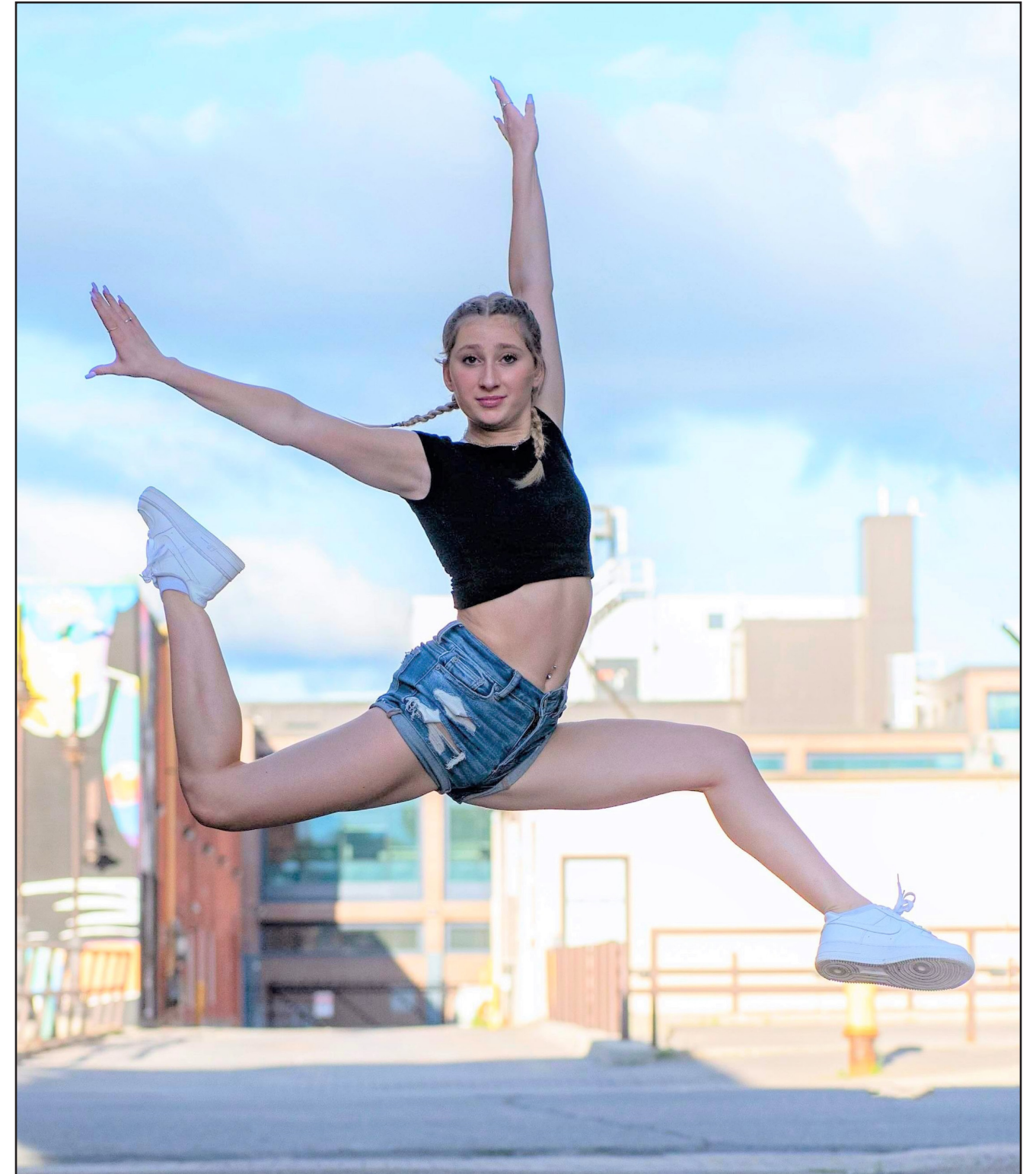
Savannah Gaudette



Hello dance world! I would like to introduce myself to you. I'm Savannah Gaudette a small town girl from Warren Ontario. To say dance is my whole world would be an understatement. I was 4 when my mother put me into dance, not because I would dance around the living room to every single song that would play but because I was a very shy little girl with very little social skills and tons of anxiety. My mom felt trying something like dance may be a great outlet for me for to make friends and gain an extra boost of confidence before I would start school. She had no idea what she was really getting herself into. I cried in every dance class until recital. My mom thought all the glimmer and lights of the

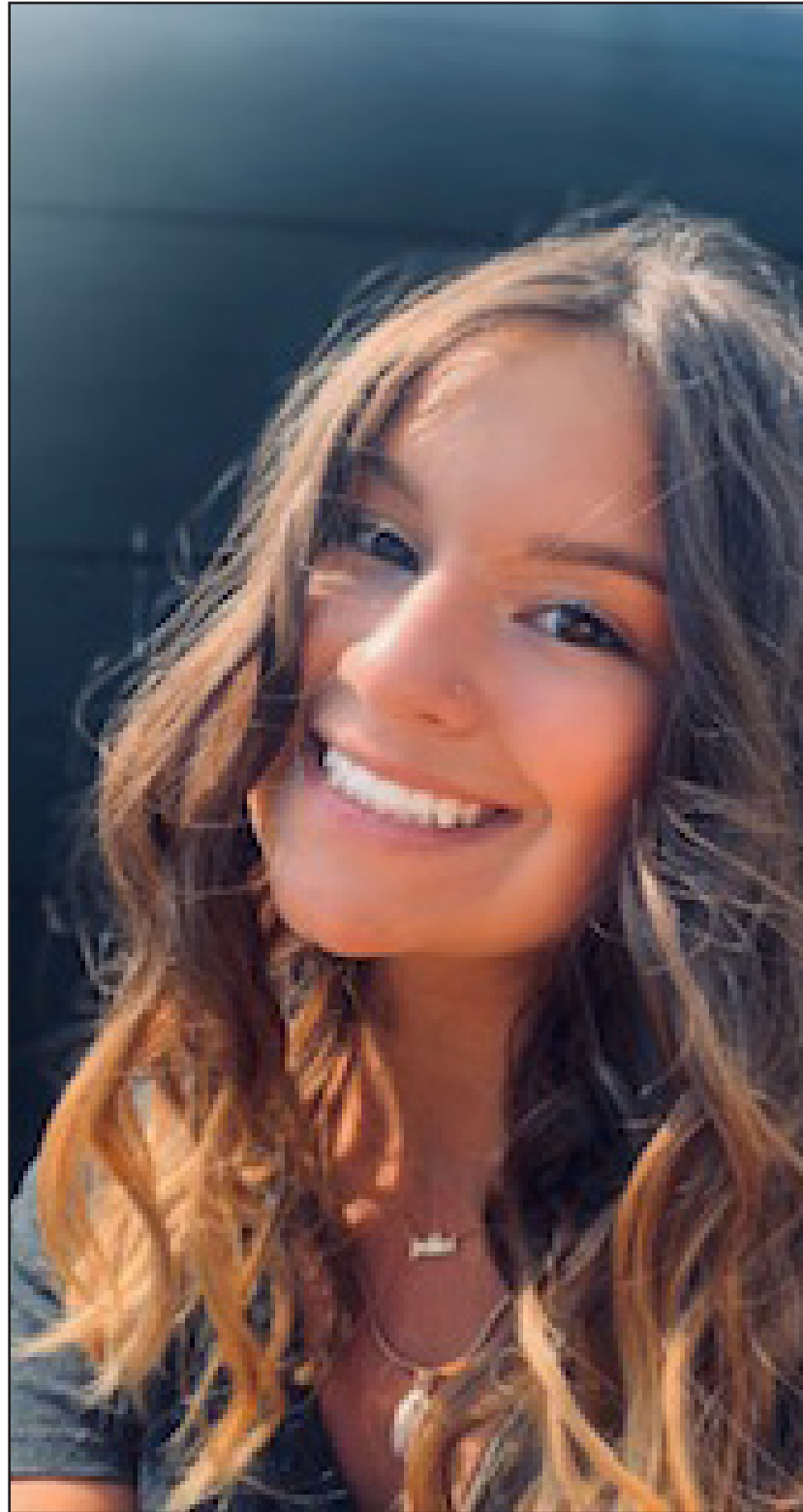
stage may cause me to run off but instead it sparked something else in me. The confidence she was hoping I would gain. We live an hour away from the closest studio but after a couple of years I decided I wanted more, to compete. A now 6 year old with a dream of being on stage more then just at recital. Since then I practically live at the studio. Spending more then 20 hours a week there. Helping teach classes, being in several different group numbers as well as solos and I wouldn't give it up for anything. I am often given special awards for my stage presence and for being so outgoing onstage. Who would have thought right? A place where I can leave everything I am feeling in that moment or one song is

EVERYTHING. I should add I was also not born with beautiful legs or feet. Through out these years I have trained and continue to try to perfect my art and abilities. I have the best second moms at The Dynamic Room in Sudbury Ontario and it is thanks to them believing in me that I continue to want to give this my all. My goal is to one day run a dance studio myself, choreograph or dance with some of the best in the industry and help take part in dance competitions. All very high goals but I am a believer in doing what ever you set your mind to. So to all the little girls out there so very shy. Find your stage... not specifically dance but something that brings the upmost joy in your hearts.

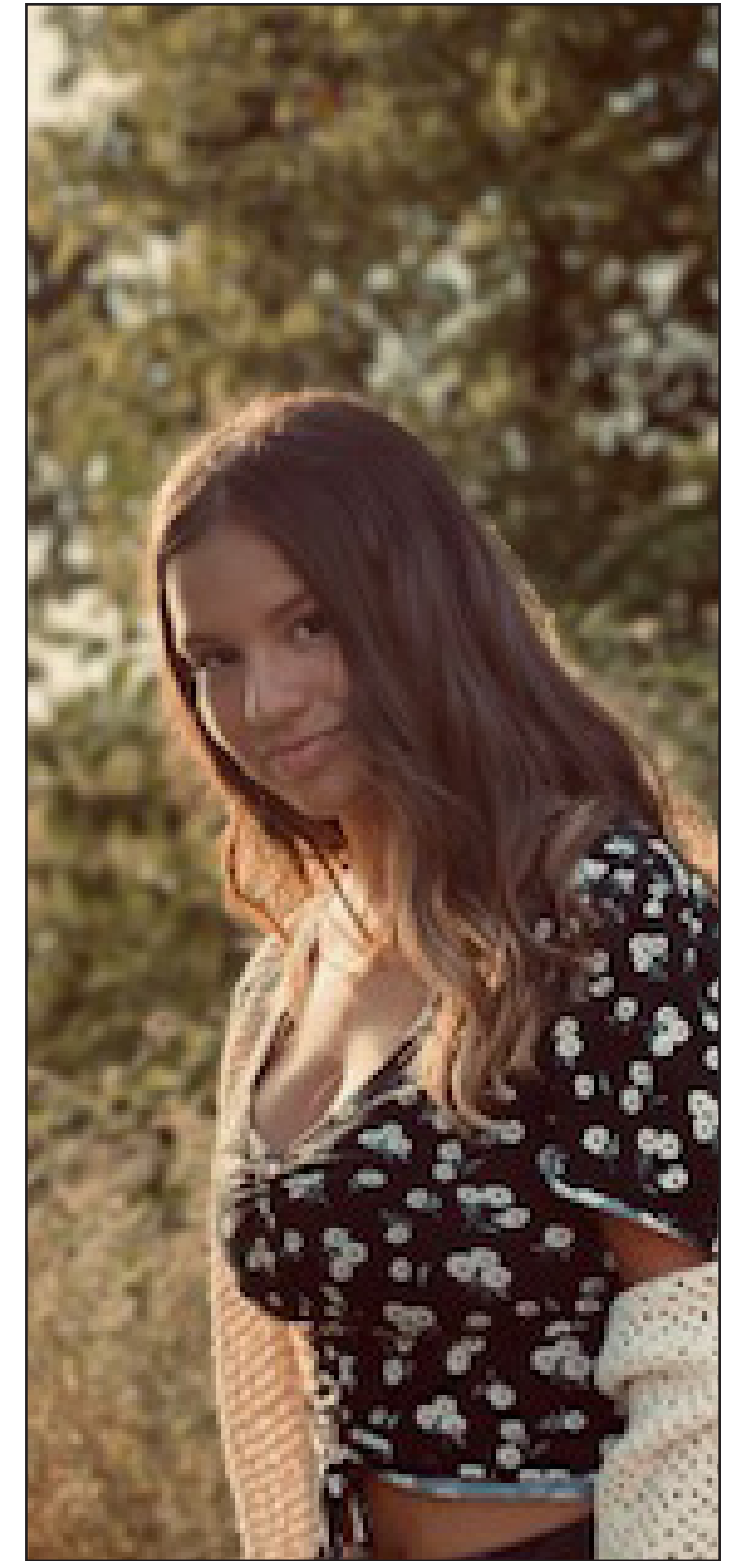
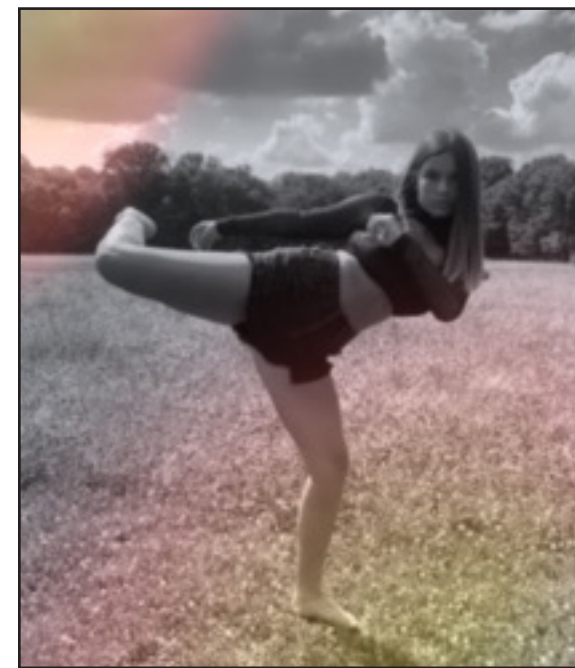
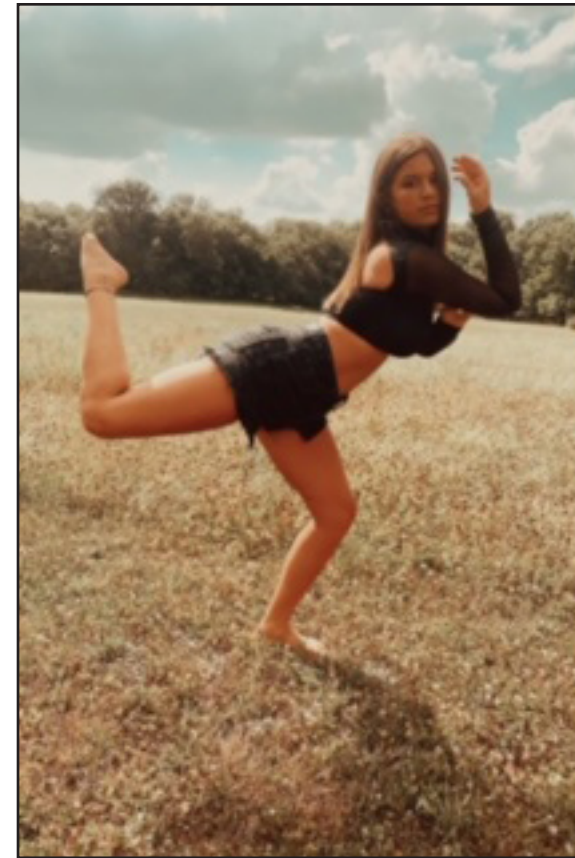




Shaylen Willis



Shaylen is a powerhouse. she has dance since she was 5 and had only gone up from there. she's gone to conventions of all kinds, starting from Dance Makers all the way to Tremaine. Every class is a challenge for her due to her diagnosis in her left arm. ever since she was born, she's been diagnosed for brachial plexus and has never been able to completely straight her left arm do to nerve damage, causing her to not use it as freely as her other arm. It's a constant trouble with having to worry about it not looking the way she wants it, but she flaunts it better than anyone else I've seen! her technique and strength, along with her confidence and positive attitude are great examples of why I believe she could be a great dancer to use for your magazine!



Shmya Tolbert

Shmya has been dancing since the age of six. She is both a strong and graceful dancer with exceptional talent that transcends beyond her 13 years. She is a powerhouse on the floor and her leaps seem to defy gravity. Her strength and control are remarkable and she is amazing to watch on stage.

Her favorite genre is lyrical and hip-hop, however, her involvement in dance extends beyond her ballet studio. She is on her school's

cheer team and is always involved in additional dance opportunities, such as, the NFL 49er's Junior Gold Rush cheering team and intensive classes and workshops at dance studios such as Lines Ballet in San Francisco, under Director, Alonzo King

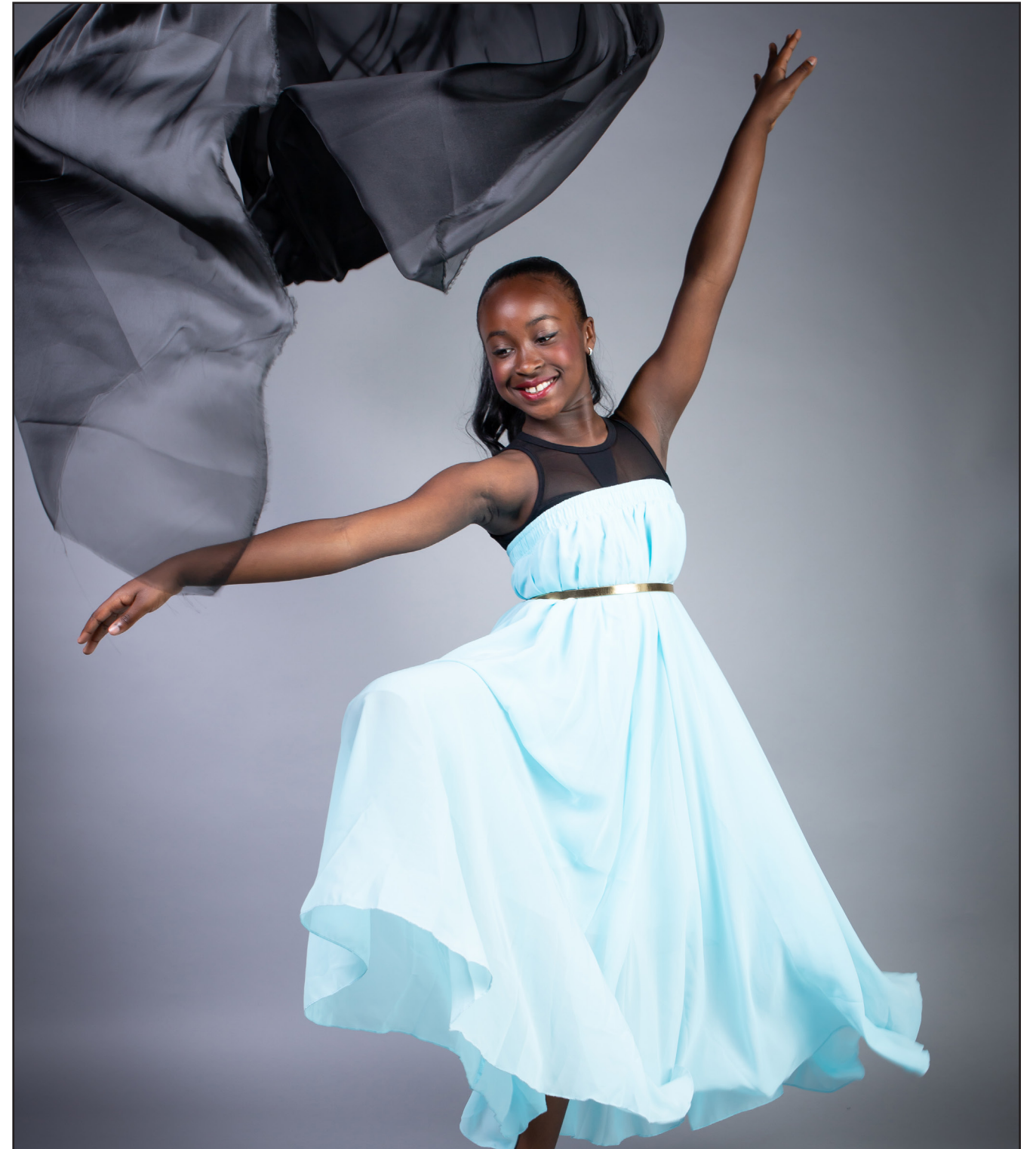
Shmya is smart on and off the dance floor. She is a high-achieving student and takes advanced academic classes. She hopes to one day dance with the Alvin Ailey Dance Theater and inspire others to dance. She would like to become a professional Broadway dancer.

Shmya is an advanced level dancer at her studio, Academy of Performing Arts of Tracy, Ca., under Director Deborah Skinner. She is a regular in their annual productions of The Nutcracker and Alice In Wonderland, where she has held several main roles. As a member of her studios Competitive Dance Team, Shmya has participated in many dance competitions in both group and individual dances. She has received multiple awards and recognition, from various dance competitions, for her standout performances. She has received several Double Platinum, Platinum, Gold as well as 1st Overall, Highest Overall, Top Overall and Showmanship and National Competition Virtual Awards for her solo performances. She has also received several full ballet and full convention scholarships to various dance conventions. Most recently, Shmya has received the Heart of Gold Award through IDance4acure and is currently an IDance4acure ambassador.

Shmya has a constant desire to perfect her technique. This sometimes, is accompanied by perfectionism and harsh self-critique. Reining in and finetuning this passion will definitely lead Shmya down her desired dance path.

You can see more of Shmya over at her Instagram page
<http://Instagram.com/shmya5>

Elena K. Manzo Photography



Taryn Radtke



Taryn Radtke is 18 years old and has been dancing for over 10. She started off doing Hip-hop and fell in love with dancing. She then branched out to lyrical, jazz, ballet, contemporary, modern and tap. She has worked really hard and has tried not to let anything stop her. However this past year, Taryn has had to overcome many things. Right before her senior year, Taryn took a fall and broke her left foot. She was taking three dance classes at a studio and had been signed up to take a dance class during the fall term at her high school. But even with a broken foot, she became the teacher's aide for the dance class, choreographing dances for the dance production later that term, despite the fact she was unable to dance. Taryn was in a cast for four

months and still had two months of recovery time left after the cast was taken off to regain the lost of muscle in her leg. By the time she was fully recovered, the spring term at her school was starting and Taryn signed up for the musical at her high school. But about a month into working on the musical, while at practice, she was dancing and her left leg locked up. She was rushed to the emergency room that same day, and was given a knee stabilizer and scheduled for a MRI that following week. Within a day of her MRI, Taryn was told that she tore the meniscus in her left leg and was going to need surgery. This surgery not only prevented her from participating in the musical, but also forced her to cancel an audition she had in May for a performing arts college. The

surgery was scheduled for February 19th, the day before Taryn's 18th birthday. She ended up needing six sutures to fix her tore meniscus, yet she went back to school a mere 5 days after her surgery on crutches still in her knee stabilizer. Though severely injured and unable to even put pressure on her leg in any capacity, Taryn still attended practices for the musical and helped wherever she could, never giving up. She helped with the musical right up until it was cancelled due the COVID-19 outbreak, while also attending physical therapy and dealing with school. Throughout the quarantine period, Taryn attended virtual therapy then physical therapy once quarantine was lifted. She worked through the pain to get from one crutch and intermediate

periods of time on her leg to being able to walk independently by the beginning of June. Dying to get back to what she loved, her physical therapist told her she should be able to fully dance by the end of August. But Taryn, being headstrong and determined to dance sooner, managed to create not one, but two

contemporary dances from a chair and one in her wheelchair, with her physical therapist permission. Now she is almost fully recovered and is ready to get back on the dance floor. And even though she was not able to actually dance for most of her senior year, she was still awarded the Dance Department Award at

her school. Over Taryn's senior year, she had to overcome a lot mentally and physically. She can not wait to finally get back on the dance floor and continue to pursue her passion, proving that nothing can hold her back from doing what she was born to do: dance.



VaJaun "Vae" Savage



iDANCE

MAGAZINE

Jordyn De Pina



ISSN 2371-2996

iDANCEMAGAZINE.com
A Division of Talent Media Publishing Inc.