

# *i*DANCE

MAGAZINE



**Taylor  
Kallini**

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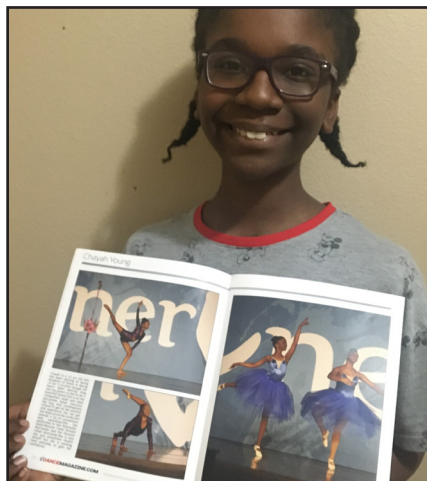
# Mission Statement

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



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# Annabelle Saccente



Annabelle Saccente is 7 years old. She is a competitive dancer has won first place for her solo. Has been dancing since she was 4 years old. Favorite dances are lyrical, ballet, and jazz. Her goals are to become Broadway star who is also a doctor

who helps people. She partake in 5 different types of dancing ballet, lyrical, jazz, hip hop and tap. She challenges herself everyday to improve her self and her skill set.

Achievements: She dance with and

for Divine Rhythms Dance in West Islip NY run by Marylin Schmitt. She is the most amazing director and supports all of her students and loves every single one of them.

Photographer Toni Saccente

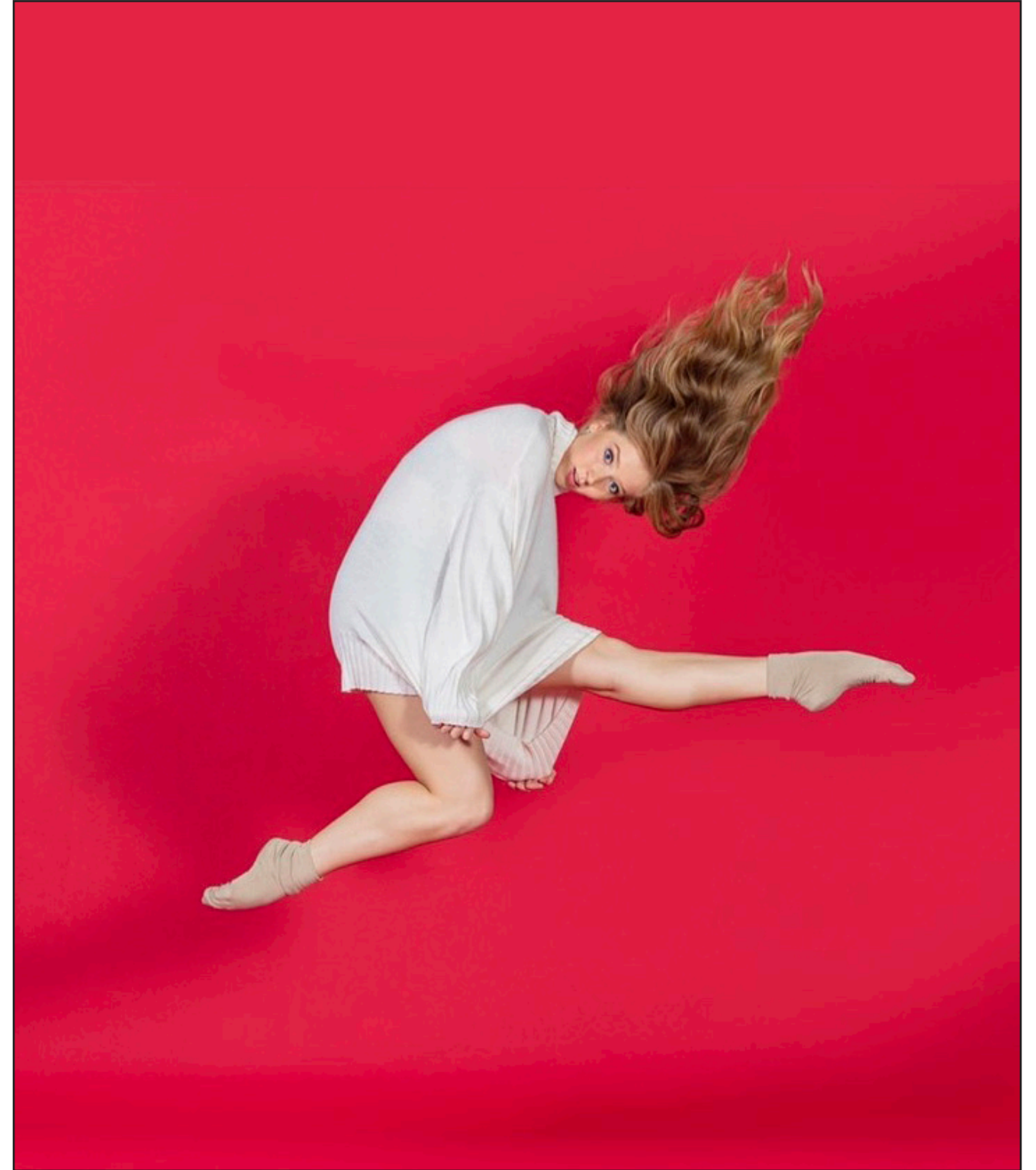


# Ashlyn Jordan



Hello! My name is Ashlyn Jordan, I am 18 years old and have been dancing since I was three. I am currently still in training and working on expanding my art and becoming a better dancer every day. I graduated from high school in 2019 at the age of 17, however did not attend college. I plan on going back to school later in life to further my education and hopefully obtain a business degree. One of my life long goals is to become a dance teacher or maybe even studio owner, however before then I would love to perform professionally and travel. This past year I was able to book my first

professional gig and be apart of the Frisco Fighters Bombshells. Do to COVID, our season never really got started however I plan on re-auditioning and hopefully being apart of that team this upcoming spring. I would love an opportunity to be featured in this magazine, and I feel like applying is a step in the right direction for me. Moving from the competitive dance world to the professional world is not easy, but it is my life long dream and something I have dedicated my heart and soul to. It would be an honor to be featured! Thank you so much.





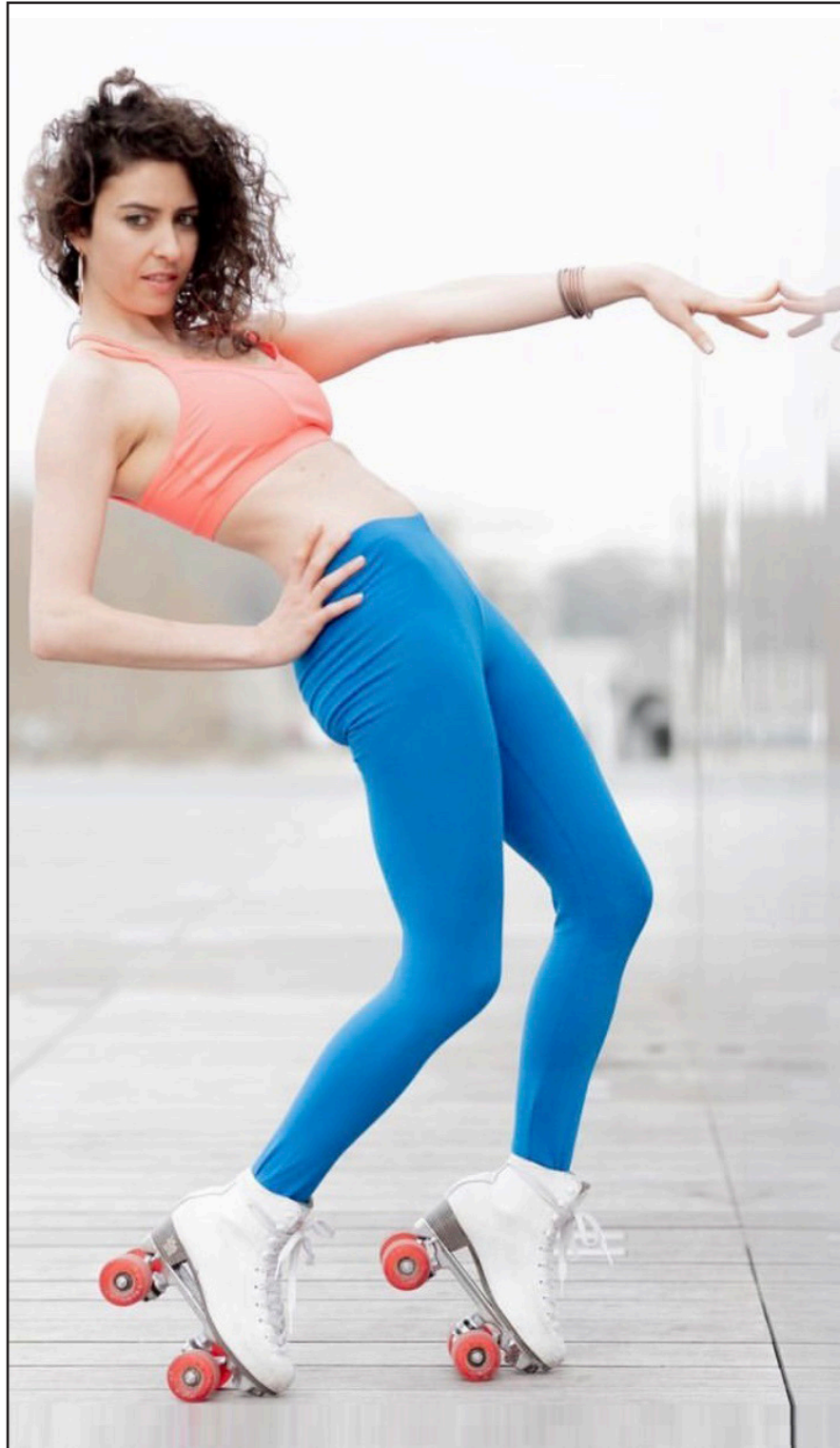
Brynn is a 10 year old competitive dancer. She is a bright light when she gets on stage to dance. She loves to perform and is entertaining to watch. When Brynn puts her mind to something, she won't stop until she achieves it. Brynn was diagnosed with Sievers disease in 2018, severe ankle pain made it challenging to dance some days but she powered through the best she can. Because of sievers her toes may not always be as pointed as much as they should, but she does her best to take her teachers correction. So while her teachers don't use her for an example of pointed toes, They know they can count on Brynn to always know the choreography and counts. Brynns dance team took Best Nu group at The Dance Awards in Las Vegas for 2019, in addition to taking home many other 1st place wins at regional and national levels. She loves all dance but she likes Jazz and Hip Hop the best.

Achievements: Brynn has been dancing at Larkin dance studio in Maplewood Minnesota she has been dancing At Larkin since she was 3, and started competition when she was 5. Larkin Dance Studio has featured dancers on NBC's World of Dance like Eva Igo and Elie and Ava Wagner and this year Savanna Manzel who has danced in line together with Brynn since they were 3, is competing on NBCs World of Dance. Michele and Molly Larkin are like family to us and all of the students at their studio.

Photographer Sarah Ash



# Cecile Klaus



Meet the incredible and iconic Cecile Klaus!

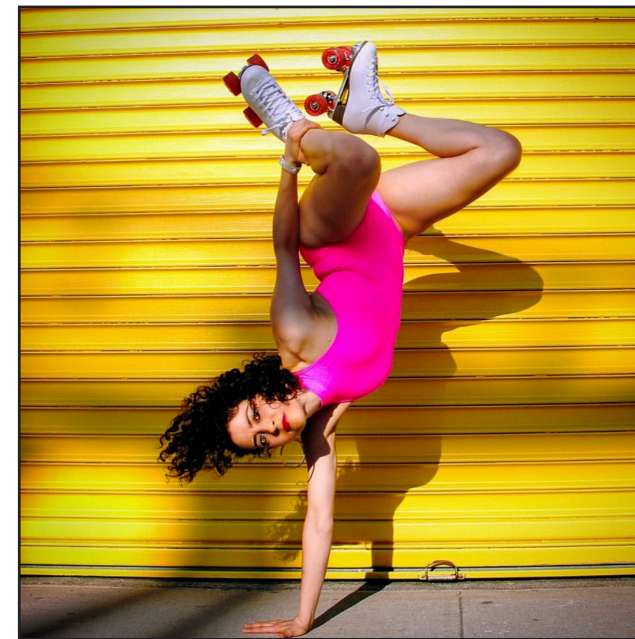
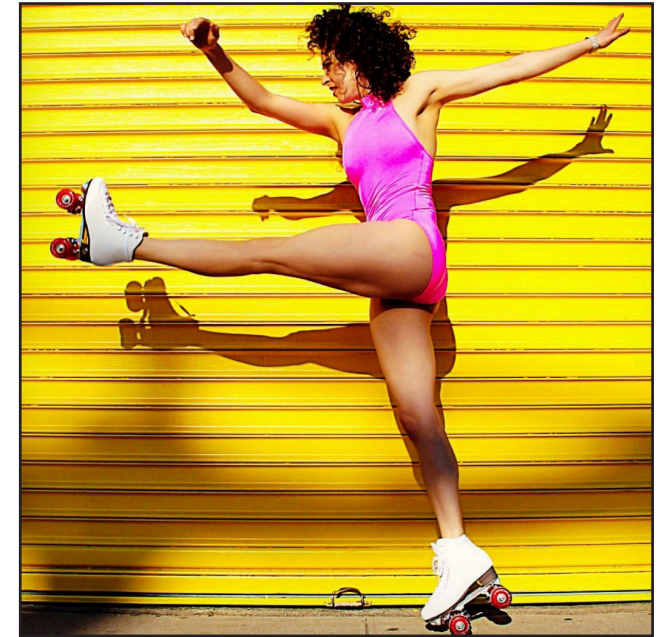
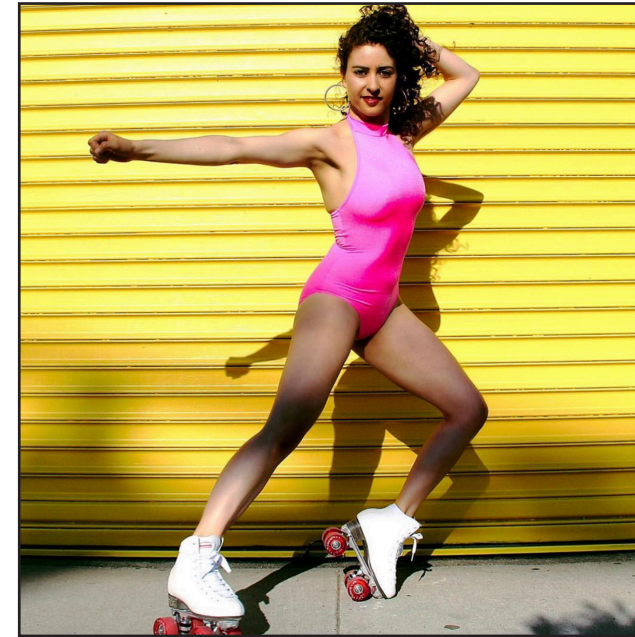
Klaus, who is a professional dancer trained at the Alvin Ailey Dance School, is currently trailblazing in the world of performance arts as the Founder, President, Artistic Director, Choreographer, and Performer of the Miss'ile Rollerdance Company.

This entertainment company presents unique performances that surpass normalcy to intermix various art forms into a powerful showcase of talent. Klaus and her team move and groove, performing high-intensity, dynamic dances - on skates!

Klaus began skating as young as 6 years old, using vintage skates directly attached to the shoe. It was in London that she first discovered rollerdancing, after being introduced to a popular spot for practice. Klaus carried this art back to Paris, where she began teaching the combination of her two passions, thus conceiving the Miss'ile Rollerdance Company.

The Miss'ile Rollerdance Company bursts with hustle and creativity as its talented members perform a spectacle that is both physically and aesthetically pleasing. The choreography synchronizes with music selections including Electro, Deep House, Latin music, and Hip-Hop for an explosive demonstration of movement and melody.

To create this vibrant choreography, Klaus often draws on influences from her life in New York City, which she claims opened her mind to various forms of art that inspire the visualizations for her dance compositions today. This is evident to the audience, as classic New York themes of individuality, resilience, and togetherness are salient in the rollerdance performances.



Klaus finds great fulfillment in her work, where she finds herself merging with the music to display an authentic expression of her identity, while also teaching others how to expressively glide and slide.

This year marks the 15 year anniversary of the Miss'ile Rollerdance Company. In the years to come, Cecile

hopes to internationally tour with her team, performing for celebrity artists around the world. She also intends on finishing her rollerdance theater show project and building the Miss'ile rollerdance school. Check out her website, YouTube, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, or LinkedIn to witness the magic of Cecile Klaus in her element.



She has had experience in jazz, lyrical, kick, hip-hop, pom, and military. She attended Judson High School and participated in the dance department where she became a part of the Starlite Drill Team and later the Judson Diamond Dance Team. Her goals are to attend Texas State University to receive her bachelors degree for dance. After that, she wants to become a hip-hop instructor and show everyone

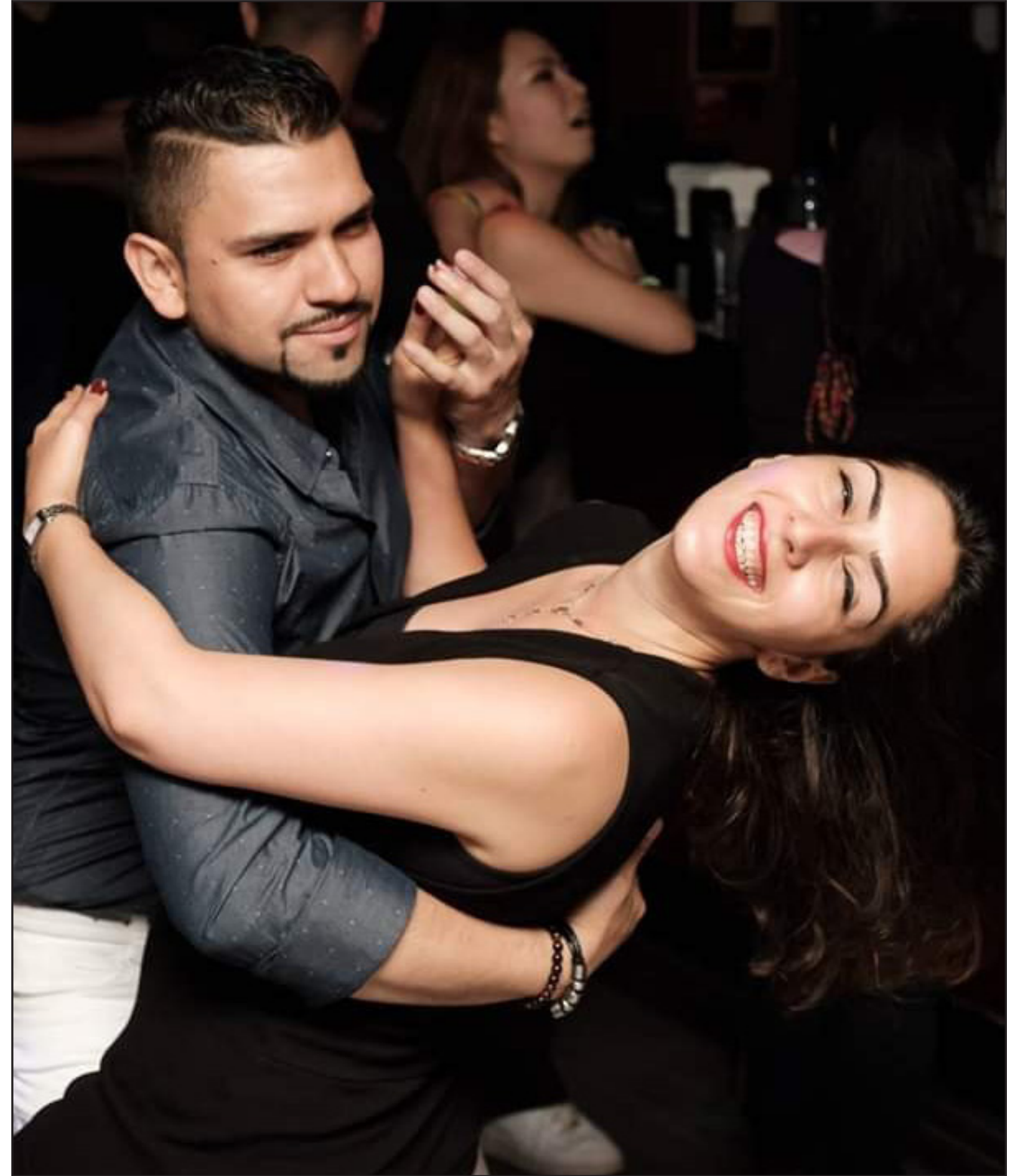
how dancing can make you feel great about yourself and your body. Her dream is to own her own dance studio where anyone can dance their heart out with a smile. Awards she has received are Satellite of the Week, Starlite of the Week, Hip-Hop Award, Most Spirited Senior, and Sparkling Diamond Performer.

Achievements: The Judson Diamond Dance Team is a new dance team

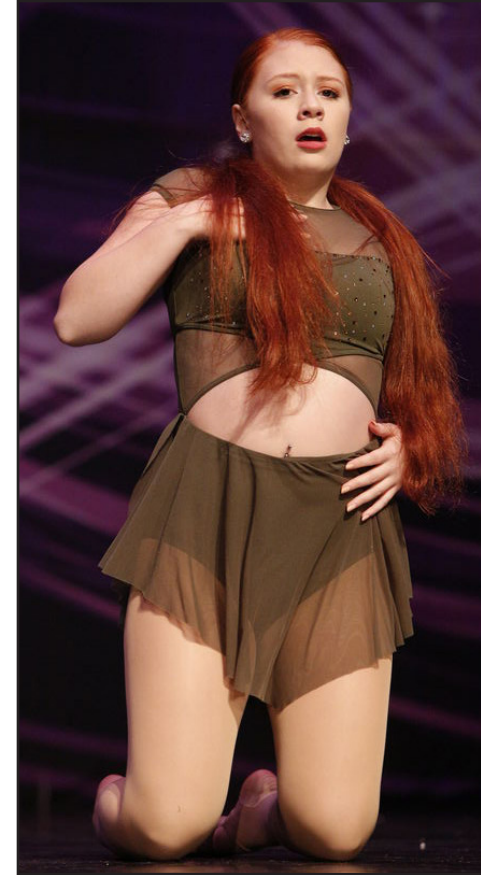
established at Judson High School in Converse, Texas. The 2019-2020 Judson Diamonds have performed at pep rallies, football games, and competitions. They've competed at Crowd Pleasers Competition where they were awarded Team Kick- Division I, 4th Runner Up, Team Jazz- Division I, Team Lyrical- Division I, 2nd Runner Up, Team Super Sweepstakes, and Academic Award of Excellence.



My name is Farzaneh Satei Have been dancing Persian dance since I was 6 years old and I started dancing Zouk Bachata and Salsa from the age of 30... I love all kinds of dancing as I feel flowing and serene and just at the moment and surrounded by dancing. Life with dancing is meaningful for me and without that part of me has been always missing. I am a university and college French instructor I speak 5 languages but still by far Dance is the language of my soul and body and what I Communicate with



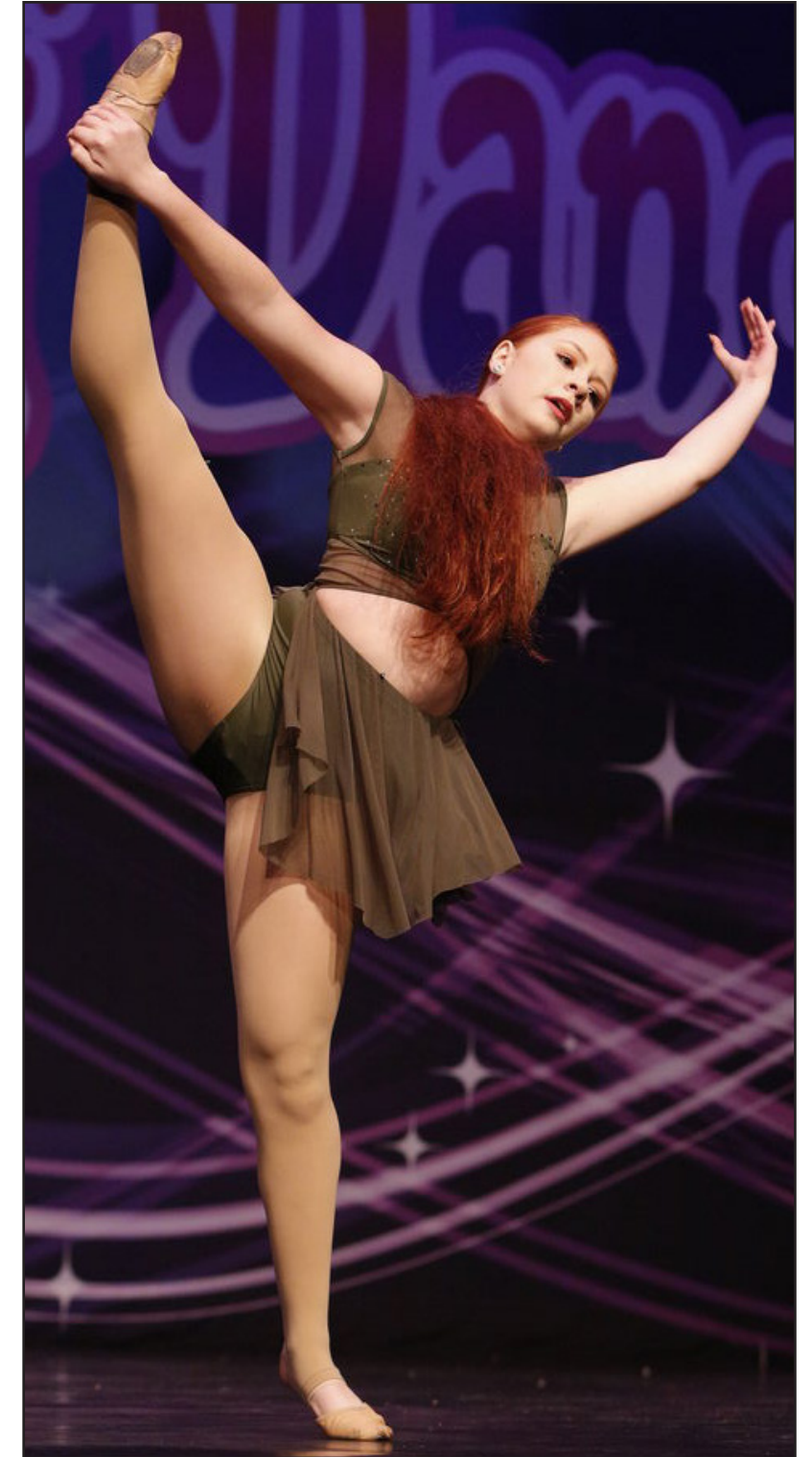


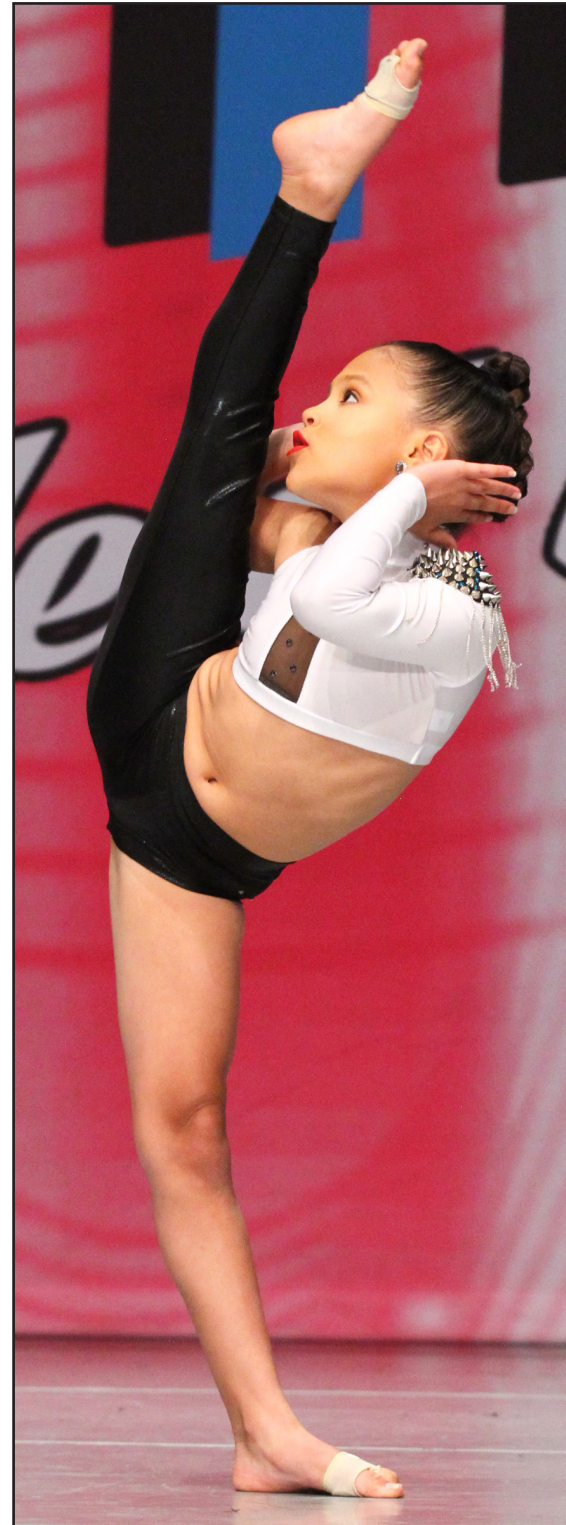


Hailey has been dancing for 15 years now and 11 years competitively. She has a condition called pots which has been a huge challenge with her dance lifestyle. She still manages to push through and succeed. She is always cheering on her team and helping as much as possible. She loves dance with a passion and wants to help others follow their passions with dance in the future.

Achievements: Ballet arts is so much more than just a dance studio, its family. Everyone has always been so supportive of each other. They are all hard working and very dedicated. The studio as a whole has an amazing energy that is so healthy for a kid to grow up in. Eith the competitive atmosphere and compassion the teachers and students show makes everyone feel at home.

Photographer power of dance





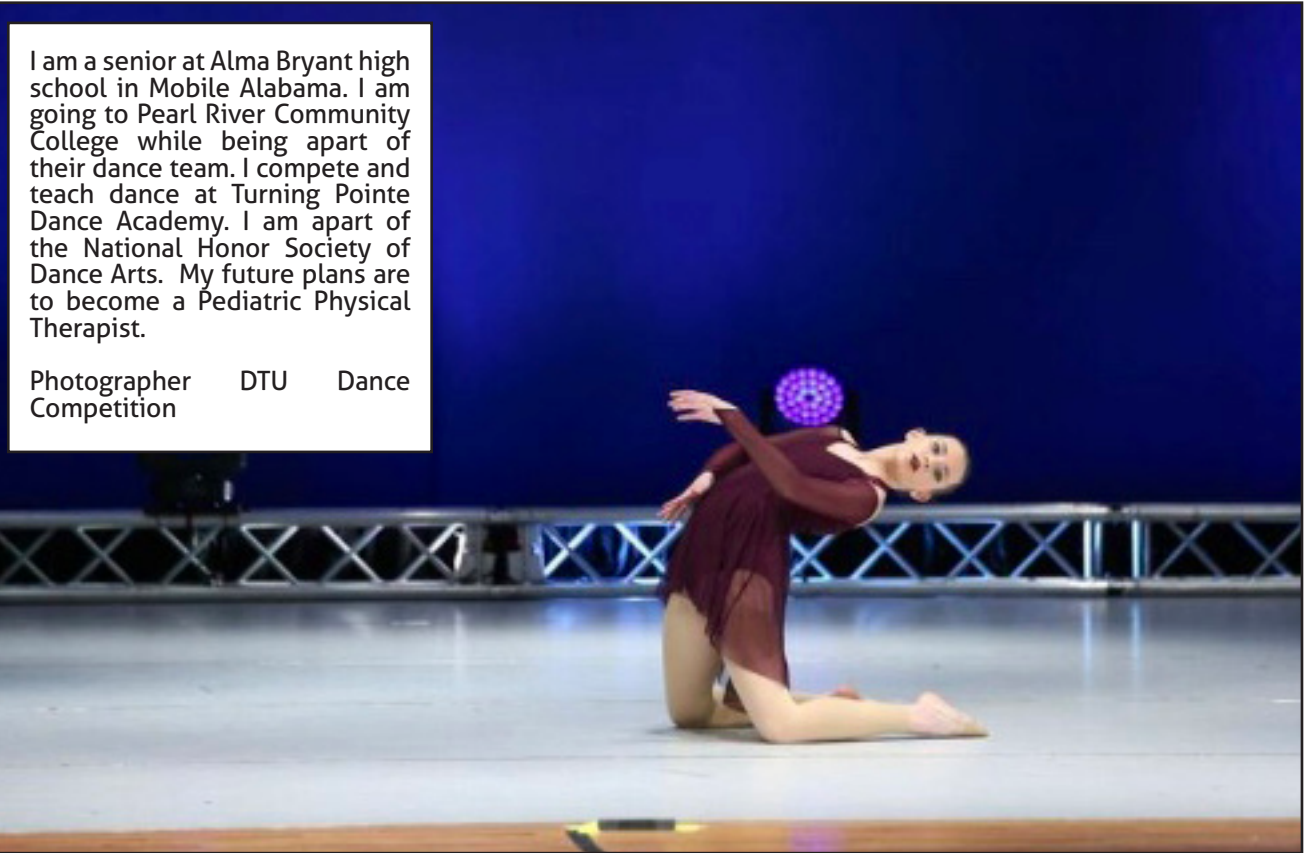
Isabella Chi is a very passionate dancer, it's one of those girls you can't take your eyes off when she's on stage. Her dreams are to dance for Jlo one day (she's 10 years old), she auditioned for World of Dance and was almost in the door for recordings. She's won many titles in regional and national competitions, Lil' Chi is definitely a little superstar. She's been reposted by many artists on social media for her dance videos.

Achievements: Adrenaline Dance Company is the premier dance

studio in South Florida. Not only does this dance company compete competitively, but it also serves as a home to over 400 students in the community. ADC teaches all genres of dance including contemporary, ballet, hip hop, tap, lyrical, jazz, pointe and acro. They strive to be one of the best studios that are well rounded in every genre and style. ADC has won numerous awards through the 8 years that they have been open. We have been nominated for the Industry Dance Awards for best in contemporary. We have won several awards at

regional and national competitions some include but are not limited to best in technique, best in jazz, best in hip hop and best in open. Our studio has more than 20,000 followers on Instagram and continues to grow every day. I am part of a company that not only feels like a second home to me but it truly is an amazing dance family that I can't be without.

Photographer universal event photography



I am a senior at Alma Bryant high school in Mobile Alabama. I am going to Pearl River Community College while being apart of their dance team. I compete and teach dance at Turning Pointe Dance Academy. I am apart of the National Honor Society of Dance Arts. My future plans are to become a Pediatric Physical Therapist.

Photographer DTU Dance Competition



# Kahlani Koso



Kahlani has been dancing for 2 years she loves it! She also models and loves to sing! Jojo Siwa is her inspiration along with her amazing dance teachers at stagedoor school of dance!

Achievements: Stagedoor school of dance Patchogue New York  
Futurefaces model nyc

Photographer holli Koso





I'm originally from Japan and based in NYC. I trained various dance style in Broadway dance center. I was able to perform in prestigious venues in NYC as Hammerstein Ball Room, Sony hall etc and dance for great artist as Neyo, A Tribe Called Quest, Wiz Khalifa, Ayo Jay just to name a few. I'm also part of SAG-AFTRA and appeared on many TV series, films and ads.

Achievements: Check my Instagram for my latest creation and project @ kbunnyn\_





At 6-years-old, Katie Baik tagged along to a friend's dance class and fell in love with the beauty of ballet. She insisted on trying more styles and soon relished in the sass of jazz and fluidity of lyrical. Over the years, she has added pointe, tap, acrobatics, contemporary, hip hop, and ballroom to her training.

As her passion blossomed, she trained at various summer programs,

including School of American Ballet (2015), Miami City Ballet (2016), Master Ballet Academy (2017, 2018), and Hubbard Street Dance Chicago (2018, 2019). Last summer, she studied at the Juilliard School (2019). Meeting dancers and master teachers from around the country humbles and inspires her to work harder as both an artist and performer.

Although Katie spends most of her time in the studio, her greatest reward is being on stage. She loves the artistry, technique, and acting in *Don Quixote* and *Sleeping Beauty* (2018, 2019), but especially enjoyed performing "Elation" (2019) by Natreia Black, a modern piece set to jubilant jazz music. Performing with her studio company has taught her to not only communicate with a team, but also



accept mistakes as an inevitable part of growth. She enjoys passing these lessons on to younger dancers as a teaching assistant for acro and dance classes.

Katie has participated in many competitions, including Dance Masters of America, where she received 2nd Runner-Up to Teen Miss Dance and performed her duo and large group as a grand national winner. She has also held the titles of Miss Dance, Teen Miss Dance, and Junior Miss Dance of California and has served as a Junior Member for her chapter. Additionally, she has received scholarships to Broadway



Dance Center, Pacific Northwest Ballet and Ballet West.

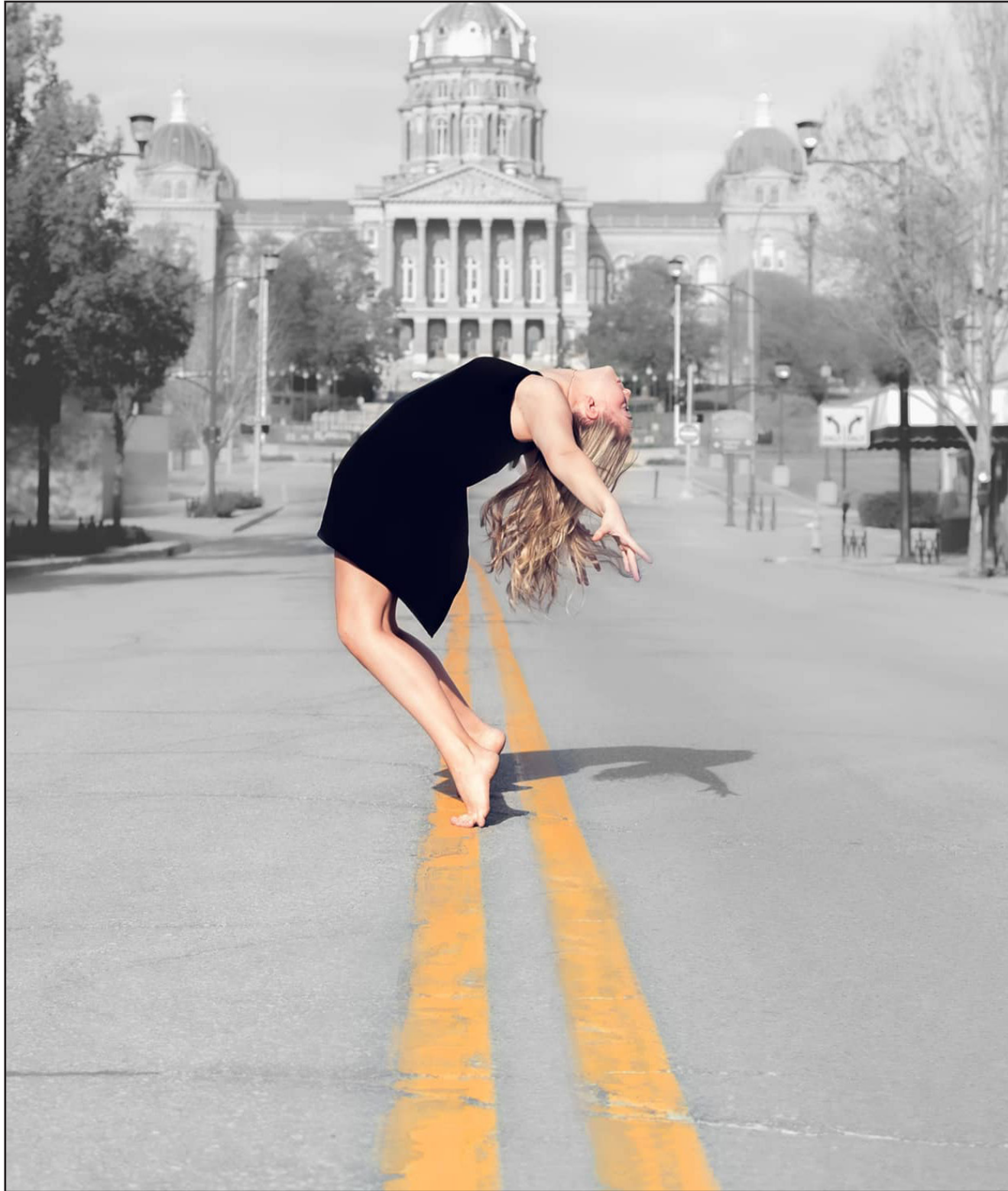
At school, Katie maintains strong academics (4.6 GPA), earning her membership in the National Honors Society and National AP Scholar program. Katie cares about her school community and serves as officer for Community Involvement and sophomore homeroom representative. She also volunteers for the Health 4 Humanity organization, where she is social media coordinator.

Outside of school, Katie conducts interviews with prominent

choreographers, dancers, and teachers for her blog, *Dancing with Confidence*. She spends her afternoons at the studio, working as an office intern and social media manager. During downtime, she enjoys choreographing, rollercoasters, historical fiction, and belting the soundtrack of *RENT*.

Katie wants to further her education in a collegiate dance program and also study medicine. Dance has given her so much, and she wants to give back to her community.

Photographer Rachel Neville



Kejla is a kind hearted 14 year old girl that loves to dance. She has been dancing competitively for 7 years. She was recently inducted into the National Honors Society of Dance.



# Ki'Anna Lincoln

When Ki'Anna first started dancing she was not the best at it, she danced like she had two left feet. She would feel discouraged in class because she couldn't keep up with the other dancers, her dad would sit with her at home while she relearned the routine and performed it in front of the family when she felt she had it down. When she joined her local high schools dance team we could really see her talent shine through and how much she had grown with

her dancing. Over the 4 years her talent only grew and we saw it first hand when she performed her first solo. Now that's she's graduated she plans to continue dancing and hopefully make a career out of it.

**Achievements:** When she first started dancing Ki'Anna started out at Trudance studio in Hayward California, after we moved she could not find a studio close to us that fit her schedule, luckily her

high school had a dance team that she joined. Her team was amazing every year growing bigger with new incoming dancers and dancers from previous years. The team is filled with talented dancers some with no history of dance and some with years of experience. When you see them all dance together you wouldn't even be able to tell it looks like they have all been dancing together for years they have such a good connection when dancing.







Lily is a junior in high school, and is planning on going to college for dance and physical therapy. She has danced for only four years, but has loved it since she was a little girl. Throughout the past few years she has competed in several competitions and taken classes from professionals. Along with that, she has won a few cash scholarships and scholarships to dance intensives. She hopes to continue dancing for as long as she can, and really would love to eventually own a studio of her own!

**Achievements:** Lily dances for South Jersey Dance Center, formerly known as Adams Dance Academy. It is located in Pittsgrove, New Jersey, yet they compete all over the area and in various different states. The studio is an excellent studio with even better staff and dancers. She has found a family through them, and is so grateful for the large part that they have played in her progress as a person and dancer.

Photographer Ian Cummings

# Lindsay Benay



Dancer and instructor trying to create art everyday and inspire the students around me, and share the joys that dancing brings.

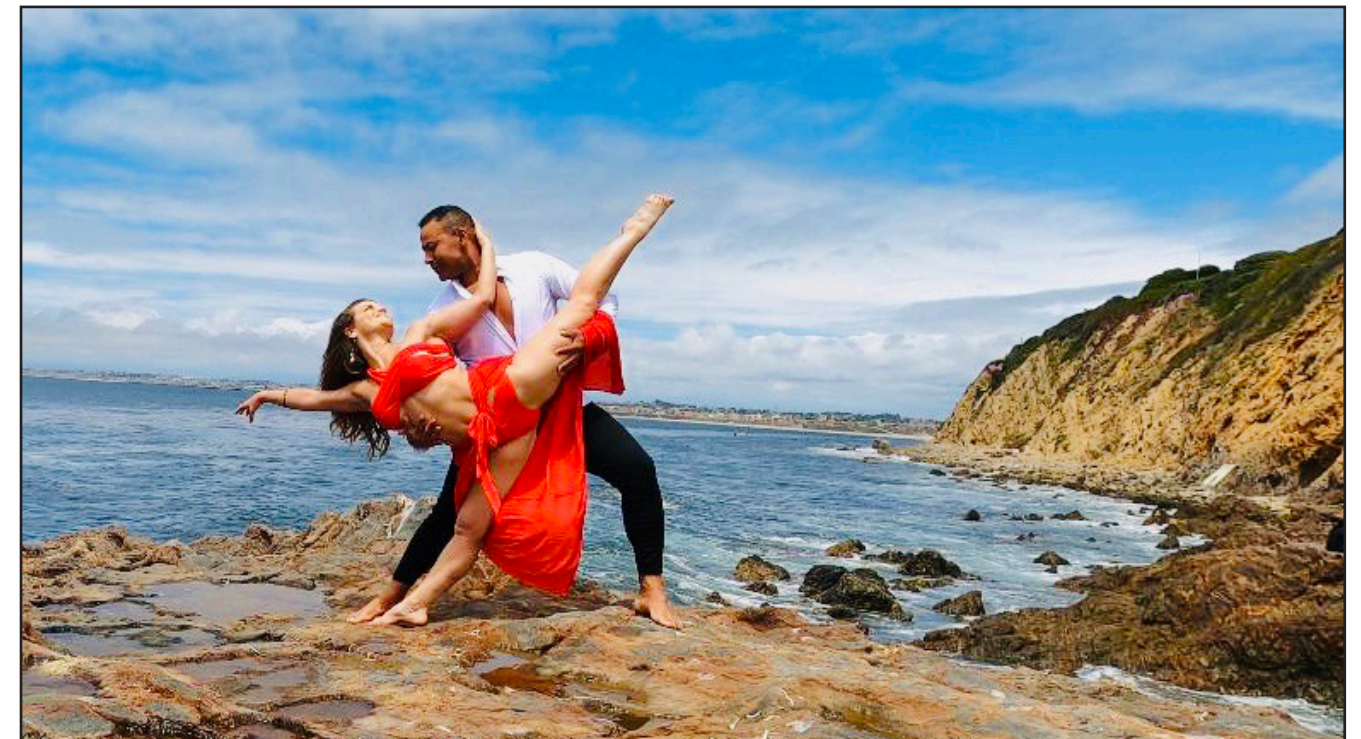
My goals are simple. I am forever a student hoping to continuously grow, to continue to work in the

industry, and to continue to make the lives of those around me more enriched.

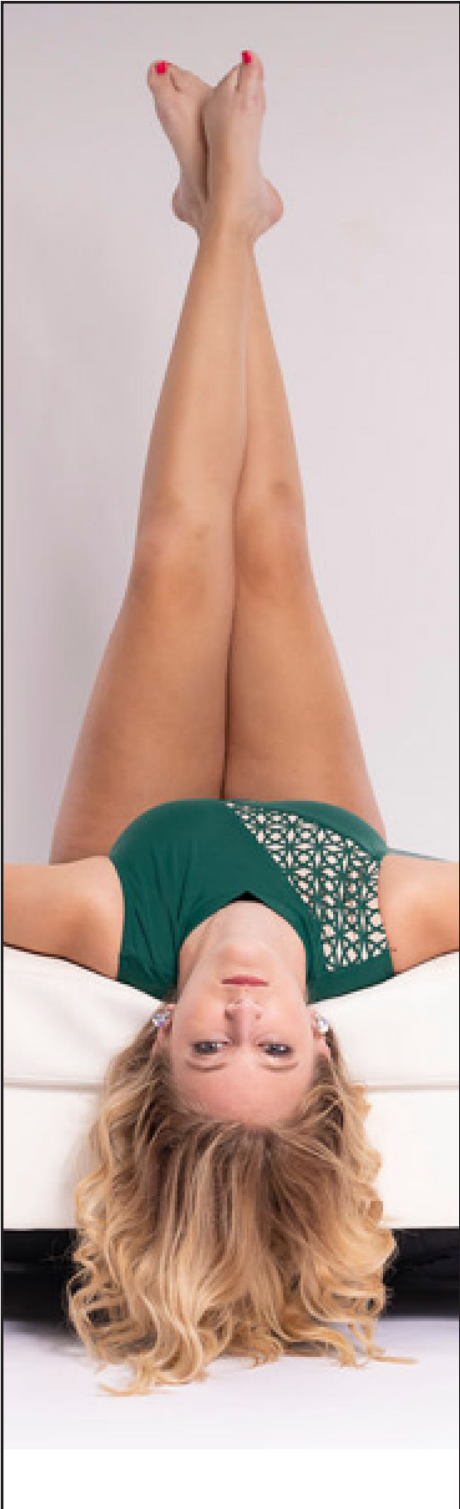
Currently I work with a burlesque troupe, a magic show, and own a business called Your First Dance LA where I Choreograph wedding

couples first dance. I have a ladies Latin dance team of all ages, and work with a dance partner teaching a bachata team. I have been in music videos commercials, and done a number of live stage shows.

Photographer Felipe Telona Jr.



# Mallory Farris



Mallory is 18 years old and has been dancing for 12 years, 9 of those competitively. She will be attending Clemson University and majoring in early childhood education. She plans to be involved in dance while in college. She had the honor of receiving a scholarship to attend The One Family Dance Festival in Chicago 3 years ago. Her favorite part WS learning from the great Rory Freeman. She hopes to keep dance in her life and inspire more children to pursue the sport!

Achievements: She attends Elite Dance Studio and is on their competitive team. She has been with them for 2 years. They have only been a studio for three years, but have won many numerous awards!! They are located in Rock Hill, South Carolina. The website is [www.elitedanceacademysc.com](http://www.elitedanceacademysc.com)

Photographer Say Cheese Clt



Mariah is a dedicated dancer, student and friend. Always thinking of everyone. Working hard to reach her goals. Her goals are to do great on school and learn more about dance to better herself in the long run. She has been Dancing for going on 10 years. She has won many awards in competition and with studio and school. Always reaching for more!!



Rob Hoffman Photography



46 years old with 3 teen boys  
Took off 17 years from dance  
It's SOO good to be back !

# Samantha Gross



Samantha is 16 years old and has been dancing since she was 3! She does Ballet, Contemporary, Hip Hop, Jazz and is ready to try so much more! Her favorite is contemporary. Samantha says she loves dance because it is her escape, when life get rough, dance is her go too. Samantha had to move miles away from her friends and family but the one thing that has helped her through the challenges, is dance. She has been in a musical theater trio and a contemporary duo. Samantha's goal after high school is to audition to be a dancer on a cruise ship. She has been on many cruises, usually a persons favorite part of a cruise is visiting cool places

but Samantha's favorite part on a cruise, is to go to the dance shows as she looks on stage dreaming of being there too!

**Achievements:** Samantha danced at Step 1 Dance 2 academy but sadly had to move away. The move was rough and we were suddenly stuck inside due to Covid-19, meaning no going to dance. Though she can not be in a studio right now, she uses YouTube to continue learning. She is always outside dancing her heart away.



# Samantha Willett



My full name is Samantha, but I have always been known as "Sam" by my peers. I am 19 years old and moved to Austin, Texas at the age of 2. I was raised by my grandparents and grew up with many traditional values I now use as a young adult. My grandma sparked my passion for dance by enrolling me in classes at her own studio, Joyce Willett School of Dance.

My dream has always been to persevere a professional career as a choreographer. I picture myself traveling the country and sharing the art of dance to students eager to learn. The goal I am currently focused on is maintaining a mindset surrounding the idea that there is no wrong answer as an artist. Anything goes and I know

any movement in dance is always correct if it conveys an emotion and feels right to the dancer. The most impressive dancers I aspire to learn from are able to give an audience an intense sensation only by movements from the heart and soul- not including tricks.

I am constantly working on overcoming my fears, but the most challenging of all is maintaining confidence in an audition setting. Giving your all and more is crucial to proving yourself for any part. I know confidence is important when it comes to not cracking under high-stress situations.

After taking recreational classes at JWSD from the age of 2, I finally was able to start my dream of joining

the professional group, Body Talk Dance Company. Instantly I was hooked and dedicated my whole life to dance. I have been dancing professionally since the age of 8 and now teach my own classes at the same location.

The opportunity to teach students at the same studio that I was raised and trained in will always be my most prized achievement. I have been commended for my ability to educate all dancers- understanding that everyone learns in different ways. I am proud of the rapid progress in all of my students this year and grateful for all teachers I've had the privilege to learn from. I have received many awards but the most valuable is my TATD scholarship at the age of 11 in Tap. I

consider myself extremely lucky to be taught by only the best tap instructors. My Aunt Kim, director of Body Talk Dance, was trained by Acia Gray, founder of Tapestry. The importance of proper tap technique was passed down to me and I continue to share it with my students.

Achievements: As a well rounded dancer I have training in all styles of dance, my specialties being in tap and ballet. I even learned swing dance and took heels classes on many occasions. I have 12 years of professional experience at Body Talk Dance Company. I trained up to 30 hours a week, never regretting the weekend rehearsals scheduled all year round. I had the privilege at 16 to train for a week at Steps and Broadway Dance Center in New York. At Body Talk Dance Company, the importance of auditioning and maintaining a professional appearance and attitude was stressed immediately at a young age. All the dedication and strong work ethic I hold comes from all those long, hard days. I never settle for less than

the standards that I, and others push me to meet.

Body Talk has had many students graduate from our studio and pursue professional jobs in dance. One of our most recognized alumni, Britney Parks, is currently seen on TV and has even accompanied Beyoncé in her music videos and live performances. Many successful studios in Austin are created by other students who originally were members of our company.

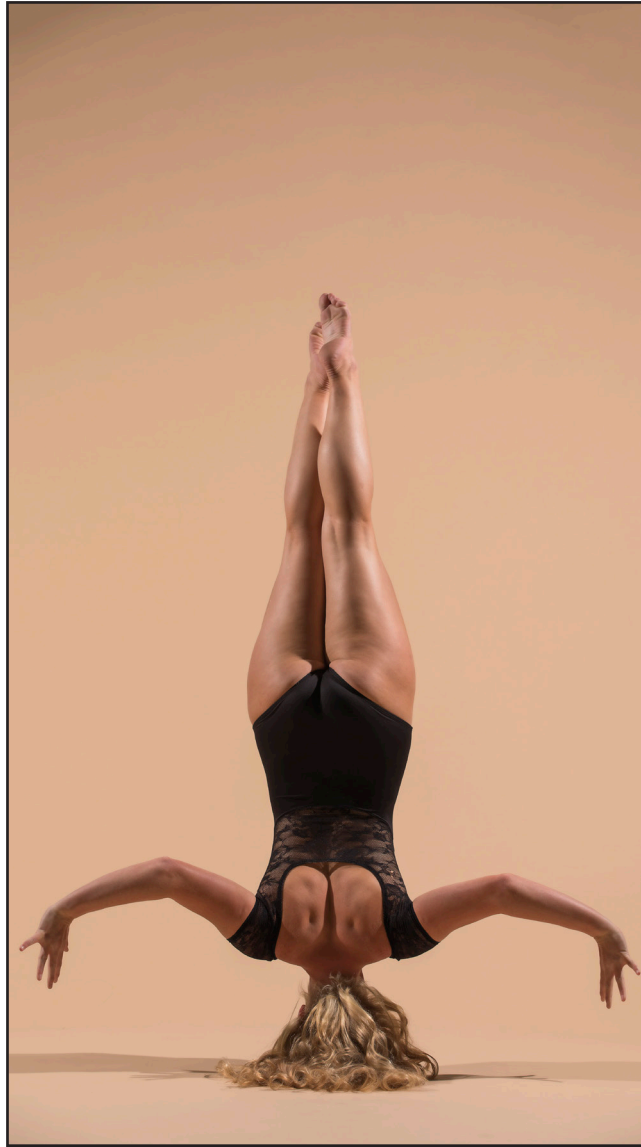
Our studio has two locations in Austin, TX that specialize in training young beginners to advanced dancers. Our first studio was founded in 1985 by my Grandma and her two daughters.

Locations  
JWSD- Located at 12687 Research Blvd. 78759

Body Talk- Located at 5811 Berkman Dr. 78723

Website- <https://jwsd.net/>





Sarah McClure trained at Main Motion and The Dance Project in Idaho for 12 years. While in Idaho Sarah specialized in ballet, jazz, tap, pointe, dance conditioning, musical theatre, tumbling, contemporary, and hip hop. After high school graduation she attended Utah Valley University before transferring to Brigham Young University where she graduated with a BA in Dance. During her college career she trained at the San Francisco Conservatory of Dance studying under Summer Rhatigan. Sarah currently dances professionally for Wasatch Contemporary Dance Company based in Provo, Utah. Sarah is currently moving to LA to complete the commercial dance program at the Edge Performing Arts Center.

She enjoys doing choreography for drill teams, dance studios, solos, and gymnastics floor routines. Sarah loves judging competitions and providing feedback that encourages younger kids to enhance their love for dance. Inspired by so many others who helped her in her development throughout the years, Sarah hopes to pay it forward by assisting individuals to excel in the studio and on the stage.

Sarah is the oldest of five girls. One is a college gymnast, two dancers, and the youngest is a competitive gymnast. Her graduating class had thirty-eight graduates.

Photographer Greig Braid @photogreger





Sasha is 12 years old and started as a competitive gymnast at the age of 3. She changed directions at age 9 and started acro dancing competitively. Her strengths are in tumbling and loves jazz and ballet. She won national championship for NexStar in 2019 in an open duet called Perfect; a piece representing the bullying she and her partner had encountered at each of their schools. Sasha would love to work with Cirque du Soleil someday as well as run a dance competition organization. She has medaled in multiple categories including jazz, open, acro, and lyrical.

Achievements: Sasha recently joined PowerHouse Dance Alliance; a brand new studio for the 2020 season. She is dancing with many team members from her previous studio and looks forward to filling their walls with trophies and medals.  
[www.powerhousedancealliance.com](http://www.powerhousedancealliance.com)  
York, Pennsylvania

Photographer Adrienna Pinto



# Skye Kimbrough



Skye is a 9 year old dancer with big dream! She hopes to land her first professional job by age 10. I think it is so important to talk about how we got here. Skye started dancing when she was 2 and half simply to help her with her shyness. However, we could not tell if it was working or if she even liked dance her entire first dance season. Than 1 week before her first recital her intestines locked together and she has to have an emergency procedure done to save her life. She was discharged from the hospital three days before the recital and the doctor gave us the go ahead for her to dance but I really didn't anticipate her being ready. Boy was I wrong! She danced her heart and when she was done she said, " Can I do that again?" That is how I knew she should keep dancing. She has never stopped since. At age 6 she starting competing with Glen Roc Dance Shoppe and also auditioned and was cast in the Nutcracker with the Roxy Ballet Company. At age 8 we started attending conventions and she has been acknowledged as a stand out in hip hp, contemporary, and lyrical with Deviate dance convention. She was also one of 6 dancers to be awarded the Thrive scholarship with Thrive Dance Convention. She received this award for Tap. Now at age 9 she received a scholarship after doing Fly Dance Competition's virtual convention. She was recently selected to be an ambassador for summer sky dance wear. She hopes to continue to learn and grow as a dancer. She dreams to be famous for dance and be able to inspire young dancers one day to keep pushing and challenging themselves.

**Achievements:** Skye has dance for Glen roc Dance Shoppe in ewing NJ. since she was 2 and half years old. She started competing on the mini competition team at age 6. At age 8 she began competing on the junior competition team and received her first solo. She was only able to perform it one time this year due to Covid 19 but she did place in the top ten. The studio website is [www.glenrocdanceshoppe.com](http://www.glenrocdanceshoppe.com) They studio has received a lot of awards and achievement over the years.

Photographer Jade Kimbrough ( mom)





I am an extremely passionate dancer who one day hopes to make it as a rockette or open my own dance studio. This has been challenging for me since I have moved often but I am always determined to make my dreams come true. I try to practice as much as possible on my own, and I am always eager to learn new skills and choreography. I have been dancing since I was 8 years old, starting in a dance studio in New York and later joining their competition team in 5th grade. Once I moved my sophomore year, I entered a new school with a dance class and I was awarded a solo in the group dance right away. A few months later, I auditioned for my high school's dance team and I made it. My junior year I was also awarded

a pointe solo during our winter recital. I am currently a senior hoping to audition for a college dance team in the fall. Last summer, I was invited to perform in the Thanksgiving's Day Parade in New York City, along with bring state champions for two years in a row.

**Achievements:** The studio I was trained in was called L.A Dance un Staten Island, New York. They produce amazing dancers and win almost every competition they go to. Most of the dancers that are in that studio also get accepted to the Joffrey Ballet Program and LaGuardia High School in New York City.

Photographer: Stephanie Edwards





Stevie Rose Gerhart is 18 years old and has been dancing since she was 2. She attends Gloucester County Institute of Technology (GCIT) for high school majoring in Dance. Stevie Rose's dream is to become a dance instructor at a performing arts high school like the teachers she's had, to share her art with students just like her. Stevie Rose is involved in 4 honor societies at her high school and takes both performing arts and her education very seriously. Stevie Rose was voted Secretary in the National Honor Society for Dance Arts in the spring of 2019, and has made many contributions to her school's chapter in the 2019-

2020 school year. Stevie Rose teaches at her dance studio, works as a Disney Princess for birthday parties/events, and works at a dress shop as a personal stylist/sales associate to make money to pay for Stockton University, where she will be attending in the fall of 2020, majoring in Arts Administration. Stevie Rose has been awarded by the Gloucester County Board of Education for her accomplishments in the NHSDA in 2020, and has been awarded 2 community theatre awards from The Grand Theatre as "Best Youth Actress" in ALADDIN as THE GENIE in 2013, and BYE BYE BIRDIE as KIM MCAFEE in 2017.

Achievements: Stevie Rose Gerhart dances at Expression Dance Studio in Pitman, NJ and has competed in dance competitions under her studio. Expression Dance Studio was created after merging Stevie Rose's former dance studio, Samantha's Dance, with Corrine Gangi Dance Center. Miss Samantha D'eleto is Stevie's current dance teacher and owner of Expression Dance Studio. Stevie Rose auditioned and made the Philadelphia Junior Soulmate ELITE Dance team in 2019 and performed at numerous football games in the AFL.

Photos: Dennis Kelly Photography



I am almost 16 years old. I am a competitive dancer and have been dancing for about 14 years. I am also an aspiring model working with John Casablancas Centers and I will soon be signing with Model Talent Management. I am very serious about my modeling career and I am constantly looking for opportunities to build my brand and get my name out there.

Achievements: I attend B.Funk Dance Company located in Ellicott City, MD. I have been with this studio for almost 8 years now. They are closely affiliated with Monsters of HipHop. Our studio owner is Laura Edwards who is a well known choreographer in the dance community, and she has worked with many big artists and has been in many shows and performances. Students from my studio have had opportunities to dance with Justin Bieber and be a part of the Kidz Bop family.

Photographer Jerri Tidwell, my friends





She began ballet a few years later after moving to Atlanta at the age of 7. She began to notice the importance of technique and style when it came to the dance community and wanted to contribute in the best way she could. She stated, "Free expression is what gave me peace and a piece of mind." She dance all throughout my middle and high school careers, and also in college, at Clayton State University. In college, she also got into some modeling for carnival attire as well. She wanted her art to become a much larger part of her life because it helped her so much as a child.

It is never easy for anyone to fight for their dreams. Especially in a society where people of color are not always favored. It has lead her to self-doubt and questioning herself about many things. However, the

thing she would always say is that you should not complain about the things that you do not have because there are always people with less. She says, "One of the things that keep me grounded in my journey is my family. They remind me every day that I have to be patient with myself and the keep a consistent pace throughout."

In me asking of her , what were her goals she stated, "My hope is to provide a space where everyone could come and let go, work out their problems, be at peace with their minds, and love themselves wholeheartedly. I plan to do this through different forms of dance therapy which involves implementing different environments, sounds, and people to understand our own minds and bodies more clearly. My art, however, is limitless! I have been

involved in not only dance, but modeling, photography, writing, and painting as well. So other than a dance studio, my goal is to provide a space where all art can thrive. I want my business to be as versatile as I am. Once I am able, my art studio will consist of a dance room, painter's studio, music studio, photography room, and modeling and fashion room as well."

**Achievements:** She has danced all throughout school. From middle to college level education. Extracurricular gymnastics and modeling as well. She began her internship with AREA dance studio, and has been such a great role model to the children learning ballet and other techniques. She is a light to the company, and we know that she will go far!

Photographer Kevin Kabunda



Yesenia wishes to go to school for dancing. She wants to have a professional career as a dance and also wishes to own her own studio. Senia currently dances 14 hours a week in the studio and since Covid has been dancing about the same virtually. She loves all kinds of dance but her favorite style is lyrical and contemporary. She is planning to attend a performing arts school next year which will include dance in her curriculum.

Achievements: Yesenia currently dances on Elite Team at Horizons Dance Conservatory. She has won many Dance

Competitions which include the overall highest scoring soloist in her age division at Starpower, Starquest, Encore, Dance Xplosion, I Love Dance, Elite Dance Challenge, she was top 7 at NYCDA and OD runner up, She was top 5 at On Pointe, showstopper and Groove. She loves performing on stage and loves to compete. Her favorite part about Competitions are meeting all the talented dancers that she gets to become friends with.

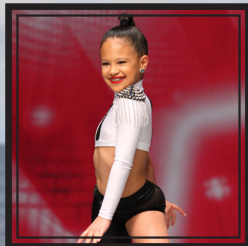
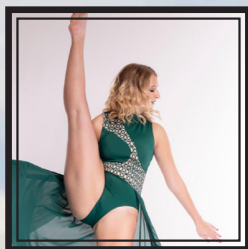
Photographer Felicity Munoz







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