

*i*DANCE

MAGAZINE



**Meera
Hanon**

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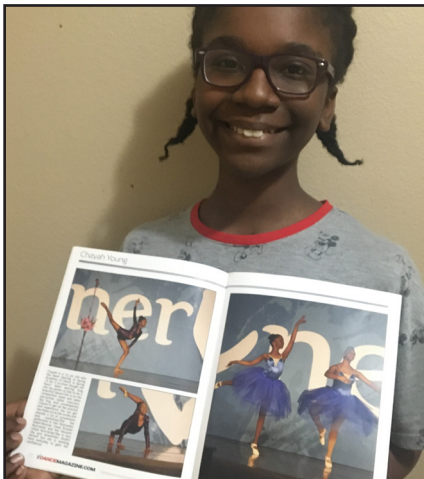
Mission Statement

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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Abigail Wright





Hi I'm Abigail Wright And I am a dancer. I have been dancing since I was around 4. I love dance so much. Dancing makes my world go around dance makes its own language between my body and the music that only we understand. Some of my accomplishments are winning the Senior Ms applause title, Winning an encore award, Powerhouse judges choice, Winning the pageant title Ms born Natural, and other competition awards for dance. In my years of dance my biggest

dreams have always been to be a professional ballet dancer and then to own my own studio. As a dancer a challenge we always face is confidence and our selves becoming our worst critiques. This is always a challenge but I am always ready to persevere through my negative to bring a better dancer to light. Something that all dancers should keep in their mind is that our artistry and our dedication become the water to grow our dreams. Photographers Credits: Scott Young Media

Alanna Espinal

My name is Alanna Espinal and I am 19 years old. I've been dancing for 17 years and all my life I've always wished to have my own dance studio. While I do want to experience all there is in the dance world such as back up dancing, performing, choreographing, teaching and so on, where I want to settle down is in my own dance studio! As an 18 year old, I managed

to open up my own dance company called "Transcendence Dance Company" alongside 3 other businesses partners. I'm currently a dance BFA at Rutgers Newbrunsick and a member of Omari Brown's HD Crew. I love to have fun, share my passion with others and make the world my stage,





Alexis Quitiquit



My name is Alexis Quitiquit, I am 16 years old and have been dancing since the age of 9. I currently dance at Dance & Cheer Stars in Manteca, CA under the directory of Harmony Flores. Growing up I played a number of sports, but nothing would ever make me feel the surge of passion like dance has. Most times I wish I had started dancing at a younger age but as I come up on my final year as a competitive dancer my curiosity grows for what the future has in store for me.

Recently I had found out I have a calcaneus cyst in my left foot, it has gone unnoticed for years. Pain was always present in my foot during practice and performance but it was thought to be normal from the prolonged practices. I now wait for dates for the surgery hoping it doesn't interfere with my final year of competition and collegiate dance tryouts.

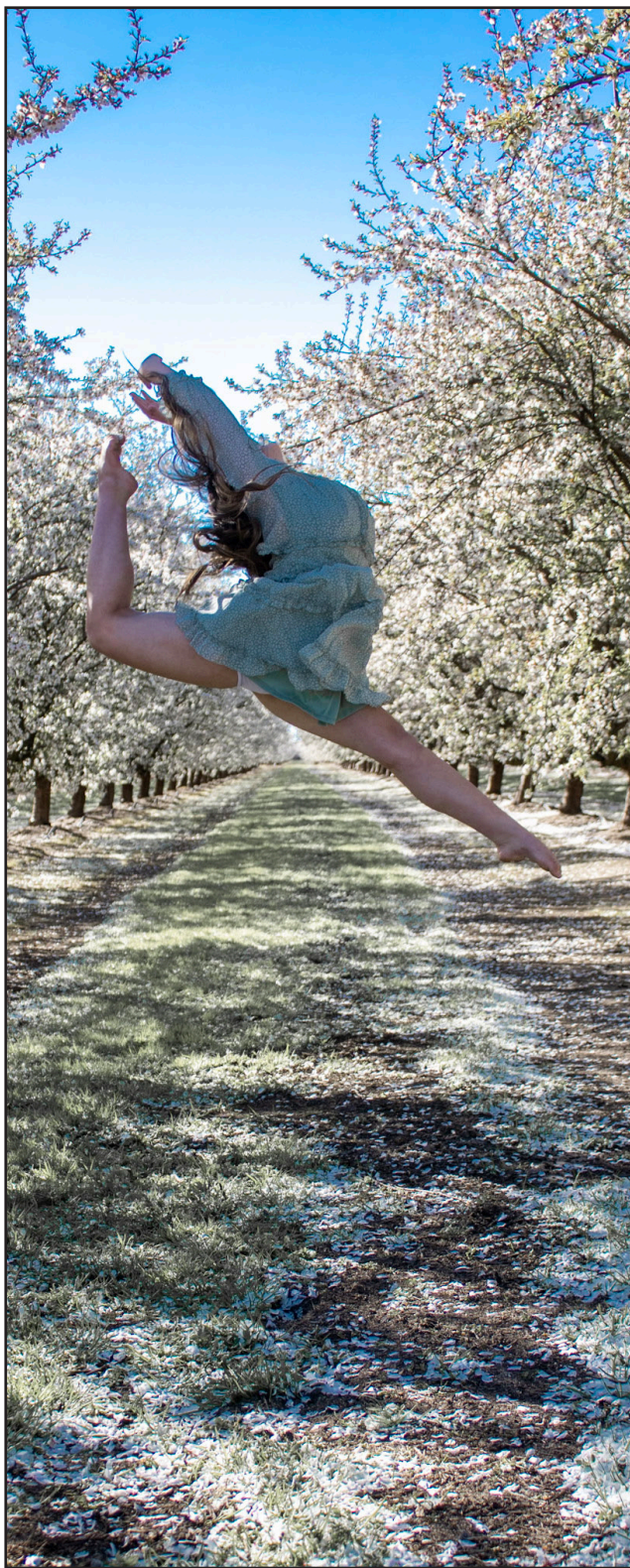
After I graduate high school and depart from my team, I plan on going to collage and majoring in Biochemistry and minoring in Dance.

Without dance I don't know where i'd be now. I am extremely grateful and passionate for the



opportunities I was handed and give back in every way I can from community service opportunities to running a 5k to benefit the fight for human trafficking. I cannot wait to see where my dance career is headed.

Photographers Credits: Deuce Dance Photography (@deucedancephotography), Photography by Kame (@photographybykame)



Amorette McMickle



I love to dance. I've been dancing since I was three years old. My father passed away when I was four. My dance studio is my second family. I'm in the 5th grade now and I know my daddy is watching my from heaven. This year, I danced with my friends and my first solo for trophies at competitions. When I grow up, I would like to be a fashion designer. I love all my dance costumes and glitter. I love to shine on stage and cannot wait to see my future designs make others shine as well.

Photographers Credits:
Vigeo photography.



Anita Nieva Rosas



She is Anita Nieva Rosas, she is from Argentina, in 2019 she moved to the United States and currently lives in North Carolina. She has a degree in International Relations from the Catholic University of Salta in Argentina. She has been dancing since she was 6 years and took classes of Jazz, Hip Hop, Irish Dances, Brazilian Samba, and Reggaeton.

Since 2011 she dances and teaches Indian Dances. She has been trained in different styles such as Bollywood dance, Indian classical dance, Rajasthani and Punjabi dances with teachers from India, Argentina, Spain, and US. She has certified and specializes on Bhangra Dance, an energetic indian folk dance originated in the Punjab region. Anita has learned it mainly from the punjabi

community established in the north of Argentina. She has written articles on the cultural ties between India and Argentina published by the magazines Spanish Bolo and NRI Achievers. She has also organized cultural events such as India Independence Day, Republic Day of India, Argentina loves India. Her cultural activities received the recognition from the Indian Embassy in Argentina giving her an award through the Ambassador Amarendra Khatua in 2015.

She is currently a Cultural Ambassador of Bhangra Dance and was the first dancer to represent Argentina in the World Bhangra Council. She has her own brand as "Bhangra Queen Anita" and Facebook page "Indian Dances with Anita".

She is excited to continue this journey of dancing and spreading indian dances in the Cherokee County, North Carolina's western most county, and the nearby areas belonging to Tennessee and Georgia.

Photographers Credits: Fabian Villaroel Photos



Arianna Lasinski



My journey with dance began when I was three years old. As the daughter of Polish and Filipino immigrants, I was introduced to my parent's world of privilege and struggle at a very young age; however, the barriers I faced myself were consistently internal. I rarely identified with the older dancers that I admired, and thus, I often questioned my ability to achieve what others had. I felt that the obstacles I faced and the standards I placed on myself were different than those of my peers.

Oftentimes, we have a desire to see a reflection of ourselves within our role models, as it can be through them that we learn how to love and respect ourselves. It wasn't until I understood this that my relationship with dance changed drastically; I discovered the art of storytelling through movement and resolved to become the role model for other young dancers that I lacked myself.

Although these internal hurdles persisted throughout my teenage years, by the age of twelve, I would dedicate fourteen hours each week to the dance studio, participating in group classes and competing as a soloist and a team member in



Jazz, Tap, Ballet, Contemporary, Modern, Lyrical, Irish dance, and Musical Theatre, all the while mentoring younger children while continuing in my own instruction. I have since received awards such as Top Ten Dancer at the Shine Dance Festival, Top Modern and Contemporary Dancer and Modern Provincial Representative for both the Penticton and Kootenay Kiwanis Music Festivals located in British Columbia, Canada. In 2017 I became a member of Team Canada Dance and was provided with the opportunity to represent Canada on the world stage at the International Dance Organization World Championships in Riesa, Germany. This year, I will be competing virtually at the 2021 International Continent vs. Continent World Dance Championships. I hope my achievements have helped other young dancers recognize their abilities and realize their dreams.



In the next few months, I will be moving to Toronto, Ontario, Canada to pursue academic studies and dance in the commercial field. I aspire to continue working towards my own goals as a means of becoming a role model for others.

To me and many, dance is more than movement, it is a celebration of life, an expression of cultural pride, and foremost a beacon of unity and escape from reality. I am so very lucky to have this outlet that allows me to express myself and connect with others in a way that language cannot.

Photographers Credits:
Shine Dance Festival, Lindsay Smith

Chloe McKnight



My name is Chloe McKnight and I am 11 years old. My love for dance started at the young age of 2 and I began dancing competitively when I was 5. I started my training in ballet and jazz and have expanded into lyrical and contemporary. Contemporary and dancing pointe are definitely my favourite!

My personal challenges I face with dance are the feelings of if I don't get it the first time I never will. My everyday goals of always trying new things, pushing myself to be better and to never give up allow me to overcome those challenges.

One of my biggest accomplishments has been making it into the Top 10 dancers for the past 3 years at Synergy dance Competition! I was also selected to be a Party girl in the Goh Ballet Nutcracker at Queen Elizabeth Theatre. Dancing on such a big stage with Professionals was such an honour.

One of my biggest dreams for dance would be to dance in movies or on TV! I would also love to get an opportunity to travel and dance once I get older.

Dance is a way for me to believe in myself, always push myself to be better and to build the confidence and self esteem I will need to not only succeed in dance but in many other things that will come my way. Dance is a true passion of mine and I can't wait to see where dance takes me!





Started dancing at 3 years old. Ever since then, I had the passion to dance! And so far, I haven't quit. I didn't give up. Through many challenges and obstacles I still did it



Davelyn Abraham

Hi, my name is Davelyn Abraham, I am 11 years old, and I live in Indonesia. My hobby is of course dancing. I have started my ballet journey since I was 3 years old. Ballet has always been my dream and my passion.. It makes me happy.. I want to

become a worldwide professional ballet dancer who inspires young generation to live their dreams. Because I believe in hard work, perseverance, and pray that nothing is impossible.
Achievements:



- 2021 YAGP Asia Pacific Top-12 Contemporary
- 2021 YAGP Asia Pacific Top-30 Classical
- 2021 WBGPS Gold Award Classical
- 2021 HKCCDC Gold Award Classical & Contemporary
- 2020 AGP Regional Silver Medal Classical
- 2020 RAD Examination Grade 4 Distinction Award (Total marks 94)
- 2020 ADAPT Syllabus Jazz Examination Junior 2 Honours Mention (Scores 95 and above)
- 2020 Star of Canaan Dance 12th Place Classical
- 2020 IBDI Marlupi Dance Academy The Most Outstanding Award
- 2019 MIBGP 7th Runner Up Classical
- 2019 BIDC Honourable Mention Classical

Scholarships:

- AGP Ballet Intensive Program
- Lisa Macuja School of Ballet, Philippines
- Soki Ballet International, Japan
- Marlupi Dance Academy, Indonesia
- Jeffrey Dance Academy, Singapore



Gaby Lopez





Hello, my name is Gaby Lopez and I am 12 years old. I have been dancing at Performance Edge 2 school of dance for almost 10 years and competing for almost 5 years. Right now I am focused in becoming a better dancer and I am working on improving my acro tricks. I love dancing, singing and acting. I am looking forward to becoming a

professional actress and dancer in musical theatre. In December 2019, I had the opportunity to be a part of a professional show: A Christmas Story for Slow Burn Theatre Company and I really loved it! I am also part of the musical theatre junior troupe called Sparks from Slow Burn Theatre.

Gracen Boyle



Gracen took her first ballet/tap class at the age of 3 and has been hooked ever since! She has been with her current studio, Expressive Dance Movements, for 7 years and loves every second of studio time. 4 years ago, Gracen joined the competition team and really began to flourish as a dancer. Her commitment to dance and her teammates is evident in the hours of practice she puts in. This years competition season was unlike any other thanks to COVID and all the rules, regulations, and safety measure associated with it. Despite that, Gracen thrived on stage!



The 1st competition of the season, Gracen earned GOLD placement for her solo along with a special host award for "Graceful Energy"! Her trio earned HIGH GOLD!

The 2nd competition of the season, Gracen earned HIGH GOLD placement for her solo along with 1st place in her lyrical category. Her trio earned PLATINUM placement and 1st place in their contemporary category.

The 3rd and final competition of the season, Gracen earned PLATINUM placement along with 1st in her lyrical category. And she finished 4th overall! She was also awarded a judges award for "Perfect Potential". Her trio also placed PLATINUM and took 2nd place in their contemporary category and 2nd place overall!

It was a wonderful dance season! Gracen is looking forward to dance camp this summer where she will not only stretch her legs as a dancer but also as a teachers assistant!

Photographers Credits: Encore DCS, Leroy Bogert Photography



Hailie Showalter





My name is Hailie and I'm a dancer. I took my first dance class at age 13. I fell in love with dancing and began to train. I began competing with pieces that I choreographed on my own. With those pieces I won the all-star award three years in a row, 3 overall awards, and many judges choice awards like best technique and most captivating. The biggest challenge I faced as a

dancer, and as a person was the boating accident i was involved in August of last year. I sustained injuries in my head and my back that i steal deal with today. I'm still competing and working through it all.

Photographers Credits: Ruby Amber Casey

Hannah Mastrostefano



Since I was small I have found joy in movement. Whether music emerged from a stereo or a tune circulated in my imagination, my body was my means of self expression, communication, and above all, having fun. As my years accumulated, so did my training and my knowledge of how to control my motions as I willed. I learned technique, experimented with artistry, and experienced being part of a team to bring creativity to life. I soon found that with pirouettes I challenged the laws of physics, rotating on one leg for longer than thought possible. Jumps and leaps made me feel more powerful than gravity itself. Teachers often took notice of my affinity for feats of strength and athleticism and I was lucky enough to have the opportunity to earn scholarships, dance with many talented artists, and even achieve entry into a conservatory where I hope to earn my BFA in dance. The road to where I am at present however, was not always pretty. Standing at barely five feet tall and obtaining a muscular frame posed as a challenge for me. I often compared myself to taller, seemingly more graceful dancers, thinking that my body was not worthy in my craft. I struggled with my body image for years, not seeing the beauty in what I already had. It was not until I remembered the reason why I dance that my insecurities melted away. I thought back to the happiness I took, as a child, from moving my body to tell a story or simply convey an emotion. This joy is not limited by the shape of our hips, length of our legs, height, weight, skin color, gender, etc. Dance is for all to love, beyond such frivolities like the traits we cannot control. Every body is a dance body. I hope to be able to keep dancing in college and beyond, and to use my experience to help others realize that they are enough and are indeed deserving of the gift of dance. My dream is to keep performing as I learn from esteemed educators at Mason Gross School of the Arts, so I can help open the minds of others to make the industry a more accepting place to learn and grow.

Photographers Credits:
Tara Starr Photography



Kinsley Grace



Kinsley Grace is a 10 year old dancer, working model and actress with credits to regional dance titles, national commercials, regional department store ads, international designer marketing, live performance art and movie credits. Kinsley is an elite level competitive dancer in Florida where she competes and studies Contemporary, Jazz, Lyrical, Tap, Acro and Ballet.

At age 4 Kinsley was diagnosed with an autoimmune disease called Hashimotos Thyroiditis. She was told that she may not have the energy needed to dance, her true passion. But she did not let that stop her. She and her family advocate and educate others dealing with this disease with the goal of bringing awareness and hope. With lots of research and careful medication planning Kinsley is thriving and is a ray of sunshine to all she encounters.

Kinsley views herself as a thoughtful daughter, a kind sister to her 3 older brothers, a good friend, a dedicated student and a hard worker. In the future she hopes to be on Broadway, or to be a surgeon, or a dance teacher. But above all, she wants to be happy and healthy, and wishes the same to everyone.

Photographers: Shark Cookie
Kaci Boone Photography
Lil Robin Pics



@sharkcookie





Kristin McCarney is in her final year at Canada's National Ballet School Teacher's Training Program. She has completed the York University Dance program, and is a well-diverse dancer, teacher, and choreographer. She grew up dancing at the Lindsay Dance Studio and has been teaching there this current year. Kristin has also gained qualifications in teaching dance to Parkinson's disease and has made her own curriculum called "Dance is for EveryBODY". This curriculum is meant for dancers with disabilities and limitations, and contains fun, creative, and safe material. Kristin hopes to

eliminate any stereotypes on what a dancer should look like, and believes that everyone should have the chance to dance regardless of their age, shape or size, abilities or background. One of Kristin's goals is to make dance more accessible to everyone, and educate dance teachers on teaching dance to people with disabilities. Kristin is hoping to continue teaching dance and choreographing, while inspiring more people to fall in love with this art form.

Photographers Credits: N/A

Leah Webster





This year is my last year as a student dancer, I am graduating high school in June and going on to become a paramedic. As I am completing my college courses I will be teaching dance at Performance First Dance School in Entwistle Alberta. I started dancing when I was a toddler and continued through till I was around six years old. At that time I switched over to singing competitions and training for five years. When I decided to give dance another try I was 12 years old and I've been dancing at Performance First ever since then. Dance is my passion and I plan on continuing this passion throughout my life. Whether that be teaching or owning my own studio one day. I have won platinum and high gold awards with multiple solos and group dances. I won a highest scoring dance duo with my best friend Owen a few years ago. As a senior dancer I am extremely proud to have won these awards and many others. I have had many opportunities to attend dance conventions and camps and every time I attend them I become stronger watching everyone else around me and supporting the community that I love.

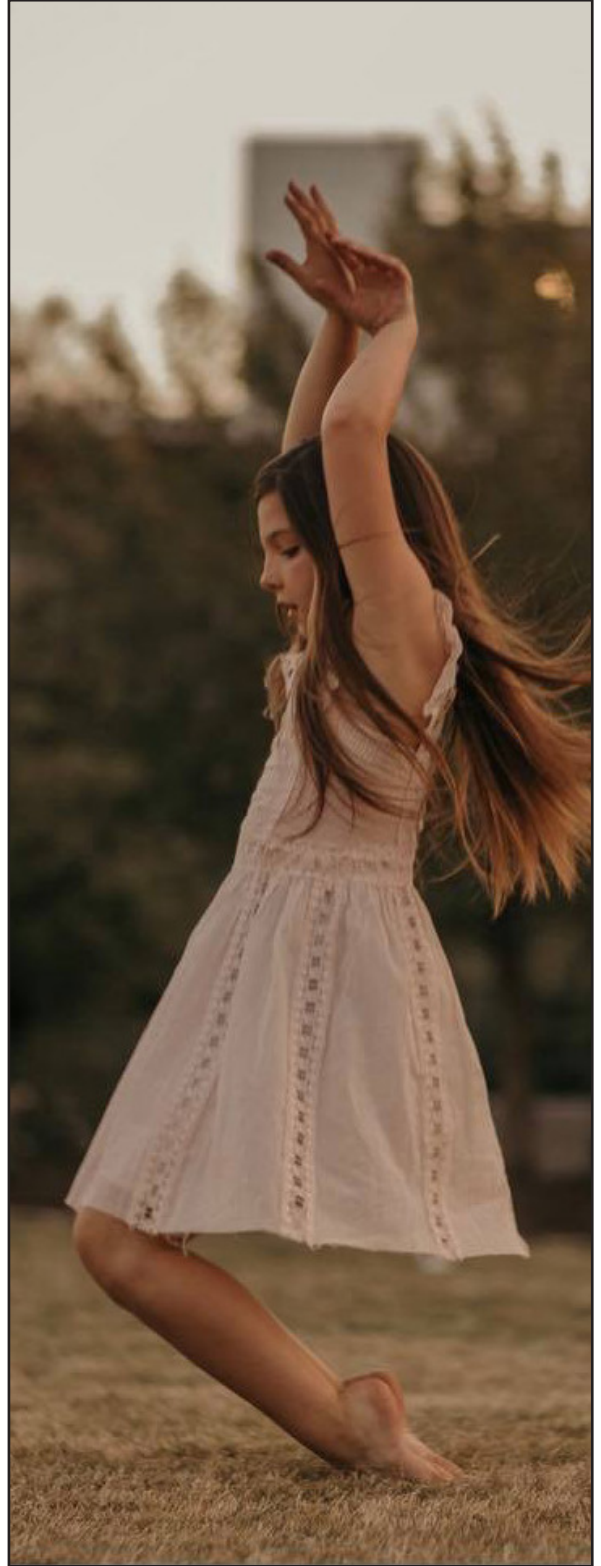
Photographers Credits: Catch Your Breath Photography

Lilikoi Garrison





Maci Starling





My name is Maci Starling and I am almost 11 years old. I have been dancing since I was two years old and I have a passion for all things creative and competitive. I truly love all genres of dance, although I genuinely thrive at tap dancing! I have had the greatest teachers, Alex Miner(Tap) and Sara Koontz (Jazz/ contemporary), who have

always pushed me to do my best no matter what obstacles are thrown my way.

The last year has definitely been my best year of dance yet! I have learned so much and really grown as a dancer. My solo and duet have placed at every competition, as well as almost every group dance! I was

so excited to get back on stage this year after missing most of last year due to COVID, and it has not disappointed! Thank you to everyone at Beyond Dance Project for giving me a safe space to grow, learn and just be me!

Photographers Credits:
Alex Miner Photography

Madelynn Joan McDermott



Madelynn is almost 7 years old and is headed into her 3rd year on a competition dance team. Madelynn was not able to compete last year due to the pandemic but was able to compete this dance season. Her team successfully achieved overalls at all 3 competitions they attended in the Mini Small Group Category with a Lyrical Dance. Madelynn loves ballet, jazz, lyrical, and tap. She did take an Acro class where she continues to build

on flexibility and strength. Her goal was to achieve her middle splits and she was able to do so. She is in the studio a little over 3 hours a week working on her dancing. Within the last 2 seasons, her confidence in herself has grown and she has shown maturity in her skills. She has potential to become a beautiful dancer based on coaches comments. She looks forward to upcoming auditions for her 3rd year and dancing with her younger sister.



Maggie Garcia

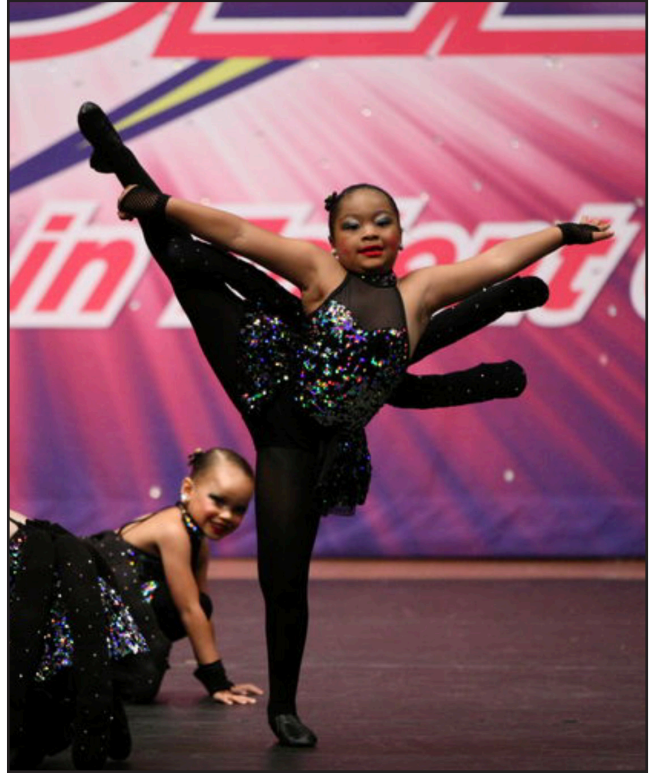


To be a professional dancer and serve the Lord.





McKenzi Chase





My name is McKenzi I am 5 years old and I have a passion for dance. I started my dance career at the age of 2. I have been a competitive dancer for 2 years and my dance studio, where i have formed some really close friendships along the

way. My biggest challenge this year has been getting my back walkover. I some day hope to be a veterinarian.

Photographers Credits: Memory Lane photography

Meera Hanon





Hi! I'm Meera and I'm 12 years old. I've been dancing at Langley Dance Academy since I was just shy of turning 3. I first started in Ballet, but now I study in all genres- Ballet, Jazz, Contemporary and Lyrical. My favourite genre of dance is Contemporary. I LOVE to dance because it's a way of expressing myself and it always makes me happy after a bad day. What else do I love about dance and the studio I'm at? The lifelong friendships I've made. So many of my closest friends are dance friends. My dance teachers are amazing too- they're more than dance teachers. They're my mentors who always encourage me to better myself and who I can always go to talk to about all sorts of things. Langley Dance Academy is my second family!

I've been competing since I was six and absolutely love it. The excitement leading up to it as well as always feeling like it challenges me to be a better dancer for next time.

Photographer Credits: Peggy Wynn Photography



Mia Kerton Sanker



Photographer Credits:
Peggy Wynne Photography

My name is Mia and I'm 12. I've been dancing since age 3 at Langley Dance Academy (Langley, BC) I love dance! LDA has become a 2nd home for me and my team are like an extension of my family. It truly is my safe space.

My dreams are to continue working on pointe and flexibility and take those skills to New York!

I currently assist in classes, including my little sister's class, so I hope to teach dance professionally too and inspire the next generation of dancers!

My team has consistently achieved high marks at competitions as well as special awards. I've had the chance to receive Judge's Awards for my solos too. But, I think my favourite part of competition is cheering on my friends. They are so unique and talented that it's a lot of fun to watch them crush it on stage.

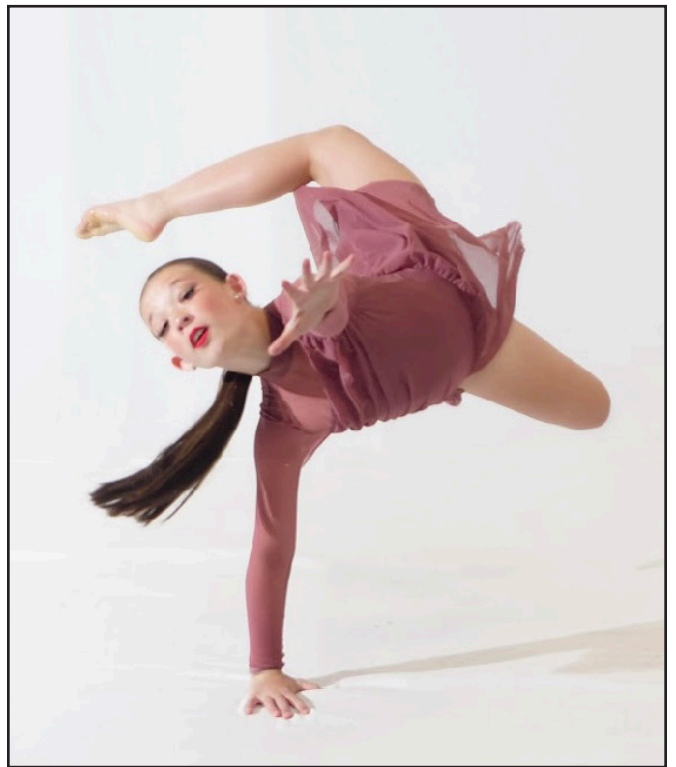
I am looking forward to in-person events and travelling to conventions to continue making memories with my best friends!

xoxo -Mia





Neelah Cook



My daughters dreams would be to open a studio of her own one day. She would like to make every child feel beautiful about themselves and give them the confidence that it has given her! She just lights up on stage and just feels the music. I would give all the credit to her biggest role model MaKayla Hunter. This is her dance teacher and she knows how to push her

to her limits. My daughter will tackle anything you give her and push until she gets it. Neelah is up for any challenge she will try any style of dance or any trick in dance because she loves it all!!!

Photographers Credits:
MaKayla Hunter and Sarah Cook



Nicolette Greminger



Nikki dances at Turning Pointe Dance Company. She has been dancing since I was little and made 5 year, this year. Nikki also just finished her first year as a mini on the studio's competition team (Ignite Dance Company).

Her favorite dance style is lyrical/ contemporary. She likes how she can express herself with the music and dance moves.

Over this past year, She has won multiple 1st places, diamond awards and judge's specialty awards.

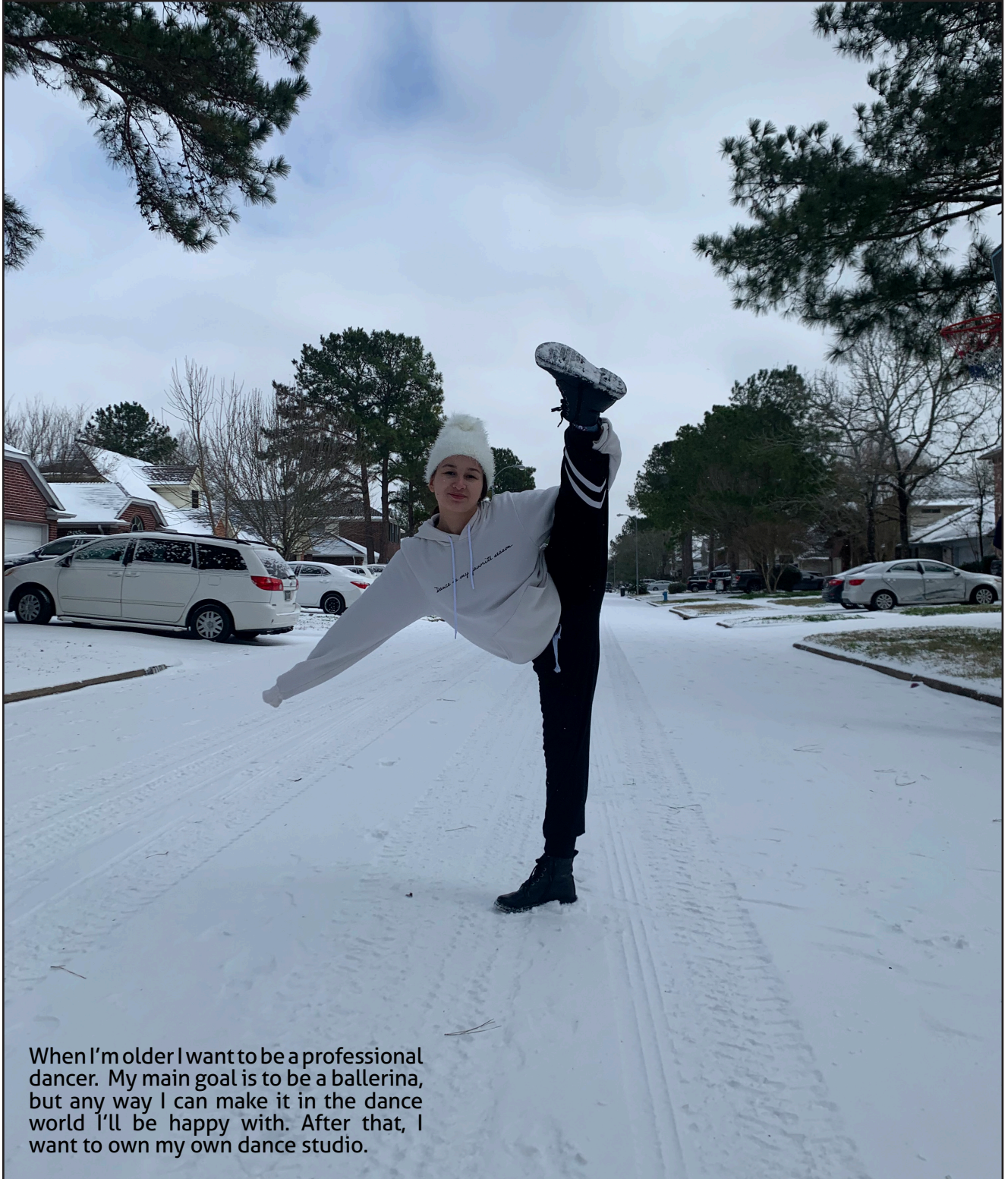
Nikki is looking forward to the coming years with her friends/dance family and all the new adventures they will be going on. Nikki is really looking forward to going to Nationals with her team this coming year that starts in the fall (2021-2022).

Covid-19 made Nikki miss her last competition of this season but, that's not going to hold Nikki back for next season. She will be trying out, again for the competition team this year.

"I'm dancin'!" - Nikki



Payton Kato



When I'm older I want to be a professional dancer. My main goal is to be a ballerina, but any way I can make it in the dance world I'll be happy with. After that, I want to own my own dance studio.





My dream is to be a dance teacher when I grow up so I can teach little kids what I know. I also want to dance in movies. I really like to dance because it is fun and it makes me feel good. I am 8 years old and have been dancing since I was 4. This year was my first year on the competition team and I got to do a solo. It was a jazz/acro solo and I did good. My greatest challenge so far turned into my greatest achievement. I am always told to give more energy and at my 4th competition I got a special judges award titled "All the Energy!" This made me really happy. My goal is to continue dancing so next year I can do more challenging routines. I can't wait to see what the future holds!

Photographers Credits: P3 Dance Competition and Paula Hollis 2



Shania Williams





Shania is entering her senior year of high school. She has been attending dance class training since she was 6 years old. God has blessed her with 2 special gifts, dancing and high jump(track & Field). She won an award freshman of the year for doing an outstanding job as member of her high school track team and going to regional championships in 2019. Shania has danced at weddings, several recitals youth events, liturgical ministry at her

church and even funerals. COVID delayed some opportunities to New York and Los Angeles that she was accepted to in 2020 but she is continuously working hard, getting back on schedule to pursue her dance and track & field goals. The best is yet to come!

Photographers Credits: Ourselves

Sophie Ball





I'm 8 yrs old and I aspire to learn point. I have danced 5 years and competed 1 year. I love dancing especially ballet. My dream is to be a dance teacher and share what I know with kids just like me.

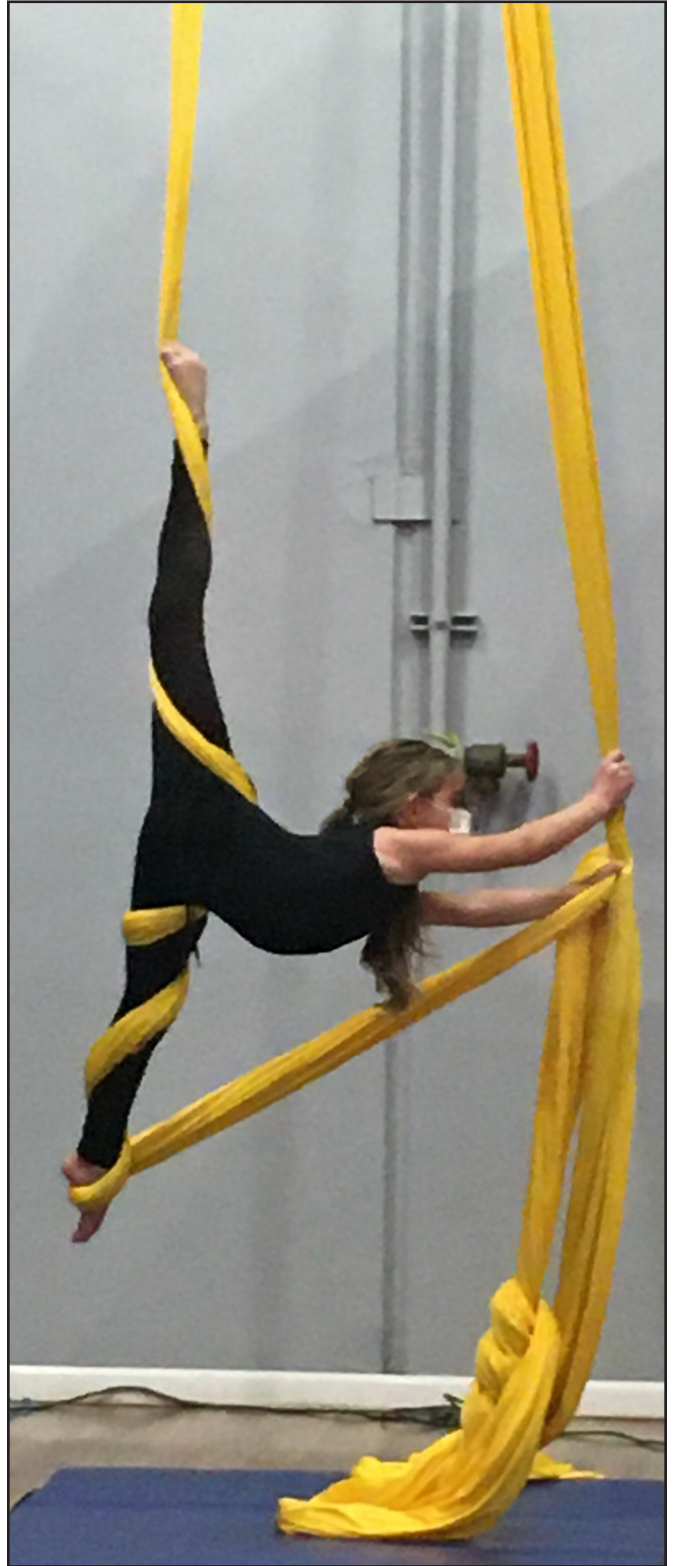
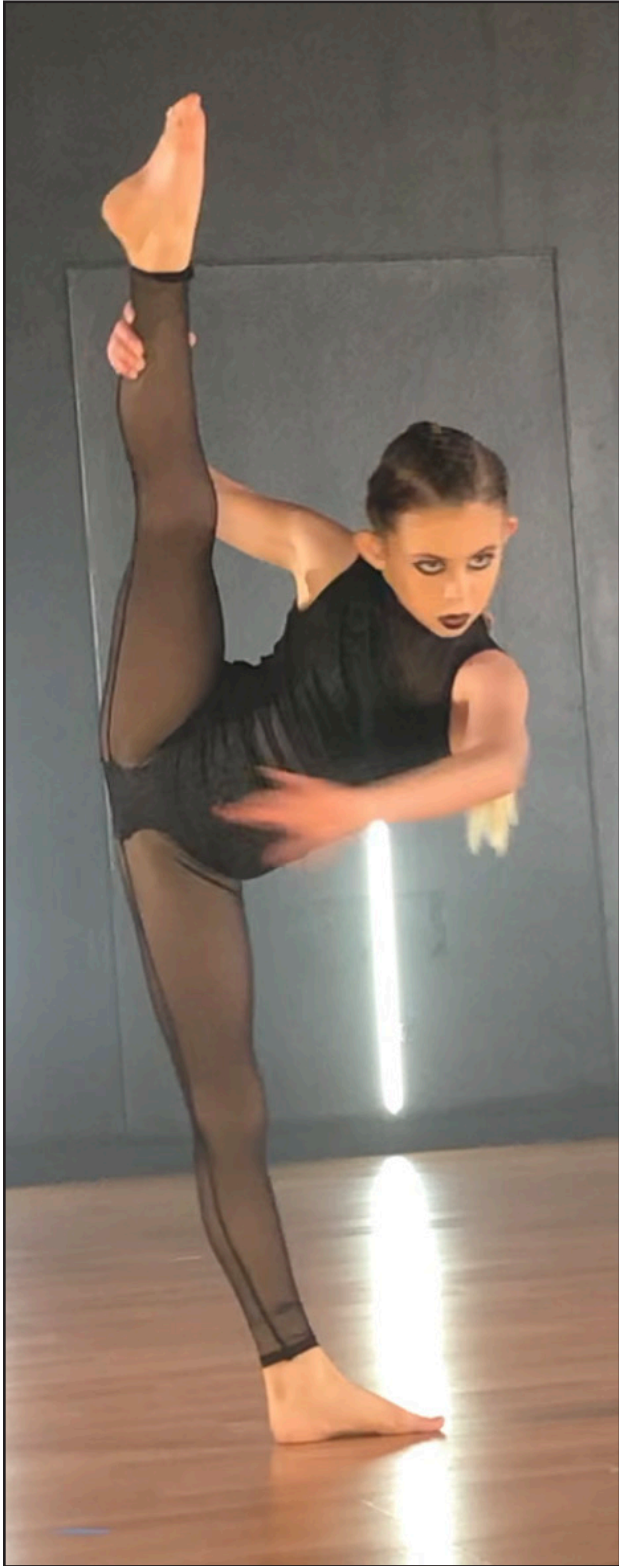
Photographers Credits: Chandler Haligas

Talullah Blu Boone



Hello my name is Talullah Boone, but everyone calls me by "Blu". I am 10 years old and dance at J2K dance studio in El Paso, TX. I love dancing and especially competing! Competition is everything to me! I started dancing at 3 years. This year has been a challenge not only for myself, but also for my team mates because of Covid. We all had to miss out on a lot, but luckily we were able to still do virtual competitions. I was able to win the Latin American Championships with a first place and was invited to Spain! It was a dream come true.

I also was able to take home first place double platinum at showstoppers in San Antonio, Texas and will compete alongside my fellow team mates in Las Vegas at the nationals! I am hoping that I do good on my solo! It can be a little intimidating when I'm going against so many other amazing dancers, but they push me to become even better. One day I hope I can win a Crystal award and make my Coach Pamela Acosta proud and J2K proud. I want to have my own studio some day and also attend medical school! Love, Talullah



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Mia Kerton
Sanker



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