

## **About Our Judges...**

**Jamie Anderson** graduated from Texas Tech University with a degree in Family Studies and Psychology. She went on to get her teaching certification and was the dance teacher at Odessa Hugh School and dance team director of the OHS Showgirls for 11 years. The Showgirls received over 25 State and National titles under her direction. In 2012, Jamie and her family moved to Plano, where she is currently the studio manager and an instructor at Dance Industry Performing Arts Center. She continues to work with several drill teams around Texas doing workshops and master classes. Jamie is happily married with two amazing sons, Austin and Evan

Molly M. Andriola received her BS in Dance Performance at the State University of New York at Brockport and her MS in Dance Pedagogy from the University of Idaho. She is a certified Shin Somatic Yoga Instructor, holds a teaching certification K-12 for the state of Texas and serves as a professional judge for competitions and various high school/college dance teams. She has trained, toured and performed with many world-renowned artists. Mrs. Andriola was a Clinical Associate Professor of Dance and the Dance Coordinator for 10 years at Texas A&M University where she also founded the EmSu Dance Company in which she served as the Artistic Director. She served as a Guest Artist in Residence in 2008 for Westchester Academy for International Studies and became the dance director for the Wildcats Dance Team and in 2010. Her choreography includes multiple works that have premiered and toured throughout the United States in national, state, and regional galas. She has received numerous honors and awards, including the National Dance Educator of the Year University/College level 2008 from the National Dance Association. Mrs. Andriola has served on the board for the Honors Council, Board of Directors and Vice President of Science & Somatics for the National Dance Association and is the Past VP and Board of Directors Member of the Dance Division with the Texas Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. She continues to facilitate her role as a dance educator and guest artist for private and public schools, higher education institutions and communities. She serves as the Artistic Director for Monell Dance Interstate, a private outreach program inspiring youth in dance education & performance and Monell Collaborative Danceworks; a company who performs throughout the community focusing on the artistic medium of movement and collaboration between students/professionals.

**Stephanie Braden** has been the Director of the Austin High School Red Jackets Dance Team since 2000. A native of College Station, Texas, Ms. Braden attended A & M Consolidated High School where she was the captain of the Bengal Belle Drill Team. Also during her high school career she danced and began teaching at Expressions Dance Studio. Ms. Braden graduated Cum Laude from Southwest Texas State University in spring of 2000 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Dance. While enrolled at SWT, she performed with Orchesis and choreographed and performed with Opening Door Dance Theatre, Choreographers' Collective and Choreographers' Showcase. Currently Ms. Braden continues to choreograph and teach for other drill teams and is the owner of Ovation Camps & Contests. Stephanie was also an Austin High School teacher of the year finalist in 2012 and 2013, as well as a Director of the year semi-finalist 2013.

**Erin Campbell** is a former Kilgore College Rangerettes Lieutenant and Swingster. She graduated magna cum laude from Texas State University earning her Bachelor of Science in Dance with a secondary teaching certification and has a Master of Education degree from Concordia University. Erin has been a dance teacher, choreographer, and adjudicator for dance/drill team camps and competitions for the past 15 years, has served on the choreography staff for Mike Miller and Associates and the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, and worked on the pageantry staff for the AT&T Cotton Bowl Classic. In addition to working with many schools across the state of Texas, Erin also choreographed for the NBC hit t.v. show *Friday Night Lights*. She directed the dance program and Trojan Belles dance team at Anderson High School in Austin, TX for nine years and is currently an assistant principal at Anderson.

**Kim Cardwell** has been a public dance educator for 24 years. She currently teaches and directs the junior varsity dance team at Colleyville Heritage High School in Colleyville, Texas. Kim directed varsity dance for 14 years. She directed at Eisenhower H.S., Houston, Texas, Haltom H.S., Haltom City, Texas, and at Colleyville Heritage H.S., Colleyville, Texas. She has coached JV for 10 years. She directed at Carroll H.S., Southlake,

Texas, and Colleyville Heritage H.S., Colleyville, Texas. Kim served as captain of her high school dance team, and served as captain on the world famous Kilgore College Rangerettes. She was the choreographer of the University of North Texas Song Leaders Dance Team. She holds a Bachelor of Arts from UNT. Kim has been nominated and has been a finalist for T.D.E.A.'s director of the year. She also judges for different dance companies on the Regional and National level. She enjoys spending time with her family, husband Chris, and daughters Rebecca and Brelyn.

**Ronnye Cowell** has 30+ years as a dance educator. Ronnye was a dance team director for 22 years where her teams, officer lines, and soloists received state, regional, and national championship titles. She was one of the first dance team directors to bring the lyrical jazz form of dance to the competition floor in the late 1980's. Ronnye worked with the State Board of Education to create the current dance certification exam that all aspiring dance educators must pass in order to teach in Texas public schools. Ronnye is a past President of the Texas Dance Educator's Association and is currently their scholarship coordinator. In 1986, she become a member of the Texas Association Teachers of Dancing, Inc (TATD). She has 30+ years of experience in dance studio instruction teaching tap, jazz, ballet, musical theatre and modern. She is currently serving as the Past President of that organization. Ronnye was named Secondary Teacher of the Year for Brazosport ISD in 1997, Director of the Year for the State of Texas in 2002 and received the Lifetime Achievement Award from TDEA in 2010. Ronnye is married with 3 children and lives in Houston. She was an Assistant Principal in Cy- Fair ISD, and is currently is the Director of Instruction for her campus. She actively takes dance classes and volunteers as a mentor for students in grades 6-12. She is also an adjudicator for the Dance Education Assessment of Learning (DEAL) in Texas, as well as, numerous state and national competitions throughout the year.

**Kendra Foisie** grew up in Houston, Texas where she began her training. There she danced with distinguished pre-professional ballet company, Kingwood Dance Theatre as well as the highly reputable Kingwood Jazz & Company receiving many awards and accolades. During this time she had the privilege of working with many gifted and prominent choreographers such as Peter Chu, Jessica Hendricks, and JT Horenstein. After high school, she expanded her repertoire by training in and teaching ballroom dance at Fred Astaire Dance Studio. She recently earned her degree in Psychology from the University of Houston and plans to expand her education by studying Dance Movement Therapy in graduate school. She currently resides in New Braunfels, Texas where she is an instructor and choreographer for NB Dance & Company, while also providing choreography and master classes locally. She is excited to bring her knowledge, experience, and love of dance to Crowdpleasers and is committed to helping students grow and succeed while igniting their passion for movement.

**Kandy Gailey** began her dance training at the age of 3 performing with the Corpus Christi Concert Ballet before moving to League City, Texas where her training continued at Royal Academy of Fine Arts. While at RAFA, Kandy was a company member for the Clear Lake Metropolitan Ballet (now Bay Area Houston Ballet and Theater). In high school Kandy was a member of the Clear Creek Cavaliers Dance Team where she served as Junior Lieutenant and then Captain her senior year. Wanting to continue her love for dance, Kandy attended Kilgore College where she was a member of the World Famous Kilgore College Rangerettes and the Swingsters elite performance group. Kandy also performed with the National Champion Stephen F. Austin State University Pom Squad while teaching dance at a local studio. After graduation, she took her first job as a Dance Team Director at Lamar Consolidated High School in Rosenberg while judging, teaching dance camps, and choreographing on the side. Kandy has had the privilege to start two new dance team programs in the Houston area. Her first was the Morton Ranch Maverick Belles and the second at Clear Springs High School with the Silverados. While a Director, her teams have won numerous titles and awards. Her desire to stay in education has now lead her down a different path in the role of Counselor to high school students at her alma mater Clear Creek High School. However, dance will always be her passion and nothing brings her more joy than to see the hard work and dedication pay off on dance floor with a show stopping performance filled with emotion. Kandy is happily married to the man of her dreams (Barry). She has three amazing children, Rowdy (age 14), Kohen (age 8) and Kamryn (age 7), that she now plays chauffer to between dance classes, football, karate, and baseball.

**Courtnie Garrett** began dancing at the age of seven at Carol Ehler Dance School in Houston Texas; and continued to dance with her until graduating high school. While dancing and competing with Carol Ehler, she won multiple awards for jazz and tap routines. At nine, Courtnie auditioned and was accepted into the Houston Ballet Academy and later joined the Junior Company with the Houston Repertoire Ballet. In high school and college, Courtnie was a member of the jazz/hip hop company, Planet Funk, a dance company that performs internationally. Courtnie has been teaching at The Carol Ehler Dance School since 2000; and has choreographed many award winning routines for Houston area drill teams including officer dances, ensembles and solos.

**Amanda Golden** is a native Houstonian with 7 years of cheering and dancing professional for the National Football League's Houston Texans. She has performed on stage with Grammy award winning artists as well as traveled the world performing for the U.S. military troops stationed overseas. She has trained since the age of 2 years old in all types of dance including ballet, tap, jazz, contemporary and hip hop and over the years,

has received numerous awards for dancing and her choreography. Amanda hopes to pass on her training and passion to others who love the same thing.

**Kelsey Grant-Link** was raised in League City, Texas where she found her passion for dance at a young age. Kelsey trained for numerous years and became the captain of the Clear Creek Cavaliers her senior year of high school. Her continued desire to dance led her to Oklahoma City University, a well renowned liberal arts school where Kelsey studied dance extensively. She received a Bachelors of Science degree in Dance Management and graduated with Cum Laude honors. After Oklahoma, Kelsey decided to move to Austin where she is now continuing her passion of dance and is the Assistant Artistic Director of Austin's Dance Elite. She feels blessed and honored to share her love of dance while educating students of all ages at Alisa's Dance Academy. Her choreography has received multiple awards, including 2 national titles. Kelsey travels around Texas to set choreography on various high schools and studio companies, which she loves. She also continues her performing career through Verge Dance Company; an adult professional contemporary company.

**Lindsay Haygood** has over 25 years of experience in the art of dance through studio training, drill team, and training in the college setting with an emphasis in contemporary and modern dance, and was a member of the Texas Aggie Dance Team. She is a graduate of Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Science in Zoology and a Minor in Dance. After college, Lindsay moved back to Houston where she taught fifth grade math and science for four years before joining the Elementary Science Curriculum team in Galena Park ISD and receiving her Masters degree in Science Education. During this time Lindsay also proudly collaborated on La Porte High School's annual musical productions. Lindsay continues to choreograph field and contest routines for several high schools in the Houston area. Currently, Lindsay is a work from home mom spending her days with her 1 year old son and her evenings consulting with Elementary Science teacher training programs for both the University of Houston and Rice University's Educational Outreach department.

**Lindsey Housson** has been dancing since the age of 5 and has extensive training in ballet, tap, jazz and hip hop. She was a member and captain of Aggie Dance Team from 2002-2005. Lindsey has also worked for Crowd Pleasers since 2002. She is the former Assistant Director of the award winning Cypress Lakes Sterling Stars (2008-2014). Lindsey has choreographed for many soloists, duets, ensembles and teams throughout the state. She is currently pursuing a masters degree in school counseling. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her husband and three children, Noah (9), Beau (3) and Aubrey (1).

**Lisa Holt** has been involved with Dance/Drill Team industry for more than 15 years. She started dancing professionally as a teenager with Third Coast Jazz in Austin. She received the highest individual award at USA Dance Camp, Miss Supersensational 1990. Lisa was invited to work for USA where she became head instructor for USA Jazz Camp, and USA Collegiate Dance Program. She was on scholarship at Navarro College and was Captain of the "Showstopper" dance team. After college Lisa became a Dallas Maverick Dancer for 5 years. She was named Dallas Maverick Dancer of the year 1996-1997. Lisa has been on faculty at Plano Dance Academy and Rowlett Dance Academy. Currently, Lisa has become involved in the ballroom dance world. She has competed in the smooth and Latin dance divisions all over the country. In the past she has competed in Dallas, San Antonio, Las Vegas, and Miami. In both Dallas and Miami, Lisa was awarded top solo in the Latin division. She also won the Pro-Am Latin 2 Dance Competition in San Antonio. In Miami she was awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Smooth and Rhythm Dance All-Around in her division. Lisa also continues to choreograph around the DFW area for various high school and area soloists. She is one of the state's leading adjudicators for local, state and national levels of high school competitions.

Amber Houser, a native of Dallas, was fortunate enough to have begun my dancing career at age 2, growing up as a competitive company member and auditioning for popular shows including Star Search. Amber's tenure in the Lake Highlands High School Drill Team (the Highlandettes) led to her becoming a senior staff instructor and judge for professional drill team companies throughout the region. That opened the door for numerous opportunities to teach and choreograph all over the United States - ranging from the Cotton Bowl Classic Halftime Show to the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York - which gave her so many wonderful experiences from which she could learn and grow., With a degree in Dance from the University of North Texas in hand, Amber soon became a Charter Member of Dallas Dance, a nonprofit dance company, serving as Artistic Director from 2003-2008. There she was incredibly fortunate in opportunities to develop my creativity by choreographing for numerous festivals, charity events (such as the Cattle Barron's Ball and the Dallas Junior League), and television competition shows (America's Got Talent). Since then, she has choreographed numerous award-winning works for soloist, dance and drill teams, both locally and ranging across the country. Amber returned to her roots for a year as Assistant Drill Team Director for the Lake Highlands Highlandettes, and moved on to Director of Ballet at a local Dance Studio, and Director of a new adult competitive dance company, DefiANCE. Along the way Amber started a dance costume consignment company, Costumes Unlimited, which along with my choreography keeps her connected with some of the

best people in the dance world. Her travels now bring Amber the opportunity to move others with a passion for dance at her own studio in Plano, Amotion Dance.

**Deborah J. Jaynes** has 33 years of experience in the dance/drill team world. She is retired from teaching and directing the Victoriadore Dance Team. DJ graduated from Texas Lutheran University where she was a cheerleader and very active in performing arts. Her background and experience with theater and dance gives her an overall perspective for the entire performance. As the dance world continued to change throughout her career, DJ traveled to New York City, Los Angeles and Las Vegas many times to remain current with the latest styles and trends. DJ shared her love of the visual art with the young members of her community and led her teams to understand the core concepts of dance. DJ understands that the secret behind a winning performance is a strong team; she organized and directed annual summer line camps placing a huge emphasis on team building that helped to create the foundation for contest season. She is currently taking her love and talent for creating a spectacular performance to the next level with "4D" Dance, her own dance consulting and choreography company. DJ and her husband Charlie live in the Texas hill country where she enjoys spending time with her eight grandsons and ONE granddaughter!

Mary Lou Johnson has been involved with the Dance/Drill Team industry for more than thirty years. She received her AS from Kilgore where she was a member of the Rangerettes. As a Rangerette she danced with the Swingsters, a specialty jazz performing group. She received her BS in Art Education and earned Dance Certification from the University of Houston as well as Administrative Management from UH Clear Lake. While teaching at Clear Creek High School, Mary Lou was the director of the Cavaliers Dance Team as well as developing the curriculum for the districts dance program. She has also been involved with many drama musical productions in her community. Mary Lou is a Past President and the Lifetime Achievement Award and a Hall of Fame recipient for the Texas Dance Educators Association. Currently, Mary Lou is one of the leading dance adjudicators for the state and national level as well as the Coordinator of Visual and Performing Arts for Clear Creek ISD as she develops programs for over 13,000 fine arts students from K-12.

Mary Beth Kepper is a native Austinite who graduated from The University of Texas. A 36 year veteran teacher, she is a respected and popular leadership consultant in the Austin and Central Texas area. Mary Beth spent 5 years in Longhorn Band during her college career and was a dance team director for thirty years. She has presented leadership workshops at state and national conventions and is available for private consulting. Mary Beth has been recognized in many ways for her excellence in education and leadership. She has been awarded Teacher of the Year multiple times, Texas Dance Educators Association Director of the Year, Lifetime Achievement Award, and Hall of Fame. Her students and student groups have enjoyed enormous competitive success under her direction, and have continued to maintain respect and affection for her even decades after their time in her care.

**Holly Knight** graduated with her BA in dance from the University of North Texas. Holly has worked for Marching Auxiliaries of America for twenty-six years as an adjudicator, choreographer, and camp instructor and facilitator. She currently also judges numerous Solo and Ensemble Competitions in the Houston area. Holly was a Dance Team Director for ten years before retiring to be a mother to a son Cody and daughter Riley. She was at Lamar Consolidated High School for two years. She then started the dance/drill team program at Elkins High School. She was the Elkins Elite Director for eight years. Her team has received numerous awards including National Champions in Pom and Lyrical. She has taken several students to California for Miss Drill Team USA to compete for a National Solo title.

**Bethanie Le Blanc** has over 30 years of experience in the art of dance through studio training, drill team, and training in the college setting with an emphasis in ballet and modern dance. She is a graduate of Sam Houston State University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance and a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting. Under the direction of Dana Nicolay, Bethanie was a company member of Dance Spectrum and worked with many renowned artists. She also choreographed and directed multiple projects for Sam Houston State. After graduation, Bethanie moved back to Houston to work for KPMG in public accounting and teach ballet and modern dance at local Deer Park studios. She choreographed field and contest routines for several high schools in Houston and Corpus Christi and earned choreography awards for pom and modern. Currently, Bethanie provides master classes around Houston specializing in modern technique and continues to choreograph field routines. She also works full time at Marathon Oil Corporation and is a licensed Certified Public Accountant. With her husband of 11 years, Bethanie loves to watch their 6 year old daughter Cadence and 3 year old son Blake grow.

**Amanda Leonhardt** started dancing at Carol Ehler Dance School at the age of 3. She was a Social Officer her jr. year and Dance Officer her sr. year for he Mayde Creek Martinettes. She is a graduate of Texas A&M University, where she received a degree in Sociology. Amanda is in her 5<sup>th</sup> year teaching at her alum, Mayde Creek High School, in Katy, Texas. She started teaching English along with being the Assistant Director to the

Mayde Creek Martinettes for a year. She was the Head Director for three years, and has now returned teaching English full time after the birth of her new baby girl. Amanda's passion for the arts will forever be a part of her, and is so proud to be a part of the industry.

**Barbara Loomis** has directed Dance teams for over thirty years. She attended Kilgore College where she was a member of the Rangerettes. She graduated from the University of Texas and promptly started her career with Westlake High School. After starting her family, she directed The University of Texas Pom team for nine years earning several national awards. She then went on to direct Westwood High School and Westlake High School a second time. All of her teams have won state and regional championships. Barbara's teams are well known for their showmanship and technique making them a competitive force on the dance floor. Barbara has judged many contests all over Texas and has also traveled to judge in California, Oregon, and New Mexico. She is a well respected veteran of the dance team world. Her peers honored her with the Life Achievement Award in 2002 for an outstanding career as a dance director. Since her retirement, Barbara is staying active in the dance world by serving as a clinician, adjudicator and consultant.

**Jamie Lumpkin** graduated from Texas A&M University in 2012 with a BS in Sports Management. She moved to Dallas and danced for the Texas Legends Dance Team (2012-2013) while working for the sales department at Fox Sports. After dancing for one season she moved back her hometown, Baytown, and was hired as the Assistant Director for the Sterling Stars. She was promoted the same year to the Director position and has been living her dream ever since.

**Stephanie Lyle** has been involved in dance education for eighteen years. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Dance and a minor in English from Sam Houston State University. Stephanie completed her master's degree in Education Administration from Lamar University in May 2011 and currently serves as an assistant principal at Cypress Ridge HS. Stephanie was selected as the CFISD Spotlight Teacher of the Year for Cypress Ridge HS in 2008. She has received the TDEA 2011 Director of the Year award as well as induction into the CFISD Wall of Fame. Stephanie is truly proud to continue to serve her students and her community. Stephanie is a member of the Texas Dance Educators Association and Texas Association of Secondary School Principals. Stephanie is married to her wonderful husband and friend, Joseph W. Lyle, Jr. and they are both proud parents to Laney and Lance. The Lyle family enjoys recreational time at the lake, river and beach.

**Dianne Marks** is in her 25th year as a dance director/dance educator. Dianne is currently a Coordinator of Fine Arts for SAISD, where she supervises Dance and the 24 SAISD Spirit Groups (Dance, Cheer and Pep). She is the former director of the 5 Time Nationally Award Winning Taft Highstepper Dance Team, the South San Dancin Cats, and the Westfield High School Lariettes. Dianne has instructed dance/drill team camps and judged numerous local, regional and national level competitions (cheer and dance) for 26 years. Dianne was a Officer on the DTDA Board for 3 years; she is a former choreographer for the DTDA National All Star Dance/Drill Team, and has been an active member of TDEA for 25 years. Dianne attended Texas State University where she was a Strutter for 4 years, an officer for 2 years, and Strutter Captain. She received her degree in Dance and Special Education, with an additional certification in Physical Education. She also holds a masters degree in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies from the University of Texas at San Antonio. Dianne is a founding partner of Elite Dance Co. Dianne is married to her fabulous husband Jared and is the mother of adorable, precious, sassy, and determined dancer Shaelyn Faith.

**Megan McDonald** is a recent graduate of Texas Christian University. She began her career in dance at the age of two, dancing with Dana's Dance Studio and later Doubletake Dance Studio. She competed and trained in various styles and with many renowned choreographers such as Mia Michaels, Tyce Diorio, Joe Tremaine, Brian Friedman, and Wade Robson. In 2003, Megan was a member of the Keller Indianettes. In 2007-8, Megan was a member of TCU Showgirls. In 2009 she founded and directed the TCU Elite Dance Team., which she led to 4 consecutive national titles. She also taught at Doubletake Dance Studio and worked for Stage One Dance Productions as a Production Director. Megan is now working as the International Buyer for Into the West Unique Home Furnishings deep in the heart of Fort Worth. You can rotate your radio dial and listen to Megan at The Sound of Texas, 95.9 The Ranch.

**LaKeisha McGowen** has been a public dance educator for 14 years. She currently serves as the Director of Fine Arts for Alvin ISD. LaKeisha served as Captain of her high school dance team and was a member of the Stephen F. Austin State University Repertory Dance Company. She holds a Master's degree in Educational Administration from Prairie View A&M University. She served for five years as the director for the dance team at Hightower High School in Fort Bend ISD and founded the Seven Lakes High School Sapphires Dance Team in 2006 in Katy ISD. LaKeisha is a Past President for Texas Dance Educators Association. She also works as an event coordinator and adjudicator for Crowd Pleasers Dance, Inc. She enjoys spending her free time with her husband Tracy, son Bradford (7) and daughter Briley (3).

**Kara McSwain** began her training in Houston, Texas. While in high school she served as lieutenant for the Stratford Spartanaires and participated in several musical theater productions. Following high school Kara continued her love for dance and drill team as a member the Kilgore College

Rangerettes. During this time she was able to work with Mike Miller as well as serve on staff for Starmakers Dance Company. She has had the opportunity to teach dance in Henderson, College Station, Houston, and surrounding areas where her teams competed in countless dance and drill team competitions. Private lessons and choreography have been an aspect of teaching Kara has enjoyed, especially sessions preparing hopefuls for Rangerette Pre-Training. Kara began judging for Crowd Pleasers 2009 in and thoroughly enjoys keeping in touch with the dance industry. Currently, she is focusing most of her energy to raising her family. Kara, her husband, five children, and two dogs recently moved to Mandeville, LA.

Lynette Miller has been a member of the Dance/Drill Team Industry for the past 25 years. She graduated from Sam Houston State University with a Bachelor's in Fine Arts and then pursued her Masters in Administration from the University of Houston, Clear Lake. She most recently was the Director of the Alief Taylor Crimson Cadettes where she started the dance program when the school opened in 2001. She has served as President of the national organization Dance Drill Team Directors of America and served in many committee chair roles for the Texas Drill Team Directors Association. She has lead many workshops on classroom management and organizational skills, and computer technology. Lynette is presently an Associate Principal of Instruction in Alief and continues to serve the dance industry as an Adjudicator for contests and auditions. She is most proud of her four children, Ashton (21), Cameron (20), Shelby (18) and Triston (14) who have given her all her wrinkles and grey hairs but also all her prideful smiles!

**Sheila Milner** is the Director of Dancezone. Dancezone offers training and development of artists to prepare for industry as well as further education in dance. Ms. Milner has developed artists that have performed nationally and internationally. Their pre professional company and dance company has earned numerous local and national awards. Sheila is the Director of the Miss Houston organization in which she trains and prepares her titleholders for the Miss Texas and Miss America scholarship pageants. The Miss Houston organization is proud to have had back to back Miss Texas Teen titleholders. Ms. Milner has taught in the HISD district for many years as a dance director, teacher, and choreographer. Sheila currently is the Director of Talentmaxx, a local talent and artist agency. In addition to her interests in dance, talent, and pageants, Ms. Milner is the proud mom of a 16 year old son, who keeps her quite busy!

**Terrill Mitchell** is a Master Teacher and Choreographer traveling the U.S. expanding his freelance career. He spends a lot of his free time choreographing for Youth Companies, Competitive Dance Studios and High School Drill Teams. He has served as a master teacher for the Texas Dance Educators Association and has judged many dance and drill team competitions. Terrill is also the Company Director for Elite Dance Academy and has won numerous choreography awards and national titles from various competitive venues. In addition to his choreography and teaching career, Terrill is a 6 year company member for the Houston Metropolitan Dance Company.

**Susan Mojaver** was the director for the Alief Hasintgs Golden Bridade from 1989 to 1995. She then moved to Cypress Falls High School to teach Dance for the next 10 years. While at Cypress Falls, she became the Fine Arts Department Chair and eventually the Assistant Director for the Cypress Falls Sky Dancers. Susan has also served on the board of the Texas Dance Educators Association. She was the treasurer for two years, the President-Elect for one and served as the President in 1995. She has been an adjudicator for Marching Auxilliaries, Crowd Pleasers, Miss Drill team Texas, and the Kingwood Dance Classic. She is currently teaching at Katy High School.

**Kori Moore** began her training in dance in the Dallas area at the age of four. As a competitive dancer, Kori studied tap, jazz, ballet, pointe, musical theatre, lyrical, and hip hop. At the young age of eighteen, Kori was hired as a professional dancer onboard Royal Caribbean's "Voyager of the Seas" where she performed in full production shows and taught multiple dance classes to guests. In 2012, Kori moved to the Austin area to pursue her education. While attending Texas State University, Kori thrived as a teacher and choreographer for various dance studios in the area. In the past few years, Kori's choreography has won several awards and achievements at numerous dance competitions. Recently, Kori graduated from Texas State with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies. As Kori's college experience comes to an end, she is thrilled to continue her lifelong passion for dance and share her knowledge with each and every one of her students.

**Mitzi Phillips** has been a member of the Dance/Drill team world since the third grade, but most recently was the Director of the Langham Creek Bailadoras for 14 years. Prior to her tenure at Langham Creek High School, Mrs. Phillips directed the Willis High School Sweethearts for 7 years. At both director positions, her teams won numerous titles including National Championships. In 2003, Mrs. Phillips was named Director of the Year for TDEA. She was a Tyler Junior College Apache Belle, and before that, a Bonnie Belle from Montgomery High School. She has taught many workshops on choreography and instruction at T. D. E. A. convention as well as summer camps. She has developed curriculum for judges and currently adjudicates for local, state and national competitions across the nation.

**Courtney Perna** was a professional dancer, acrobat and aerialist in Las Vegas, NV and Tokyo, Japan. As a member of the dance team at Michigan State University, her team was ranked 3rd in the nation. Courtney continues to work as a choreographer for competitive high school and studio dance teams, and is a board member for Dance Houston, a local non-profit empowering diverse dancers of all ages through festival and performances, and helping obese patients at Texas Children's Hospital by offering free health and fitness programs. She is currently an on-air correspondent and producer for KHOU's talk show "Great Day Houston".

**Melissa Rayburn**, Mrs. Ray, as her students call her, graduated magna cum laude from the University of Houston in 1997 with a degree in health education. In 2000 she earned her masters degree from U of H in health & human performance. She taught dance & fitness at San Jacinto College for 5 years while she owned her first dance studio, Planet Dance. During this time, Mrs. Ray has also taught at Galena Park High School. For 7 years she directed the Jacketeer Drill Team. After that, she spent 2 years at Humble's 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Campus teaching dance. In 2006 Mrs. Ray became the inaugural director of the Atascocita High School Patriette Dance Team. After 7 years Mrs. Ray resigned her director position to focus on her family & other professional endeavors. She currently teaches dance at Kingwood & Humble High Schools. For the past 11 years she has operated Spotlight Dance Productions which enables her to bring her choreography, namely lyrical & contemporary, to various teams. Last summer Mrs. Rayburn opened Atascocita Dance Academy, hoping to bring her love of dance to young children & teens alike! Mrs. Ray credits what she calls success to her faith in Jesus Christ & her amazing family. She is married to her wonderful husband of 11 years, Michael, & together they share her proudest "productions": Miranda, age 10, & Makenzie, age 6!

**Nicole Reamer** is originally from Austin, TX but has made Houston her home since 2007. Studio trained in Austin for 11 years she transitioned to drill team in high school as the captain for the highly competitive AHS Trojan Belles. Nicole received a scholarship to attend Oklahoma City University as a Dance Management major. There she continued to train and perform with the OCU American Spirit Dance Company and Pep Dancers. She transferred to the University of Texas at Austin and was a member and officer for the Texas Pom Squad. Nicole performed at the 2006 National Championship Rose Bowl Game for UT. Throughout college Nicole taught at various Austin studios and was on staff for Crowd Pleasers and Image Dance Explosion conventions across Texas. After graduating from the University of Texas, Nicole moved to Houston and enjoyed getting to know the city through countless appearances and home games as a Houston Texans Cheerleader. She also was a drill team director, cheerleading coach and dance teacher for an HISD middle school for 5 years. Nicole is currently a stay at home mom to her son Jackson and lives in Houston with her husband Grady.

**Jen Richardson** has been choreographing and teaching for drill teams and dance studios over fifteen years. She is a graduate of Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Science in Economics. Jen was the owner and director of a successful dance studio in the Austin area. Jen currently judges dance events throughout the southern United States.

**Ashley Rocke** is a graduate of the University of North Texas and has been a dance instructor/choreographer for about 29 years. Her accomplishments include working for the NBA Dallas Mavericks, where she was the Appearance Director for the 2000-03 Mavs Dancers. She is currently a choreographer for TIGI Haircare and is the Head Coach of the Lion Dance Team at Texas A & M University-Commerce.

Leslie "P'Nut" Shaw-Hatchard has spent nearly twenty years performing, teaching, and judging dance throughout the nation. She danced for Navarro College's "Showstoppers" and the drill team at Trinity Valley Community College. She then went on to become a Dallas Cowboy Cheerleader, Dallas Burn Dancer, and Dallas Maverick Dancer where she was also the Assistant Director for two years. Under her leadership the Dallas Maverick Dancers were named "The Best Dance Team in the NBA." Leslie has been a guest Choreographer / Instructor for many of the top camp companies including Dance Line Christian Camps, National Cheerleader Association's Danz Collegiate Program, Marching Auxiliaries, as well as Crowd Pleasers Officer Camp. She was chosen as the 2005 All State choreographer at TDEA Convention. She currently is the Company Director at Broadway Dance Center in Garland, Texas, the Co-Founder / Co-Director of the Dallas Sidekicks "Sizzle", and has started a new internet company Tees with Chi. In addition, Leslie has been an adjudicator for all levels of Dance / Drill Team Competition including Crowd Pleasers Dance, Inc., NCA Danz, and Marching Auxiliaries Nationals.

**Lauren Schieffer** is a contemporary dance artist from Austin, TX and currently based in the DFW area. She started dance training at the age of three and has experience in modern, contemporary, ballet, tap, jazz, and hip-hop techniques. She served as 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. and head of the hip-hop Funky Co. for the Westlake Hyline, was a Kilgore College Rangerette and Swingster, and has performed with the Texas State University Orchesis modern dance co. and the Texas Woman's University Dance Lab. She holds a M.F.A. in Dance from TWU and B.S. in Dance with a minor in Spanish from Texas State. Lauren has performed nationally for recognized choreographers and has taught a variety of ages and dance genres. During the 2013-2014 school year, she instructed dance and worked with the Belles at Highland Park HS. Additionally, Lauren is certified to teach 9-12 dance in the state of Texas, has eight years of experience working in the private dance studio context, taught as a Graduate Teaching Assistant at TWU from

2012-2013, and served as a staff member of Starmakers from 2006-8. Currently, she is an adjunct professor of dance at TWU and an instructor at Power House of Dance.

Ashley Sengsouvanh started dancing at the age of three for Judy Lee Dance Studio and then moved to Joyce Willett School of Dance in Austin. She studied jazz, tap, lyrical, hip hop, musical theater and also performed with Body Talk Dance Company. Ashley graduated from Pflugerville High school where she was a four year member of the Lady Panther Dance Team. She was an officer for 3 years including captain her sophomore year, major her junior year and Colonel senior year. Ashley pursued her education at Blinn College in Brenham Texas on a full dance scholarship and was a Blinn Treasure and become Captain her sophomore year. She then transferred to Sam Houston State University were she danced in the Sam Houston Dance Spectrum Company and the Huntsville Dance Company for three years. While in college she taught at Dana's Dancers dance studio for three years and was the assistant director of their company as well as a choreographer. She has had the opportunity to train under several master teachers from all over the country. After graduation from Sam Houston State University in May 2004 with a BA in dance and education, Ashley moved to Chicago to study at the Joel Hall Dance Center. Moving back to Texas in 2006 she started her career as a drill team director, along with continuing her teaching at different studios. She is an active member of the Texas Dance Educators Association. She has choreographed for numerous drill teams, dance classes, and individuals in the Houston and Austin area. Most recently Ashley is starting a new dance department and drill team at Elgin High school.

Cristina Quevedo Singleton has been dancing since the age of three. She graduated from Friendswood High School where she was an officer of the Wranglerettes. Cristina earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre (Dance Emphasis) Cum Laude in 1999 from Sam Houston State. While attending, she was a member of the dance department's Spectrum and was also leads in the department's theatre and musical theatre productions. Upon graduation, Cristina moved to NYC where she appeared in several productions on the East Coast, a dancer in industrial shows with Chez/Zam Entertainment, singer at Dillon's in NYC and as a singer and dancer with the Celebrity Cruise Lines. While living in Houston, Cristina was a regular performer and cast member with the Theater Under the Starts productions and sang and danced in several other musicals. As a performer Mrs. Singleton earned the nomination from the New Hampshire Theatre Awards for Best Supporting Actress for her performance as Diana Morales in A Chorus Line at The Palace Theatre. Cristina has taught dance at studios in Pearland, Deer Park and League City. She studied dance at the Broadway Dance Center in NYC, Glen Hunsucker, Houston Ballet Academy, and the late Jonathan Charles. Vocally, she trained with Phil Hall (NYC director and vocal coach), Lou Ann Miles (Broadway performer in the Broadway production of Nine) and Darlene James (performer with Houston's HGO). She has been the proud director of the Clear Brook Celebrity Dance Team in Friendswood, TX since 2006. She was selected two years in a row by the Texas Dance Educators Association as one of three finalists for the Director of the Year Award 2012 & 2013. She was also nominated as Teacher of the Year for Clear Brook High School in 2013. Cristina lives in League City with her husband Matt, daughter Maggie, son TJ, and two cats.

**Annette Stark** began teaching and directing dance/drill team in the public school system over 20 years ago. She is currently the founding director of the Cypress Lakes Sterling Stars in the Houston area. Along with her many years of experience directing, she has been involved in many other aspects of the industry. Annette was a World Famous Kilgore College Rangerette in 1985-1987. From there, she began teaching summer camps, judging contests, and working special events and worked her way up to Head Instructor with one of the original camp companies before becoming Vice President of another large camp company. Annette served on the board in various capacities leading to President of DTDA in the late 90's. She earned many top honors including Top 10 Directors in America and was also awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from DTDA. Annette has also been a member of TDEA for many years where she has presented many workshops throughout those years. Most recently, she was honored as a Director of the Year Finalist for TDEA. Annette has raised three amazing baseball players, Bryce and Dalton, who we hope to see playing in the MLB soon, and one National Champion dancer, Bailey!

Paula Stevens grew up in Texas and has been dancing since age 3. She was an L.D. Bell Raiderette for 2 years, serving as lieutenant her senior year. She began teaching at the age of 16, and studied from various teachers. Her passion for dance was not to perform, but to be a teacher. She owned and directed Doubletake Dance Studio for 14 years and was the dance director at Lifesong Studio for 7 years. In the past 25 years, her students have performed in such places as Six Flags, Fiesta Texas, the River Walk in San Antonio, the Citrus Bowl, and Texas Stadium. Her choreography has been featured at several Cowboy games and her students have performed half time with the famous Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders along with such super stars as Clint Black, Creed, Leanne Rhimes, Billy Gilman, Toby Keith, Jessica Simpson, Destiny's Child, and Carrie Underwood. Paula encourages her students to pursue their dreams. Some of her students have gone on to be professional dancers, choreographers, and studio owners. She is an inspiration to students and staff as she works in consulting, teaching, and assistance with choreography development. Paula is currently the co-owner of a new costume company, Artistic Dance Designs. She has been a judge for Crowd Pleasers for the past 8 years. Paula is married to her husband, Scott and they have two boys, Chase and Brian.

**Mondee Suggs** has been involved with dance training and choreography for more than 20 years. She currently serves as a crisis counselor in Clear Creek Independent School district and runs a private counseling practice in League City. She holds a Master's degree in counseling from the University of Houston, and is a licensed professional counselor and supervisor. Mondee currently runs and operates dance technique training clinics designed specifically for high school and collegiate athletes. She enjoys her free time with her son, daughter and grandson.

**Samantha Stroh** currently resides in Dallas, Texas but is originally from Bismarck, North Dakota. She has been involved in the dance community for over 20 years. Her more then 15 years of experience in studio dance includes training in ballet, jazz, modern, and tap. She was captain of both her high school and collegiate dance teams. Some of her dance achievements include: North Dakota State Senior Dancer of the Year, 3X MSUM Most Valuable Dancer, 2X Top 5 UPA Dancer, and leading her team twice to finals at UDA College Dance Team Nationals. Samantha's current position is Dean of an elementary charter school in downtown Dallas.

Ashley Lupo Stevens received a Bachelor of Science degree in both Dance and Environmental Science from Stephen F. Austin State University, where she was a member of the elite SFA Pom Squad as well as being a member of the SFA Repertory Company which focused on Modern, Ballet and Jazz. She continued her passion of teaching across Texas with Crowd Pleasers Dance Camps, and still serves as one of their competition adjudicators each spring. Ultimately, she spent time as an Assistant Director and Director of the Dance programs for Deer Park High School and Stratford High School respectively from 2002-2007. From 2008 until the present, Ashley helped put together several large productions at Second Baptist Church as well as help start the School of Performing Arts which provides after school instruction in voice, most instruments, musical theatre and dance. Due to her love of dance and body movement, Pilates seemed to be the next natural step. She began as a student of Pilates in 2007 and fell in love with the system seeing the benefits of healing in her own body after a lifetime of dance. Currently becoming a Peak Pilates Instructor, Ashley Stevens combines her 20 plus years of dance experience and performance in order to provide a unique Pilates experience for the beginner, intermediate and advanced practitioner. Her instruction includes reformer, mat, tower, cadillac as well as dance and cardio barre. She is ecstatic to have the opportunity to continue her teaching and education journey with a Pilates focus! Ashley is happily married to her husband, John, and they share 2 dog children, Burney and Rylee along with their cat Arwen.

Cara Switzer is an accomplished dancer, singer, instructor and choreographer who graduated from the University of North Texas in 2003 with a degree in Business Administration. She has been studio trained since the age of 4 and her professional experience includes directing and teaching at various studios in the DFW area since 1998. She has been a Dance Company Director at Lifesong Studio for the past 7 years and currently directs Lifesong's Petite and Mini Dance Company. She is a sought-after teacher and choreographer, whose commitment to positive reinforcement proves to be a recipe for success! Cara's students have received numerous overall and top awards at both Regional and National competitions. Her choreography recently received 1st Overall at the 2009 & 2010 Dance Showcase USA Competition, 2010 Starquest, 2010 & 2011 Onstage NY, 2013 Encore, 2011 Thunderstruck, 2011 & 2012 &2013 NexStar, 2011 & 2012 & 2013 Showstoppers, 2012 & 2013 Stage One and "Most Entertaining" award in 2009, 2010 & 2013, along with many other prestigious top awards! Cara received "Best Choreography" at Hall of Fame 2011, Talent on Parade 2010, Starquest 2010, Stage One 2013 and International Dance Challenge 2008. Her own routines also won the coveted "Critics Choice" award at both the 2010 & 2011 Onstage NY Competition. Cara also served as the choreographer for the Collegyille Heritage High School Ovation Jazz Choir from 2000-2005. More recently, Cara did choreography for LifeStage Theatre's 2007 production of Scrooge, the Musical, 2009's Seussical and 2013's Wizard of Oz. While being at the studio is her passion, Cara also has a lot of enthusiasm and experience with Drill Team working as an Instructor, Choreographer, and Adjudicator for American Dance/Drill Team School for several years. She now judges exclusively for Crowd Pleasers Dance Company. She also judges drill team tryouts all over the North Texas area. In 2004, Cara developed of a dance ministry at Highland Meadows Christian Church in Collegyille, TX where she served as Director and Choreographer. Cara and her students have participated in many televised events such as the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade, the FedEx Orange Bowl, and many Dallas Cowboys Halftime Performances with stars such as Destiny's Child, Carrie Underwood, Kelly Clarkson, Jessica Simpson, Billy Gilman, Toby Keith, Creed, The Jonas Brothers and many others. Cara married her husband Aaron on May 15, 2004. They have three beautiful children, Sawyer, Savannah & Sutton and they reside in Hurst, Texas, where Cara continues to teach dance and manages a custom dancewear company.

Rosie Torres is a choreographer, dance teacher, and dance judge. As a choreographer and teacher, she has worked for MA Dance/ Marching Auxiliaries, Elite Dance Co., Star Makers Inc, Mexico Tech in Ciudad Acuna, Mexico, UTSA Pom Squad and over 100 high school dance teams across the nation. She has judged for the Dallas Cowboy Cheerleaders preliminary auditions in San Antonio, TX, MA Dance/Marching Auxiliaries' regional and national dance competitions, and at the Iowa State Solo Championships and Team Championships. Her performing experiences include; Kilgore College Rangerette, Rangerette Swingster, San Antonio Spurs Silver Dancer and back up dancer at the Tejano Music Awards. Rosie continue to teach and choreograph for high school dance teams throughout the great State of Texas and parts of the US. Her newest venture is the

opening of a dance studio, The Alamo City Dance Center and working as an area sales rep for Leapin' Leotards. Rosie loves to share her passion for dance, dance education with San Antonio's dancers and community.

**Carole Walker** has taught drill team and twirling camps in Texas and Oklahoma. She was the former drill team director for the Spring High Starlettes and took them to The Miss Drill Team USA competition in California where they placed in three categories. From there Carole went on to become the Dance Director/Choreographer for the Houston Oiler Cheerleaders, the Derrick Dolls. She became a certified Jazzercise instructor during this time and has owned several Jazzercise studios in the Houston area. At this time she owns and is an instructor at the Spring Klein Jazzercise Center and also owns Jazzercise classes in Tomball, TX.

**Schuyler Warnell** is a performer and instructor. Schuyler has been dancing since the age of 6. At the ripe age of 18 she tried out and became one of the youngest dancers selected to dance and cheer for the NFL's Houston Texans as a Houston Texans cheerleader. Schuyler danced for the Texans for 4 years and was chosen to lead the squad as a Captain for her last 2 years. During that time, Schuyler was also selected to be a member of the University of Houston dance program where she studied modern, contemporary and ballet. Schuyler graduated from UH with a BA in Health Communications and a minor In dance.

**Jeannine Watson** is a graduate of La Porte High School and is a former Kilgore College Rangerette, Sergeant, and Swingster. She has danced professionally with the Houston Metropolitan Dance Company and has over ten years experience as a former dance and drill team director in the greater Houston area. Jeannine has choreographed the LPHS musicals for the past 24 years sharing her love of dance each year with over 200 high school students. Currently teaching in LPISD, Jeannine has been married to Dr. Jay Watson for 14 years and is the proud mother of her ten year old son, Josiah.

**Kristina Weinman** is the owner and director of NB Dance & Company, an accomplished teacher and choreographer with over a decade of teaching and judging experience. Kristina coached and choreographed for the University of Texas Dance Team and has worked with numerous high school dance teams throughout Texas. She is a graduate of Texas State University with a BS in Dance Education and a minor in business. Kristina appreciates witnessing proper technique blend seamlessly with artistic expression.

**Kelli Woodruff** is in her eleventh year as director of the CHHS Premier Panteras Dance Team. Under Mrs. Woodruff's direction the Premier Panteras received national titles in Modern, Jazz, Contemporary, Prop, Pom and Lyrical along with awards for Outstanding Choreography, Outstanding Technique, Best in Class, Winner's Circle and Super Sweepstakes. In 2005 and 2009 the Panteras were awarded the prestigious Marching Auxiliaries Letter Jackets for winning the Super Large Division at the MA Dance Nationals in San Antonio. In 2011 the Panteras won the MA Letter Jackets for the Large Division and were the overall top scoring team at Nationals. In 2013 the Patneras won Nationals jackets for the Medium Division at Crowd Pleasers Nationals and were overall top scoring team in jazz, lyrical, modern, and pom. She received her classical training at Houston Ballet Academy and danced with Houston's Memorial High School Drill Team. She holds her B.B.A. and M.Ed. from Texas Christian University and her secondary certification in Dance for the State of Texas. Mrs. Woodruff has performed professionally with Contemporary Dance/Fort Worth Casa Manana Musicals and Boulder Ballet. She has served as instructor, choreographer and judge for Marching Auxiliaries and continues to freelance as a choreographer and judge throughout the nation. Mrs. Woodruff has conducted staff development seminars in dance and education for the Plano, Irving and Birdville Independent School Districts. Kelli and her husband Michael were blessed with their first child in May of 2011, Sophia Elizabeth.

**Kim Wright** is a native of Houston, Texas where she trained extensively in ballet, tap, jazz, and hip hop beginning at a very young age. She became a member of the Langham Creek High School Bailadoras and served as a captain for two years under the direction of Mitzi Phillips. Kim went on to pursue her passion for dance at Oklahoma City University where she graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelors degree in Dance Performance. She went on to perform in numerous shows at theme parks in Pennsylvania and North Carolina. After moving back to Oklahoma City, Kim danced for the Oklahoma City Thunder for two seasons where she was chosen to represent the team at the Allstar game in Houston as well as overseas in China, Turkey, and the United Kingdom. Kim recently moved to Austin, Texas where she is now the office manager at Alisa's Dance Academy. She is happy to be back in her home state and to be surrounded by people who share her passion for dance.