



About our Judges

Molly Andriola received her BS in Dance Choreography from the State University of Brockport New York, MS in Dance Pedagogy from the University of Idaho, certification in Somatics levels 1-6, teaching certification K-12 for the state of Texas & Child Development certification for Texas. She danced professionally with KDT & Ringling Bros. Barnum & Bailey Circus; served professionally as a former Clinical Associate Professor of Dance, Coordinator for the Dance Program and Artistic Director for the company for a decade at Texas A&M University, Director of WAIS Wildcats dance team and guest artist for several programs including SFA, Aggie Dance Team, high schools and private studios. Mrs. Andriola has been the recipient of 3 Presidential Citations, multiple Choreography awards and National College Dance Educator of the Year from the US National Dance Association, Texas College Dance Educator of the Year and Southern District DEOY. She has served as a professional adjudicator for over 20 years with AHPERD, SDHPERD, NDA, ADT, STI and CP while continuing to facilitate her role as Artistic Director and owner of Monell Dance, LLC in Dance Education & Performance.

Casey Baker has been a dance educator for the past 12 years. She was a Kilgore College Rangerette for two years and then graduated from Texas State with a degree in dance and education. Professionally, Casey was a San Antonio Spurs Silver Dancer. Casey has been a director and dance teacher at Stratford High School, James Bowie High School, Anderson High School and Murchison Middle School. Currently, she teaches dance at Dahlstrom Middle School and is the district lead dance teacher for Hays CISD.

Allison Bishop is a former student of Dancers Workshop, Austin Dance Works and The Dance Spot. She took many dance classes at Texas State University and continual dance education classes through Ballet Austin. Allison has more than 20 years studio experience and 10 years of teaching and choreographing for schools and studios. She is also a former Capitol City Professional dance team member and was the lieutenant colonel of her high school dance team.

Julie Black graduated from the University of North Texas with a Bachelor of Arts in Dance. She has been a dance teacher and drill team director in Texas public schools for 18 years. She most recently served as the director of the Frisco Centennial Sweethearts for thirteen years and previously served as the director of the Irving High School Toy Tigers for five years.

Tori Boatner began her dance career at age two. Dancing competitively for over twenty years, Tori had the opportunity to train under world renowned choreographers in all styles of dance including her time spent at summer camps with the Tulsa Ballet. She served as the Atascocita High School Colonel, and danced with the Orange Pride dance team at SHSU serving as a Captain. She was head director for the Crosby High School Cougar Stars for three years. Currently, Tori is a second-grade teacher, and enjoys judging and choreographing in her free time.

Chelsea Bode started dancing in high school where she was captain of her dance team for three years. While she attended college at Texas State, she choreographed and coached for Jazz Squared, a private dance company. Chelsea was a high school dance teacher and coach for 11 years before switching careers; she started at Midland High School, then worked with the Odessa High School Showgirls, and spent her last two years at Seguin High School.

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 where 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.

Kristin Broussard is a graduate of Texas Tech University. She received her BBA in Business Management with a minor in Dance. She has been a dance educator for 18 years and a national title holding director for 12 consecutive years. Kristin currently teaches technique classes to local drill teams and serves as an adjudicator for both drill team and dance competitions.

Kim Burge, a Texas educator for 32 years, received both BS and MS degrees from the University of North Texas, and dance education from Texas Woman's University. Kim served as the dance team director for Keller High School for 25 years where her officer lines and teams earned top honors. Kim is a Past President of Dance/Drill Team Directors of America and was honored as TDEA's first "Director of the Year" and was awarded the 2019 "Distinguished Service Award". Kim is the owner Rain Ponchos Plus, conducts workshops/seminars for dance education and works with the Inspire Financial Group assisting educators with career/retirement planning.

Stephanie Collett began classical dance training at three years old. After dancing on the high school dance team for four years, being the Colonel her senior year of high school, and being on the Texas State Strutters dance team, Stephanie graduated from Texas State with a BS in Dance. She also obtained her teaching certification and began directing the Galaxie Dance Team in 2000. She retired from directing in 2017.

Nicki Curtis has a BS in Dance from Stephen F. Austin. For the past 16 years, she has enjoyed teaching at different studios in the East Texas and Dallas areas. She has been the director or assistant director of a competitive dance team for the past 10 years.

Madison D'Ortona holds a dance degree from Texas State University where she performed as part of Orchesis Dance Company and Texas State Strutters, including Pom Squad and Jazz Elite. Madison has taught public school dance since 2014 and was selected in 2018 to study brain development and dance in Seattle under Anne Green Gilbert. Professionally, Madison has performed with the Jackson Foltyn Dance Company and has accrued coveted competitive titles in aerial dance where she specializes in aerial hoop/lyra and aerial silks.

Talia Dudley has been dancing, training, and competing for over 25 years starting at the age of four with emphasis in ballet, tap, jazz, lyrical, and hip hop. She is now the Director of the Cypress Ridge Dazzlers where she served as the assistant for five years and is now on her third year as the head director. During high school, Talia was a member and dance officer on the national champion Langham Creek Bailadoras drill team. She was also a 4-year member and captain of the Texas Aggie Dance Team at Texas A&M University. She continues to teach, choreograph, and judge tryouts for several studios, soloists, and drill teams throughout the state of Texas.

Natalie Eddleman was a member of her high school drill team and was a Dallas Cowboys Cheerleader from 1991-1993. She was also the assistant director at Keller High School for one year. Natalie was the director at Byron Nelson High School for seven years.

Brandi Evans-Burgess received her Associate of Arts from Kilgore College and a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre & Dance from the University of Texas. While attending Kilgore College, she was a lieutenant and Swingster for the Kilgore Rangerettes. Brandi was also a member of the UT Modern Company - Dance Repertory Theatre. She was a dancer,

choreographer, and the director of Dallas Dance Company and is the former director of the Berkner HS Drill Team. Brandi is currently the event director for Spirit of America Productions and event coordinator for Contest of Champions.

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 and having 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 has a Masters of Counseling Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies in Expressive Arts from St. Mary's University. She is excited to bring her knowledge, experience, and love of dance to Crowd Pleasers and is committed to helping students grow and succeed while igniting their passion for movement.

Shannon Foust obtained her BAED from Texas State as a dance major. She was a high school and Stutter officer and a member of the Orchesis Modern Dance Company. Shannon has 25 years' experience in teaching, directing, and judging high school and studio levels.

Amanda Golden is a native Houstonian with 7 years of cheering and dancing professionally 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 two in all types of dance including ballet, tap, jazz, contemporary and hip hop and over the years, has received numerous awards for her dancing and choreography.

Leslie Hatchard has spent nearly twenty years performing, teaching, and judging dance throughout the nation. After dancing with her college dance team, she 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 and 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 is a full-time instructor and drill company director at Dance Industry Performing Arts. Leslie has been an adjudicator for all levels of Dance/Drill Team competition including Crowd Pleasers Dance, Inc., NCA Danz, and Marching Auxiliaries.

Angela Seward Hayes is a lifelong dance educator. She recently retired from public education after 30 years, most of which she spent as the director of the award-winning Dulles Dolls dance team. Angela is the founder of Danceable Thoughts, a resource for dance education, consultant and clinician services. She is a proud graduate of TCU. Her past honors include TDEA Director of the Year and Lifetime Achievement Award winner.

Annette Stark was a World Famous Kilgore College Rangerette who began teaching summer camps, clinics, and special events in 1985. She has been involved in numerous bowl games and parade productions around the US & abroad. Annette was a dance/drill team director for 26 years, along with serving on various committees as a member of TDTA, and has been adjudicating for 33 years. She is the past president of Drill Team Directors of America, Top Ten Directors in America, and TDTA Finalist for Director of the Year.

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 master's degree in science education. During

this time Lindsay also proudly collaborated on La Porte High School's annual musical productions and continued to be a part of the production for eight years. Lindsay continues to choreograph field and contest routines for several high schools in the Houston area.

Ashly Hinestroza was the assistant major at Memorial High School and graduated with her Bachelor's in Human Resources Development. Ashly has been teaching at a studio for eight years, danced professionally with a Latin dance team for three years, and participated in three Tremaine Dance choreographing for many different high schools in the Houston area.

Lauren Schieffer Holley holds a M.F.A. in dance from Texas Woman's University and a B.S. in dance from Texas State University. She currently directs the Legacy Dance Center Drill Company, serves as professor of dance at Richland College and choreographs for high school dance teams in central and north Texas. Her experience includes being a Kilgore College Rangerette and Swingster, a member of the Texas State University Orchestis Modern Dance Company and a member of the Texas Woman's University Dance Lab.

Haley Honey attended McLennan Community College and graduated from the University of Oklahoma with a Bachelor's of Education-English. She was a part of the McLennan Community College and OU pom squad for two years. She has experience coaching and choreographing in the Waco and Central Texas areas, as well as Central Oklahoma.

Amber Houser, a native of Dallas, was fortunate enough to have begun her dancing career at age two, growing up as a competitive company member and auditioning for popular shows including Star Search. After serving on the Lake Highlands High School Highlandettes in high school, Amber earned a degree in dance from the University of North Texas and soon became a charter member of Dallas Dance, a nonprofit dance company, serving as Artistic Director from 2003-2008. There, she was incredibly fortunate with opportunities to develop her creativity by choreographing for numerous festivals, charity events (the Cattle Barron's Ball and the Dallas Junior League), and televised competition shows (America's Got Talent). 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. Amber is currently the owner of her own studio in Plano, Amotion Dance.

Lindsey Housson has been dancing since the age of five and has extensive training in ballet, tap, jazz and hip hop. She was a member and captain of the Aggie Dance Team from 2002-2005. She graduated from Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies with a teaching certification including dance and physical education. 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) and has choreographed for many soloists, duets, ensembles and teams throughout the state.

Janet Jackson earned her B.S. in Dance from Texas State University. Her experience includes being a member of the Blinn College Dance Team for two years where she was Captain her sophomore year, a member of the Texas State University Orchestis Modern Dance Company where she was treasurer for two years, and the former Assistant Director of the award-winning Canyon High School Aristocats dance team from 2008 - 2010.

Ariel Jenkins received her Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies from the University of Texas San Antonio, where she was a member of the UTSA Chaparral Danceline. She also danced professionally for Spur Sports and Entertainment where she was a member of the San Antonio Rampage Ice Girls and the WNBA Star Squad in San Antonio, Texas. Ariel has experience directing both middle school and high school dance teams and is currently an instructional coordinator.

Courtney Kaminski is a teacher and assistant director for Carol Ehler Dance School and has choreographed for various Houston drill teams. She also has experience with the Ballet Center of Houston, Houston Ballet Academy, and Planet Funk. She attended the University of Houston.

Jenni Corcoran Kotowych spent 15+ years studying ballet, tap, jazz, pointe, modern, hip-hop, drill and musical theater at Suzanne Semans Studios and served as a Spartanaire dance officer for two years at Stratford High School. She graduated from The University of Texas at Austin and spent time choreographing for the Broadway Bound Youth Musical Theater Company and teaching ballet and jazz for Second Baptist School of Performing Arts. Jenni has been a Crowd Pleasers judge for the past three seasons and loves getting the opportunity to stay connected to her biggest passion - dance!

Lindsey Ledwig attended Texas State University and majored in dance. She is the former owner and director at First Class Dance Center.

Barbara Loomis has directed Dance teams for over 30 years. From her college years where she was a member of the Kilgore College Rangerettes, Barbara went on to direct teams at Westlake High School, Lake Travis High School, McCallum High School, Westwood High School and the University of Texas. Barbara is credited for facilitating and bringing the first professional "Jazz Camp" to Texas from California in 1984 that changed the landscape of jazz as we knew it. She stays active in the dance world as a clinician, adjudicator, and consultant judging many contests all over Texas as well as California, Oregon, New Mexico and most recently Hawaii with Crowd Pleasers. Her peers honored her with Life Time Achievement (2002), and then in 2018, she was inducted into the Texas Dance Educators' Hall of Fame.

Alma Lopez is in her twenty-third year as a dance educator. She was a member of her high school team for four years and continued dancing in college as a member of the Texas State University Strutters. As a Strutter, Alma performed in Switzerland, France, and at San Antonio Spurs games. She earned a Bachelor's degree with certification to teach Dance, Health and PE. Alma has directed Dance Teams, Cheer Teams, and Pep Squads for 22 years. She guided the Taft Highsteppers to six National Titles in nine years. Alma has judged for local, regional, and national competitions. She has also judged for numerous high school, college and professional teams.

Heather Manuka has been teaching and choreographing in the competitive dance world for almost 25 years. She received scholarships to train in studios, and conventions from New York to L.A. and trained under professionals such as Joe Malone, Marguerite Derricks, Mia Michaels, Tyce Diorio, Jackie Sleight and many more from "So You Think You Can Dance" as well as various Broadway choreographers. She has been the competitive director for studios across the U.S., helping form new companies and winning numerous awards for her routines. After closing her own studio in 2017, Heather is now a freelance choreographer, master instructor, adjudicator, and enjoys teaching for TATD dance convention.

T.J. Maple received a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology from Stephen F. Austin State University. He has been a coach and choreographer for over 20 years and has choreographed and won more than 20 national championships.

Dianne Marks is in her 28th year in public education and is currently a Coordinator of Fine Arts for SAISD, where she supervises 10 Dance Programs and the 24 SAISD Spirit Groups (Dance, Cheer and Pep). Prior to district administration, Dianne taught dance/dance team/drill team in public school for 20 years (most recently Taft High School Highsteppers) and under her direction, her teams have won numerous national titles. Her experience includes being a 4-year TXSU Strutter and a captain, instructing and coordinating dance/drill team camps for 29 years, judging competitions (local, regional, national), board member for DTDA, choreographer for numerous events, teaching workshops, coordinating district wide events and presenting professional development to educators.

Katie McAninch grew up in Modesto, CA training in ballet, tap, jazz, modern, and hip hop at her local studio. She moved to Cypress, TX where she was a member and Captain of the Cypress Ranch Classics drill team under the direction of Betty Buchner. She was a Captain of the first championship dance team at Blinn Junior College and went on to be a Captain on the Stephen F. Austin State University Dance Team, winning a total of four NDA National Championship titles

in her competitive career. She received a Bachelor of Science in Dance Education from SFA and is currently a candidate for her M.F.A at Texas Woman's University where she is also the assistant coach of the TWU Pioneer Pride Dance Team.

Megan McDonald began her career in dance at the age of two, dancing with Doubletake Dance Studio where she competed and trained in various styles and with many renowned choreographers such as Mia Michaels, Tyce Diorio, Joe Tremaine and Brian Friedman. Megan was a member Keller HS Indianettes and the TCU Showgirls. In 2009, she founded and directed the TCU Elite Dance Team, which she led to four consecutive national titles and worked for Stage One Dance Productions as a production director. She currently teaches at Doubletake Dance Studio.

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 and thoroughly enjoys keeping in touch with the dance industry.

Mallory Miner is a native of East Texas. She relocated to the DFW area to complete a double major in dance and accounting with a minor in education from the University of North Texas. Mallory has more than 25 years of dance training and 10 years of teaching and choreographing for schools around the country. She is the former assistant director of the award-winning Shepton Stallionettes (2015-2018) and the current Director of the Little Elm Blue Angels.

Jamie Minyard received a Bachelor of Science in Sport Management from Texas A&M University. She trained at Cheryl's Dance Studio, was a member of the Sterling Dance Team, participated in Dance Arts Society at Texas A&M and was a member of the Texas Legends Dance Team in Frisco, Texas. Jamie was the Sterling Stars Director from 2013-2017 and is currently the Lee Celebrities Assistant Director. She has enjoyed judging contests for Crowd Pleasers since 2013.

Terrill Mitchell is a graduate of Point Park University's Conservatory of the Performing Arts. After receiving in B.A. in Dance, he relocated to Houston, Texas where he was a seven year company member with METdance (formally the Houston Metropolitan Dance Company) and was selected as one of Houston's 100 creatives in 2014. Additionally, Terrill was the director of the nationally award winning competitive studio, Elite Dance Academy located in League City, Texas for nine seasons. Terrill has taught and or choreographed for many studios, drill and dance teams such as Texas Tech University, West Virginia University, Sam Houston State University, Metdance, Apache Belles, Kilgore Rangerettes Revels and many others. Terrill currently tours the U.S. as a faculty member with Dupree Dance Convention.

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" from 2009-2010 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.

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, Mitzi directed the Willis High School Sweethearts for 7 years. At both director positions, her teams won numerous titles including National Championships. In 2003, Mitzi 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 is currently the judge coordinator for Crowd Pleasers. She has developed curriculum for judges and adjudicates for local, state and national competitions.

Julie Price has been a director for Liberty Christian's Varsity and JV Drill team for 18 years. Her experience includes studio training and memberships on teams including the University of North Texas where she was a cheerleader & dancer and the Dallas Burn Dancers. Julie has been an industrial dancer and earned a role in a Wal-Mart commercial. In addition to judging Texas competitions, Julie has also judged on the national level including the states of Florida, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Ohio.

Kristin Reyes received a Bachelor of Science in Dance from Texas State University. She trained at Bonnie Siscoe School of Dance, was the captain of the Clear Brook Celebrities, and was an officer for the Texas State Strutters. Kristin was the Clear Creek Cavalier Director from 2010-2015 and currently enjoys judging in the dance industry.

Jen Richardson has been choreographing and teaching drill teams and dance studios for over twenty years. She graduated from Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Science in Economics and went on to receive her dance teaching certification. Jen was the owner and director of an Austin area dance studio. She currently judges dance events throughout the southern United States.

Ashley Rocke is the head coach of the Texas A&M University-Commerce Lion Dance Team. She is a graduate of the University of North Texas where she was founding president of Chi Tau Epsilon (XTE) honor society for dance. She was also the appearance director of the NBA Dallas Mavericks Dancers from 2000 - 2003. Ashley is currently a choreographer and show assistant for TIGI Haircare under the direction of EsaLive event management as well as a choreographer for Toni & Guy Americas.

Shannon Roth graduated from Texas State University with a B.S. degree, majoring in dance. Shannon served as an officer for her high school dance and a co-captain for the Texas State Strutters. Shannon was a head high school dance team director for 10 years, winning awards for choreography, performance and best in class. Shannon has over 30 years of experience teaching, judging, and choreographing for high school and studio programs.

Meleka Simon has been a performer and dance educator for 22 years. She has studied the dance styles of ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop, lyrical, contemporary, modern, musical theater, and praise dance. She is a graduate of the University of North Texas where she earned a BA in Psychology and Child Development. She is currently the owner and artistic director of Destiny Devoted Dance. She enjoys choreographing award winning routines for her dance company as well as middle school, high school, and college dance teams. She is excited for another wonderful season of judging with Crowd Pleasers.

Heather Smith went Palm Beach Atlantic College where she majored in theatre and dance. After college, she danced for the Walt Disney Company and Central Florida Ballet. She has 16 years of experience in directing, choreographing and teaching. Her choreography and dances have won numerous awards throughout the studio competition circuit.

Tisha Smith will be entering her 25th year being a part of the dance/drill world. She is the former Director of the Silsbee Tigerettes and the West Brook STARS. Her experience includes being the captain of the El Campo Derby Dolls, earning a dance major at The University of Texas at Austin, teaching at summer camps from 1995-2003 and most recently adjudicating for local and state competitions.

Brooke Solomon grew up in the Austin area and spent ten years training in a studio. She was on high school drill team for four years (3 years as an officer, 2 years as the top officer). She attended Sam Houston State on a dance scholarship and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology and Dance. Brooke was a Capital City Dancer the inaugural year and has been choreographing for teams across the state for the past 15 years. She was a dance team director for 13

years and now teaches special education in Hutto, TX. Brooke has been judging competitions for both studio and public dance teams for the past ten years and loves being on the panel for Crowd Pleasers.

Ashley Lupo Stevens attended Stephen F. Austin State University receiving a degree in both dance & environmental science. She spent 15 years training in the studio, and was an active member of both the SFA Repertory Dance Company and the SFA Pom Squad. Ashley was the assistant director at Deer Park High School then became director of the Stratford High School Spartanaire dance team. She then moved on to become the dance coordinator at Second Baptist Church's School of Performing Arts. While Ashley is no longer directing or teaching dance, she has opened PosturFIT Pilates & Barre with a passion to help people of all ages and stages of life stay active longer!

Teresa Sturm has been a dance instructor for the past 30 years both in the studio and as a middle school and high school drill team director. She was part of the directing team for nationally recognized drill teams such as the Langham Creek Bailadoras, the Cypress Ranch Classics, and the BF Terry Rangerettes. Teresa graduated from The University of Houston-Victoria with a Bachelor in Interdisciplinary Studies along with teaching certification in dance. She also holds a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from the University of Texas @ Arlington.

Cara Switzer is an accomplished dancer, singer, instructor and choreographer who brings over 20 years of judging experience with her. Cara graduated from the University of North Texas in 2003 and has over 35 years of studio experience including directing, teaching and choreographing in the DFW area at several reputable studios since 1998. Cara also has a tremendous amount of enthusiasm and experience with drill team, working as an instructor, choreographer, and adjudicator for American Dance/Drill Team School for several years and is a veteran judge for Crowd Pleasers Dance, where she serves on Crowd Pleaser's core judging panel and gives seminars on judging at various dance and drill team events.

Lori Todd has been in the dance world for over 35 years as a dancer, high school director, collegiate coach, and national and international adjudicator. She danced in high school, where she was the captain of her drill team and was the captain of the University of North Texas Dancers. Lori danced for the NBA Dallas Mavericks Dancers for two years. After working in multiple dance studios, Lori changed her career path and became a high school journalism teacher and drill team director for 12 years at her alma mater, where she won multiple awards and national titles. She also spent nine years as the coach of the SMU Pom Squad where, under her direction, the team won three national titles at the NDA Collegiate Dance Nationals in Daytona Beach, FL. Lori has been honored to serve as a safety certified adjudicator for the USASF for the past 10 years and has judged competitions all over the country as well as serving on the safety panel for the Dance Worlds for the past five years.

Marla Valk has been a dance educator at Westwood High School for 22 years, serving as the director of the Westwood SunDancer dance team for 17 years. She is also the dance coordinator for Round Rock ISD. Marla is an active member in the dance community, working as an adjudicator, choreographer, presenter and program director. Marla has been a professional development presenter throughout the state of Texas and has served on the board of Texas Dance Educator's Association.

Yasmeen Van Note was the Director and Dance Teacher for the Highlands High School Brigade from 2012-2014 and the Jack C. Hays High School Highstepper director and dance teacher from 2014-2017. She has choreographed for schools nationally, served as Marching Auxiliaries camp choreographer, instructor, judge and technician since 2004, and was named a dance section leader for the Capital One Bowl in Orlando, FL w/ESP Productions and MA Dance. Yasmeen has studio teaching experience with Millenium Dance Complex in LA, The Pointe in San Marcos, and Kathy Marfins Dance Studio in San Antonio. Some of the performances she was a part of in 2009-2012 are national commercials, music videos, tours and live performances in LA, including Party City, Despicable Me, Mariah Carey, Ludacris, David Guetta, Taio Cruz, Andre Mieux, Keyrei, and SYTYCD. She was also a NBA Spurs Silver Dancer, AFL Austin Wranglers Cheerleader,

Texas State Strutter Sophomore Lieutenant and Elite Performance Group Dancer where she was able to perform at the New Orleans Saints NFL half-time show.

Gene Wallis-McGrath is originally from Philadelphia, PA. She graduated with a BA in dance from Point Park University. Gene has over ten years of concert dance experience working with companies such as Missouri Contemporary Ballet, Peridance Contemporary Dance Company and MET*dance*. During this time, she had the opportunity of premiering works by Autumn Eckman, Margot Gelber, Rosie Herrera, Jessica Hendricks, Kiesha Lalama, Kiki Lucas, Robbie Moore, Igal Perry, Joshua L. Peugh, Katarzyna Skarpetowska, and Mario Zambrano. In addition to world-premieres she has also performed repertoire works from Joe Celej, Kyle Abraham, Camille A. Brown, Caleb Mitchell, Dwight Rhoden and Andrea Dawn Shelley. Gene has also had touring opportunities such as performing on Inside/Out Stage at Jacob's Pillow, Green Box Arts Festival, Dallas Dance Fest, Austin Dance Festival, and Spring to Dance (both with MET*dance* and MCB.) Gene made her Houston Symphony debut in 2019. Gene is thrilled to be a founding member of Houston Contemporary for the 2019-2020 season.

Amanda Wheeland began her dance career as a Kilgore College Rangerette and received her Associates in Dance from Kilgore College and a BA in Dance from SHSU. She has been the Director of Houston's Planet Funk Studio, MA Dance Head Instructor and National's adjudicator, Dance Judge on the Hip Hop panel of USASF The Dance Worlds for multiple years, Dance Judge for DX Dance Extreme USA, Dance Judge for Miss Dance Drill Team Texas, performer with Sheryl Murakami's T(H)RASH in NYC, and many more. She also spends time working with studios and schools throughout the nation, providing workshops and choreography. Amanda's professional accomplishments include working with Lady Gaga on MTV, Beyoncé's "Ego" video, Laura Ann Gibson on BET's 106 and Park, Chris Willis, Kaci Battaglia, Maybelline cosmetics on a commercial, choreographing two hip-hop pieces for Rangerette Revels and much more.

Sara Wilson earned her BFA in Dance from UT Austin. While at UT, she received a work/study scholarship to the ABT summer intensive, was a soloist and 2-year member in the department's modern company, and was a guest performer with the David Rouseve Company. She was a director for 9 years, leading her team to numerous Grand Champion titles. Her dancers have gone on to dance on various collegiate teams, as well as Houston Texans Cheerleaders. Sara now teaches freelance technique classes and choreography, which has won numerous awards.

Kelli Woodruff is the director of the CHHS Premier Panteras Dance Team. Under Kelli's direction the Premier Panteras received numerous awards and national titles. 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. Kelli 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. Kelli has conducted staff development seminars in dance and education for the Plano, Irving and Birdville Independent School Districts.

Amy Zerbinopoulos attended the University of North Texas and has five years of managing and touring with a professional dance company. She has 33 years of experience including 20 years of teaching and 15 years of directing.