



The Dance Class

2016 - 2017 STAFF BIOS

PATTY WHITE – TAP DIRECTOR

Patty became a professional dancer at the age of 13 and toured the Northwest and California working under several well-known choreographers. In San Jose, she taught Ballet and Tap for a large professional studio. After returning to Richland she became involved with the Richland Light Opera Company and has choreographed and had leads in several of their productions as well as with CBC. Besides her early training in Seattle, she has studied at Joe Tremaine Studio, Alvin Ailey American Dance Center, Dance Master of America, Dance Educators of America, LA Dance Force and the EDGE in LA. She has been a choreographer for the Miss Tri-Cities Pageant organization for the last 27 years.

WENDY WHITE – JAZZ DIRECTOR / MARKETING DIRECTOR

Wendy first began her training in California. Upon moving back to Washington, she became involved with the RLOC and continued her training in Seattle at Cornish and Spectrum Dance Theater and in Los Angeles with LA Dance Force, Tremaine and the EDGE. She danced and choreographed for two years with the SuperSonic Dance Squad and in Las Vegas with Kristen W. Wendy was the originator and director of the Tri-City Chinook Dance Team and choreographer for the Miss Washington Pageant. She is currently the director of the Richland High School Goldrush Dance Team and choreographer for the Miss Tri-Cities Pageant.

BARBARA WILSON – BALLET DIRECTOR

Barbara danced in New York with the John Barker Ballet, completed her B.A. in Dramatic Arts at Whitman College and received an M.F.A. in Acting from U.S. International University. She is a graduate of Interlochen Arts Academy in Dance. She is a registered teacher with The Royal Academy of Dance and has taught ballet for 31 years. She is a retired English and Drama teacher at Southridge High School.

PAMELA LUCAS – TAP

Pamela grew up in the studio where she became a mentor and teacher. After high school graduation, she went to college, graduated, got married and most recently welcomed a son, Blake, to the family. She is currently an elementary school teacher for the Richland School District. She has returned for a fifth year as a Tap Teacher.

KRISTINA BROWN - BALLET

Kristina started dancing in Idaho at age 3 where she fell in love with ballet watching the Nutcracker. She continued with ballet and jazz until she moved to WA at age 10, where she began training with Barbara Wilson and took examinations with the Royal Academy of Ballet. In high school, she was a member of the Richland High Goldrush Dance Team. In the years since, she has become an Esthetician. Her passion for dance brought her back to The Dance Class a several years ago. Here she can share her love for ballet with the students and teach them why dancers are incredible people.

LINDSAY NGUYEN – TAP/JAZZ

Lindsay is a Dance Class graduate and has been teaching tap and jazz with The Dance Class for nearly a decade. She was part of the Richland high School Goldrush dance team, including their 2002 State Championship season and their 2003 National Championship season. Lindsay was also a member of the Tri-Cities Fever Dance Team for the 2006 and 2008 seasons. She has participated in master classes for LADF and most recently, The Pulse in NYC. She is now married and a mother of three. She feels that motherhood has helped her connect with her students even more. She strives to make each of her classes positive, energetic and challenging in hopes that her students will love dance as much as she does.

LYN LEYDE – BALLET

Lyn grew up dancing at the studio, where as a student she participated in many competitions, conventions, and summer dance programs. After completing her degree at Washington State University, Lyn returned home and began teaching both at the elementary school level; and the dance studio. Lyn has coached high school dance teams, and is a Washington State Dance Judge. She taught jazz, lyrical and ballet at TDC for many years. Lyn is excited to be back teaching with us this year. She is an elementary teacher in the Richland School District and lives in Pasco with her husband and two young children.

MOLLY MONARCH – JAZZ/TAP

Molly is a proud Tri-City resident and has been for 26 years. After growing up in Richland she moved to Pullman, WA where she earned her degree in Mathematics Teaching from WSU. Molly is currently a resident of Pasco where she is teaching and coaching in the district. She is a 7th grade math teacher at McLoughlin Middle School and the head dance coach at Chiawana High School. Molly has enjoyed dancing since the age of 3. After graduating high school, Molly continued to dance as well as becoming a teacher, coach and choreographer in the dance world.

MEAGHAN CALLAHAN – JAZZ/TAP

Meaghan was born and raised in the Tri-Cities. She grew up in Richland and for most of her time in the area she was dancing and performing. She was captain of her high school dance team and took home a few Nationals titles. After graduating high school, she attended WSU where she received a Bachelor of Arts in Hospitality Management. Since then, she has completed two internships with the Walt Disney Company. Currently she is working in the hospitality industry while residing in Pasco. She continues to dance as she is assisting with the Chiawana High School Dance team. Meaghan loves to dance and she loves to pass her knowledge of the sport onto younger generations.

BRITNEY POGUE – HIP HOP

Brittney began her dance career taking classes at the Academy of Ballet when she was young. She then joined Kamiakin's dance team and was captain in her junior and senior years. Brittney was also an assistant coach for Highlands Dance Team from 2008-2010 and a member of the Tri-Cities Fever Dance Team in 2010. Brittney moved to Cheney, WA to attend EWU to pursue her business degree and graduated in 2014. While there, she danced at Spokane Elite Dance Studio and was on the EWU Competition Dance Team. Brittney has been a part of studio dance, competition teams, and performance environment for many years and can't wait to share her knowledge and have fun with her new students.

PAIGE BOBILES – HIP HOP

I am 24 years old and just moved back to the Tri-Cities. I have a degree in Health Science and am currently applying to Physical Therapy school. I have been dancing since I was 4 years old. I started my training in Spokane and moved to the Tri-Cities in 2004. I was on a nationally ranked all-star team in middle school and was also on the RHS Goldrush Dance Team for 3 years, earning a National title in dance/drill. I have experience in all styles of dance but Hip Hop is my main focus. I was given the opportunity to work at Walt Disney World in Florida from 2014-2015. I hung out with many different beloved Disney characters and was also in the Christmas parade. Dance has always been my passion and I can't wait to share my passion with all of the wonderful students here at The Dance Class.

BROOKE POYNOR – TAP

Brooke began dancing at the studio at age 5. Over the years she participated in many competitions, master classes and community events. She was a tap class mentor for several years. In 2013, she was a top 10 tap soloist at Spotlight Dance Cup. That same year she was a member of the Spotlight Dance Cup National Champion Small Group Tap – Acapella. At that event, she auditioned and was chosen to participate in a professional tap show. At present, she is a dental assistant at Ace Dental and is thrilled to be back at the studio teaching tap.

KYLIE SIMON – HIP-HOP

I was born and raised in Richland, WA and I've been dancing since before I can remember! This is my second year teaching at The Dance Class but I have been a student here throughout my whole childhood all the way through high school. I have 15+ years' experience in jazz and hip hop, 4 years in tap and 3 years in ballet. I was a member of the Richland High School Goldrush Dance team from 2004-2008 and competed in USA Nationals in 2007 for Pom, Military and Prop. I also danced with the Tri-City Fever Dance team from 2012-2014. Dance is my passion. It changed my life and it's provided more positive experiences than I could've ever imagined! I'm so excited to share my passion with your children and provide them the best experience possible when they're in my classroom! Outside of dance, I am an Independent Scentsy Consultant! I have 3 kids and 2 crazy dogs at home that keep me on my toes (no pun intended). Two boys (ages 5 and 7) and our girl (2 years old). I couldn't do it without the help of my wonderful husband, TJ! We just celebrated our 1 year wedding anniversary. In my free time I enjoy going to country music concerts, attempting Pinterest crafts, and watching my kids in their sporting events! I love backwards hats, converse tennis shoes, loud music, fake eyelashes, coffee and SEAHAWKS! So excited for this year! Bring it on!

JESSICA WILDISH – LYRICAL

Jessica began dancing at the age of 15 at The Academy of Ballet and Dance Arts in Yorba Linda, Ca. She trained in Jazz, Lyrical, Ballet, and Tap. Also, competing with their dance team. During Junior High and High School she was a member of her schools Colorguard Team. Ultimately, ending her high school years on the Esperanza Dance Team. Enjoying field shows, indoor competitions and military parade routines. After High School Jessica went on to compete with the Orange Coast College Dance Team under the direction of Dan Sapp, taking the NDA division 1A national title. Her competitive career ended as a member of Coast All-Stars. Jessica received a degree from Bryman College in Massage Therapy including Anatomy and Physiology. After college she began teaching at The Academy of Ballet and Dance Arts from 2003-2006. And, from 2006-2011 taught for the McCoy Rigby Conservatory of the Arts. Her choreography has been used for multiple competitive and performance based routines through studios and high schools in the Orange County area, as well as The Boys and Girls Club of Huntington Beach production of “The Nifty Fifties” Musical. After starting a family Jessica returned to teaching with three years as the Dance Team and Colorguard coach at Orange High School. Having recently moved to Richland she is enjoying the perks of the dancing community teaching at The Dance Class and coaching as an assistant for Richland High School Gold Rush. Jessica is so pleased to be a part of the Tri-Cities community, looking forward to the years to come.

LISA BARRETT – HIP HOP/ACRO

LUIS GARANZUAY – HIP HOP/BREAKDANCING

WHITNEY BAKER – BALLET

KOURTNEY RENTZ – BALLET/LYRICAL

BRIENNE LEACH – HIP HOP