

CHAMPIONSHIP JUDGES PANEL

THE DANCE WORLDS

DIRECTORS



Patricia Adams

Patty is the Hip Hop Panel Director for the USASF/IASF Dance Worlds. She has enjoyed a career in dance for over thirty years, allowing her to experience a wide field of creative arenas. From dance performance ensembles and musical theater to education and curriculum development, her knowledge base is extensive. Patty's primary focus has been in Hip Hop choreography and team preparation for competitive dance events. She has consistently led teams to top-five placements, as well as numerous championships and innovative choreography awards. Having coached at the High School, Division IA College, and All Star levels, Adams is well versed in competitive dance. In addition, she is a member of the Judges Education, Hip Hop Credentialing, and Exceptional Athletes Committees, as well as having served as a Keynote Speaker, Dance Library Author, and Mentor for USASF Dance. When not speaking at conferences or judging events, Adams enjoys her role as Executive Director of Spirit Ride, a non-profit Therapeutic Riding center that assists children with a wide array of diagnoses reach their goals through equine-assisted activities.



Michelle Allison

Michelle is the USASF Jazz Panel Director at The Dance Worlds. She has a B.S. in Dance Performance from Ball State University, is Artistic Director of Curtain Call Dance Center in Indianapolis. Michelle directs the Senior Performing Company and annual productions of The Nutcracker and Dance Against Cancer and develops their curriculum and continuing education. Since 2010, Michelle has been a choreographer for the Colts NFL Cheerleader auditions and halftime shows and a guest judge/master instructor with JCDA Tokyo, Japan for nine years. She is a veteran judge of The Groove Experience, UDA College Dance Nationals, NFL Colts, and Ben-Gals, and spent 13 years teaching for NDA, choreographed and field produced numerous bowl games and nationally televised parades, and has judged NDA Regionals, School, All-Star and College Nationals since 1992. Since the inaugural year, Michelle has judged The Dance Worlds.



Erin Alvarado

Erin is the USASF and IASF Contemporary/Lyrical Panel Director at The Dance Worlds. She is in her tenth year as the Pom Squad coach at Texas Tech University. While at Texas Tech, her teams have won six National Championships, traveled to Shanghai, China to represent the USA in their annual Tourism Festival, performed alongside the Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders many times, and are consistently requested to do performances across the United States. Erin is a graduate of West Virginia University with a bachelor's degree in exercise physiology, and a minor in dance. Erin currently serves as an Adjunct Dance Faculty member at Texas Tech in jazz, hip hop, movement for the performer and tap. In 2019, she was voted National Collegiate Coach of the Year. She has judged several national and international events over the span of twelve years.



Sarah Miller Bate

Sarah is the Dance Director of Rules & Safety for USASF. She received a dual BA in Dance and Education from Old Dominion University and has studied dance for over 35 years. She was a 4-time National Dance Alliance (NDA) High School All-American and a 4-time NDA Collegiate All-American. After college, Sarah danced with Norfolk, Virginia-based modern dance companies Second Wind Dance Company and Todd Roselieb Dance Company. She also performed with choreographer Amanda Kinzer's company in NC, KY, Hampton Roads, and NYC for various International Dance Festivals. While recovering from an injury, Sarah discovered Classical Pilates and became certified through the Pilates Center of Virginia. A third-generation instructor with a direct lineage to Joseph Pilates, she has taught the traditional method for over 15 years, working with Olympic athletes and dancers from The Washington Ballet. She also co-created a barre fitness program with other professional dancers and trained instructors around the country. Sarah has been judging at the national level for over 20 years.



Anastasia Miller Burns

Anastasia is the USASF and IASF Hip Hop Panel Director for The Dance Worlds. She is a graduate and dance team captain from The Ohio State University. After graduation, Anastasia became a talent agent booking choreographers, dancers, actors, athletes, and models in feature films, television, commercials, music videos, Broadway productions, and world artist tours. She was a senior agent and department director at BLOC Talent Agency LA, BLOC NYC and Clear Talent Group NYC for nearly 16 years. For the past eight years, she has joined the team at Inside Publications as the Executive Vice President (titles include Inside Gymnastics and Inside Cheerleading) and Co-Publisher of the all-access dance magazine, INSIDE DANCE. You can find her speaking and judging at numerous dance and talent competitions/conventions across the US and internationally.



Cheryl Paquette

Cheryl is the USASF Dance Adjudication Director and Communications Coordinator and serves as the USASF Pom Panel Director at The Dance Worlds. Cheryl has been involved in the dance industry for over 30 years and is trained in ballet, tap, jazz, and pointe, spending six years as a company member with the Gateway Ballet. A graduate of the University of Missouri, she earned a National Championship title with the Mizzou Golden Girls dance team. She is a former NFL St. Louis Rams Cheerleader and NBA Dallas Mavericks Dancer. In 2017, she was awarded the Herkie Legacy Award for her commitment to the industry. Cheryl resides in St. Louis, MO, and enjoys judging for many national and international Event Producers.



Dawn Walters

Dawn is the IASF Pom and Junior Panel Director at The Dance Worlds and is the Head Coach of the University of Kentucky Dance Team, currently ranked 5th in the nation in the Hip Hop division at UDA. In 2017, her team became silver medalists in Pom and Hip Hop as they represented the U.S. National Team at the ICU International Dance Championships. Dawn has judged, spoken at coaches conferences, and had teams perform internationally, including Japan, China, Mexico, Australia, and Canada. Dawn danced and cheered at the University of Kentucky



Jessica Walz

Jessica is the IASF Jazz and Kick Panel Director at The Dance Worlds, bringing an extensive background with over 30 years of experience in performing, coaching, consulting, judging, and choreography. She received her B.A. in Dance from Point Park University. Jessica was the choreographer for Club Med Resorts and has presented shows on Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines and at Walt Disney World. Jessica was named one of the top dance coaches in the Dance Coach's Survival Guide. She has been a guest speaker at numerous State and International Coaches and Dance Conferences including TDEA, Aussie Gold (AUS), Dance Teachers Summit (NY), Varsity & USASF Conferences. Jessica proudly serves as part of the credentialing committee for USASF and Director of Judges Training for The National Dance Coaches Association (NDCA). She has been published in Inside Dance, Dance Spirit Magazine, USASF.net, and Varsity.com. Jessica has received national titles with NDA College Nationals as well as receiving the Innovative Choreography Award. Jessica continues to choreograph and teach master classes across the US and abroad, as well as a judge for local, national, and international events.



Shelly Warren

Shelly is the Quality Control Director at The Dance Worlds. She is the current Golden Girl Spirit Squad Director at The Villages High School in, FL, and a veteran Head Instructor for Universal Dance Association. In addition, Shelly is a veteran national and international judge and works as a choreographer and competition consultant for high school, college, studio, and all-star programs across the country. She is the rehearsal coordinator for the pregame performance for the Citrus Bowl held annually in Orlando, FL. She has served as rehearsal director for pregame at the ACC Championship Game in 2015 and 2016. Shelly has obtained national titles as a dancer, coach, and choreographer in High Kick, Hip Hop, Pom, and Jazz and continues to pursue her dream of educating and inspiring dancers through her travels to studios and schools nationwide.



Mary Wendt

Mary is the Dance Scoring Director for the IASF and has been involved in the dance team industry for over 41 years as a coach and industry professional. She was the Education Director for USASF Dance

and the Associate Director of Enrichment and Leadership, where she assisted in developing workshops for coaches and athletes. Mary has judged internationally and facilitated coach and athlete workshops, including developing a leadership program for students from Moldova this year. Mary is the former Director/Choreographer of the North Texas State University Showgirls and the Assistant Director/Choreographer for the Texas Christian University Showgirls, her alma mater where she was their captain and received a BS and MS in Kinesiological Studies. She was a Kilgore College Rangerette Lieutenant and has been director for several high school teams in various states. The Texas Dance/Drill Team Educators voted her their youngest Lifetime Achievement Recipient and Hall of Fame Recipient. She received the Hall of Fame Award from DX Events and is honored to be named one of the NDCA Hall of Fame recipients. She is the Executive Director and former choreographer of the Citrus Bowl and worked for MA Dance as their Vice President for over 35 years.

CONTEMPORARY/LYRICAL



Jesus Acosta

Jesus is originally from Guanajuato, Mexico. He started dancing at the age of eighteen at Sam Houston State University where he received his dance training. Aside from adjudicating and teaching, he currently dances for Houston Contemporary Dance Company in Houston, TX. Other company credits include Houston METdance Company, The Kista Tucker Dance Company, Hope Stone Dance Company, and founding member/rehearsal director for NobleMotion Dance. While dancing for NobleMotion Dance, he performed in and collaborated in over 40 original works. Jesus has also been with MA Dance and Auxiliaries for seventeen years teaching, choreographing, and judging all over the United States. He has also had the opportunity to set choreography on The Houston Texans Cheerleaders among other notable organizations. He has performed at The Ailey Theater, The Kennedy Center in Washington D.C., The Paramount Theater, The McCallum Theatre, and The Rose Wagner Performing Arts Complex among others. Jesus loves the fact that dance can bring so many of us together through the universal language of movement.



Bea Arnold

Bea is from San Diego, CA, and has over 20 years of collective experience as a professional dancer, nationally ranked choreographer, and judge. She has trained in and taught ballet, jazz, lyrical, modern, and hip-hop. Previously she was a full scholarship recipient for the Gus Giordano Jazz Dance Center in Chicago, IL, danced with a San Diego based modern dance company, former NFL San Diego Charger Girls, and the former Jazz Dance Program Director for the United Spirit Association. Bea has directed dance teams at the collegiate and high school levels, as well as worked extensively as a collegiate, high school, junior high, and elementary dance judge on the national and international circuit, including United Spirit Association, Universal Dance Association, JAMZ, and The Dance World's judging panels! Bea holds a California Teaching Credential in multiple subjects, a K-12 Authorization in Dance Education, and a Master's in Education.



Daniel Gibson

Daniel, a Georgia native, has been dancing professionally since he graduated from the University of Georgia. Trained in hip-hop/breakdance, jazz, African, contemporary, and ballet, Daniel opened his career with a national tour with 13th Floor Performing Arts, where he was a featured performer and choreographer. He continued his training in capoeira, acrobatics, and contemporary when he became a company member for the Chicago-based fusion company, Chicago Dance Crash. After relocating to Chicago, IL, Daniel has performed for the Oprah Winfrey Show, Kid Sister with Kanye West, Culture Shock Chicago, Elephant Filmworks, a National campaign for Uniqlo and UPS, Lucky Plush Productions, the Seldoms, and Chicago Dance Crash. He was a featured dancer in the short film, "Wonderland or Humans who talk and dance." Daniel has been a featured presenter and master instructor for NDA, the Minnesota Vikings Cheerleaders

Training Program, JamFest, WACPC, and the University of Kentucky dance team. He is currently adjunct faculty at Northern Illinois University and is a two-time Dance Worlds Contemporary/Lyrical panelist and a nine-time Dance Worlds Hip-Hop panelist.



Jill Haller

Jill is the Director of Dance at Magnificat HS in Rocky River, Ohio. Jill has designed multiple college preparatory dance programs, writing curriculum and programing that has been recognized for excellence within the industry. In 2006, Jill received a Senate Resolution from the State of Ohio for her outstanding work in dance education. Jill regularly serves as adjudicator for many event producers, including NDA, UDA, and various others. Haller is originally from southern California, where she received her BA in Theatre and Choreography from Concordia University. She has choreographed over 50 professional and pre-professional musicals—her true passion in dance! In 2010, she received the Lifetime Achievement Award with AmeriDance for her impact within the dance education platform. In recent years, Jill was recognized for best musical choreography by the Dazzle Awards, in partnership with the National High School Musical Theatre Awards in NYC for Annie, Cats, Footloose, and Matilda at Magnificat. Jill is honored to serve as judge for The Dance Worlds.



Sarah Leighton

Sarah has dedicated more than 25 years to dance. From the Cleveland area, Sarah grew up training at a studio on a competitive dance team and competed across the country. She attended numerous classes, workshops, and camps while living in NYC. She brought that training back to the studio, where she taught and coached competitive dance teams for over ten years. Many of her students earned regional and national titles. Sarah went on to dance professionally for the AFL, where she represented Cleveland at the Arena Bowl, and for the NBA on the Cleveland Cavalier Girl Dance Team. During her time with the Cavs, she made many national TV appearances and performed with nationally recognized recording artists and choreographers. Sarah has had the privilege of judging across the nation for various brands since 2015. She hopes to continue judging and inspiring dancers for many years to come.



Melissa McGhee

Melissa, a native of Toledo, Ohio, is a graduate of The Ohio State University where she obtained a B.S. in Business Administration. She is the current Head Coach of The Ohio State University Dance Team. Under her direction, the team won the program's first-ever National Championship in 2018 and has nine total to date claiming the 2022 UDA National Championship in DIA Pom, Jazz, and Game Day. After sixteen years of studio training, she now consults for dance studios and teams nationally and judges for numerous dance competitions including NDA, UDA, AmeriDance, Showcase America, Stage 8, OASSA, and The Dance Worlds. Melissa has been a speaker at the Varsity Dance Coaches Conference, National Dance Coaches Association Conference and provided coaches education classes for CLI Studios. She was also named National Dance Coaches Association (NDCA) College Coach of the Year in 2020 and currently serves as the NDCA College President.



Kate Ridge

Kate, from Sydney, Australia, has earned a MEd in Global and Cultural Education, PE Teaching Credential and BFA in Dance from CSULB. She is the Co-Creator of the All Star Dance Experience and has performed for Disneyland Resort, Disney Animation Studios, Disney's California Adventure, Lego Land California and toured throughout the USA with Dance America and Dance Olympus Conventions. Kate was a top 10 contestant for the TV reality show, The Business of Dance, and is the face of Jazz for Flip Sport, Australia. She has adjudicated for the ICU World Cheerleading Championships and USASF/IASF Worlds, UDA in the USA, ICU in China, KCA in South Korea, AASCF in Australia, and MDDJ in Japan. Kate has led seminars for coaches in Australia, China, USA, Mexico, Europe, Malaysia and Ukraine.



Tami Whatcott

Tami graduated from Utah Valley University with a BFA in Modern Dance and a BS in Dance Education. She has been a member of Synergy Dance Company, Contemporary Dance Ensemble, UVU

Ballroom Tour Team, and danced as well as coached for the Utah Flash. Other notable professional companies include Diavolo, Joel Hall Dancers, Noumenon Dance Ensemble, and Myriad Dance Company. She has been trained in ballet, modern, jazz, contemporary, hip-hop, and ballroom. She has judged, performed, and taught in over 15 different countries and has done choreography for professional NBA teams, dance companies, and numerous different studios and award-winning high schools.

HIP HOP PANEL



Danielle Albertina

Dani is a St. Louis native based in Los Angeles. She is an alumnus of Southeast Missouri State University, where she earned her B.A. in Dance & B.S. in Human Environmental Studies while competing on the collegiate dance team Sundancers. Her performance credits include music videos with Miss Ko, soloist within the immersive NYC theater show Menagerie D'Arte, lead performer for Meredith O'Connor and The Golden Probe Awards hosted by Margaret Cho. Dani's choreographic highlights include her students performing at Madison Square Garden, selected choreographer to stage work at ACDA and indie artist's videos. She currently hosts and produces the podcast Dance Tips Daily, performs with LA Follies and teaches the next generation of artists. She is certified by NCFR as a Family Life Educator and prides herself in bringing both an ethical and holistic approach to her dance classes, critiques and choreography.



Toya Ambrose

Toya is a former member of the University of Memphis Pom Squad, and an NBA dancer for the Chicago Luvabulls and Memphis Grizzlies. She is the former Spirit Coordinator for the University of Connecticut (UCONN) spirit teams, and also Head Coach of the UIC Dancing Flames. Toya currently owns T.R.A. Choreography LLC and choreographs competitive teams worldwide - most recently in Japan, Slovenia, Finland, and Mexico. Alongside Shandon Perez, she is co-founder of Tone Society; a digital training and mentorship program for choreographers. Toya is the current Head Coach for the Chicago Bulls dance teams - the Luvabulls and the 312 Crew (all-male hip hop team). Toya brings expertise from every aspect of the industry. She has an impactful voice, and is a national and international adjudicator. Chicago, IL is home, and she's married to attorney Garvin G. Ambrose. Their greatest adventure is being foster parents to three beautiful baby girls.



Christopher Brown

Chris Brown is a choreographer/dancer from Houston, TX. He made his professional debut in 2005 as a principal dancer with the three-time platinum recording artist Frankie J., whom he toured internationally with for three years. He is an alumni member of the Houston Rockets Launch Crew that he choreographed and performed with for three years, and he is still performing and choreographing to this day.



Stacy Garrastazu

Stacy has more than 30 years of dance experience and brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the dance industry. She has coached and choreographed for numerous studios, schools, colleges, professional sports teams, and All Star dance teams throughout her career. Traveling across the country to competitions, conventions, and workshops, she stays at the forefront of what is new and cutting edge in this industry. Stacy currently teaches master classes and choreography to select organizations and has sat on the legality and judging panels for Stage 8 Dance, Varsity All Star, Champion Cheer Central, Pennsylvania Elite, Champion Spirit Group, BCA Cheer and Dance, ICC, JAMZ, and NDA. Stacy has been a member of The Dance World's judging panel since 2014. Her extended hip hop, pom, jazz, and contemporary background has made her an asset to many studios, school, collegiate, and All Star organizations.



Satoko Goko

Satoko has been involved in the performance cheer industry for over 27 years. She was the coach and choreographer of the National Team of Japan, receiving two Gold and eight Silver medals at the ICU World Cheerleading Championships since 2010. Her teams have also received many titles and awards at the USASF/

IASF Worlds. She has been a judge for many national and international competitions in Japan, USA, Australia, China, Korea, Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia, Chinese Taipei and Mongolia. She is currently active in various aspects of the sport including workshops, coaches conferences, showcases and choreography. Satoko is one of the leaders of several committees in the Japan Federation for Sport Cheer and Dance, and works to develop their system, as well as manage and maintain their committees.



Tony Gonzalez

Tony is a professional choreographer, creative director, casting director and producer from Los Angeles, California. He recently choreographed twenty-two Broadway-inspired commercial spots for American Express, wrapped another BRING IT ON MOVIE, #7 for the franchise, SYFY Television Channel airing in October, and choreographed the music video for Olivia Rodrigo "GOOD 4 U". Tony is a creative choreographer and casting director on the Fox series "The Masked Singer" season's 2-6. Currently, Tony is working on a new pilot for NICKELODEON airing in the summer of 2022 and continues to collaborate and create choreography for fitness guru Tracy Anderson's online streaming platform and her fitness empire. Tony has cast over 120 national commercials and choreographed over 310 spots for network television. His work continues to progress, working with the NBA and NFL Pro Dance teams across the country.



Thomas Jacobs

TJ hails from New York City, where he currently resides. Originally from Northern Virginia, TJ grew his love for dance culture training at Culture Shock DC and Freestyle Culture. This passion has led him to many amazing endeavors such as TEDx Talk, Bessie Awards Nominee, Founder of Pace Settlers Dance Company and the pleasure of performing with Betty Who, Wyclef, Crystal Waters, BMW, World Of Dance and The Wizards, to name a few. He has extensively trained in many styles such as House, Waacking, Vogue, Popping and Locking from some of the industry's greats. He is also grateful to be a part of the NYC Artistic community, where he most recently collaborated with a group of Artists from TRPNYC Dance Company. During the recent recession, the work he created was featured in the New York Times. This work, commissioned by Stephen Petronio Dance Company, was also nominated for a Bessie Award for Outstanding Production, alongside Bill T. Jones and other phenomenal Artists. These experiences have helped shape Mr. Jacobs' ideology of dance and the arts as a whole. This ignites his desire to transfer knowledge through judging, teaching and mentorships.



George Jones, Jr

George, a celebrity choreographer/instructor/dancer, has worked with some of the biggest icons of this generation. He received his Bachelors of Art from Marymount Manhattan College. The artist that trusted his career into overdrive was Britney Spears, but since then, he has worked on projects ranging from Jennifer Lopez, Nicki Minaj, and Usher to TV and film. George is currently a rising star in the world of choreography and direction. In 2016 he founded his all male company "The Vibe Xclusive". He has been a faculty commercial hip hop instructor at top studios in the world: Movement Life Style, Broadway Dance Center, and Millennium Dancer Complex. George has secured his place amongst this generation of elite commercial dancers and is paving his way with the next generation of choreographers and instructors.



Lindsey Lococo

Lindsey has been the Spirit Coordinator and Head Dance Coach at her alma mater, the University of Illinois-Chicago, since 2010. She graduated with a B.S. in Movement Sciences and danced on the nationally-ranked UIC Dance Team. In 2003, she began dancing with Hip Hop Connixion and later became a company director. She went on to dance with Design Dance, Work in Progress and direct several dance teams for professional arena sports teams in the Chicagoland area. Performance credits include Oprah, Beyoncé, Fantabuloso feat. Carly Rae Jepsen, Chicago Sky and Discover. Lindsey is a former UDA instructor and has choreographed at the high school, collegiate and NBA level. She adjudicates for the IHSA, IHSDTA, WACPC, UDA, and Varsity All-Star Brands and has spoken at several coach conferences, including the National Dance Coaches Association. Lindsey resides in the Chicagoland area with her husband and their son.



Jay Lopez

Jay is a choreographer and artist with extensive experience in hip hop, jazz, pom, and classical techniques, who dedicates his career to help and educate others. He has traveled around the world - from Europe to America to Asia - spreading the pure desire of growth, and self-development, convinced that every human being can reach their greatness. He has adjudicated for many prestigious international competitions including the ICU World Championships and the USASF/IASF Worlds for several years.



Christopher Moss

Chris Moss can be found in the Academy Award film La La Land as well as Gangster Squad, The Muppets, Bring It On: Fight to the Finish, Bring It On: In It To Win It, Bring It On: All Or Nothing, Meet the Spartans, The Comebacks, Music and Lyrics, The Hot Chick. He's trained actors for their dance roles, including Tom Cruise in Tropic Thunder and Rob Schneider in The Hot Chick. His choreography can be seen in Tropic Thunder, 2 Broke Girls, NFL PROMOS, and several industrials. You may have seen Chris on numerous award shows and television productions such as The Emmys and Academy Awards, The Boys, Goliath, Euphoria, Fuller House, Dollface, and Legion. He's danced and worked some of the world's most recognizable names as Britney Spears, LL Cool J, Jennifer Lopez, Jessica Simpson, Whitney Houston, Brian McKnight, Lionel Richie, Hugh Grant, Donald Glover and Ken Jeong, to name a few.



Bonita Alva Saldaña

Bonita's influence is recognized from the streets to the stage. Her career originated as a Phoenix Suns Dancer using her classically trained background. After winning several solo competitions, she soon found her love for Hip-Hop and became an internationally recognized dancer. Aside from appearing with artists in commercials and T.V. shows, she has been judging, teaching, choreographing, performing, and battling internationally for over 17 years. She continues to live out her calling daily as the owner of one of Phoenix's most sought-after dance schools, The Studance Lab. Additionally, she launched Arizona's first Youth Breaking League, where young Bboys and Bgirls can hone their skills in a round-robin style competition. In 2021, she joined Breaking for Gold's elite coaching team and will continue to be an integral part of training the first generation of USA Olympic Breaking Athletes.



Sarah Schneeweis

Sarah is the owner of HYPE Dance Studio and creative director of the award-winning Fusion Dance Company since 2003. Sarah is a creative consultant and choreographer for various NBA and NFL dance teams across the country. In 2019 Sarah traveled with the Sacramento Kings and led the dancers to perform at the first-ever NBA India Games. She is on faculty for Varsity Pro and is a contributor to Inside Dance Magazine, where her blog The Positive Dance Mom features dance-related topics. Sarah has choreographed for nationally ranked college and high school dance teams, dance studios, recording artists, industrials and stage productions. She is a former dancer and choreographer for the NBA Golden State Warriors Dance Team and has been working closely with the Sacramento Kings since 2004. Sarah is a former UDA Head Instructor, choreographer and master teacher, a veteran judge for The Dance Worlds, ICU, NDT, and UDA.



Morgan Schulte

Morgan has over 20 years of experience in the dance industry as a teacher and choreographer. Currently she is in her 6th season dancing professionally for the NBA Memphis Grizzlies. She was a 7-year head instructor for UDA camps at the high school and collegiate levels and has traveled internationally with UDA for special events. Morgan judges many competitions for various brands, including The Dance Worlds. She attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where she earned degrees in Exercise Science and Dietetics, and has a Master's degree in Nutrition from Saint Louis University. She fuses dance with her other passions of health, wellness, and nutrition as a speaker on these topics throughout the country. She is a kickboxing instructor, Orangetheory Fitness coach, and a dietitian and fitness coach through her own business, Motivate.



Jenny Smith

Jenny is a nationally recognized and award-winning choreographer. She is a former member of the UNC-Chapel Hill cheer and dance teams and a former captain for the NBA Dallas Mavericks Dancers. Jenny has been a principal dancer for many national projects, and her choreography has been featured on major network TV shows, national television commercials, industrials, films, reality television shows, NFL fields and NBA courts. In addition to being the proud Director of the Dallas Cowboys Rhythm and Blue, the only co-ed hip hop dance crew in the NFL, she is the Director of the Dallas Cowboys Rookie Squad & The Officials, a choreographer with Varsity Pro. She travels the country choreographing and master instructing for numerous dance organizations, professional teams and studios. Jenny also proudly serves on the hip hop score sheet advisory boards for NDA and USASF.

JAZZ / KICK PANEL DIRECTOR



Rachel Domangue

Rachel, originally from New Orleans, Louisiana, is the former Director of the National Dance Alliance. With an extensive background in high school and college dance team, Rachel's BFA in Performing Arts-Dance from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette has allowed her to network with all facets of the dance industry. She has worked all over the U.S. as a dance team coach, choreographer, teacher, judge training consultant and speaker. Rachel has been honored to judge for JCDA at the All Japan Cheer and Dance Championship in Tokyo, NDA, UDA, Varsity All Star, The Dance Summit and The Dance Worlds as both a Legality Official and Panel Judge. She currently lives in Dallas, Texas, and serves on the USASF Dance Rules Committee. Rachel is the Director of Business Operations and Development at Glass Staircase, a marketing and branding agency that focuses on empowering women and small businesses.



Erika Hebron

Erika, originally from St. Louis, Missouri, has over 30 years of dance experience. As a former gymnast and Miss Missouri, she has trained extensively in ballet, pointe, tap, jazz, lyrical, and acrobatics. She graduated from Oklahoma City University receiving her BFA in Dance Performance. Erika resides in NYC as a dancer, singer, and actress. Select performing credits include the First National Tour of the Tony Award-winning musical, An American in Paris, a swing on the West Side Story National Tour, and numerous shows at regional theaters across the country. Along with performing, Erika spent eight years as a head instructor for Universal Dance Association. She has choreographed for many nationally ranked college and high school dance teams and is a sought-after instructor at conventions, summer intensives, master classes, and setting choreography at studios around the country. Erika currently serves as the Producer and Choreographer of the Miss Missouri Pageant.



Kristin Best Kinscherff

Kristin is an Associate Professor and Head of Dance at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville as well as the Artistic Director of the SIUE University Dance Company. She holds an MFA from the University of Iowa. Kristin is a former company member with The Big Muddy Dance Company, served as the Artistic Director of Turn of Change Dance Collective, and for aTrek Dance Collective. Her choreography has been presented at the American College Dance Association's Gala Concert, SIUE Summer Theater, CHICAGO The Musical (SIUE), FAME (SIUE), National Dance Week, Midwest Dance Festival, Grand DanceFest, Dancing in The Streets, The Gala/Extravaganza for Body Worlds 3 at St. Louis Science Center, the Victoria Ballet Theater, University of Iowa, SIUE, and Lindenwood. She has a certification in Autism Movement Therapy® and developed a dance curriculum for children with special needs. Kristin has served as a head instructor, choreographer, and on the curriculum committee with UDA. She is an adjudicator with UDA, NDA, The Dance Worlds, and Stage 8 Dance.



Heather Langham

Heather currently residing in New York City, is a 12-year veteran with The Radio City Rockettes. She began dancing at the age of two at her family-owned dance studio in Arizona. She received a

Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies from Arizona State University in 2003 where she was captain of the nationally ranked ASU Dance Team. During her Rockette career she has performed on the MTV Video Music Awards, The 72nd Annual Tony Awards, America's Got Talent, The Today Show, The Meredith Vieira Show, Live with Kelly, Martha Stewart, and 11 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parades. In 1998, she began working for the National Dance Alliance. She has choreographed for many nationally ranked collegiate teams including Southern Methodist University, Sacred Heart University, Northern Arizona University, The University of Pittsburg, and The University of Albany. Heather also has years of experience in adjudication and has been on the panel of many prestigious competitions with NDA, COP Brands, USA, and The Dance Worlds.



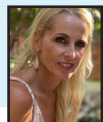
LI SHAN (Janet) LIN

Janet graduated from the National College of Physical Education Sport in Taiwan with a major in dance. She has over 25 years of experience in choreography and teaching. Now she is a consultant for the Judge Committee of CTCA (Chinese Taipei Cheerleading Association). Janet led the national team of Chinese Taipei as a team coach from 2011 to 2016 and judged for CTCA from 2011 to 2022. In the past years, she has coached and judged for various other cheerleading competitions and has been aggressively attending sports events that are related to performance cheer and cheerleading in different countries.



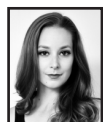
Gretchen Noack

Gretchen is a graduate of California State University Fullerton, majoring in Dance and Public Relations. She began her dance career as the Dance Program Director for the United Spirit Association, where she oversaw staff training and program development. Gretchen has choreographed many nationally ranked dance/drill teams and numerous professional dance teams throughout her career. Her passion has been spent judging state and national competitions across the U.S. and internationally. Since its inauguration, Gretchen has been selected to the judging panel at The Dance Worlds. Over the years, Gretchen has judged the USA Japan Nationals held in Tokyo and the ONP Nationals Event in Mexico City. Gretchen has extensive jazz, ballet, hip hop, pom, and traditional dance/drill training. Currently, her full-time career is coordinating educational dance trips for dance teams and studios all over the United States. She also recently completed her comprehensive training in Pilates and is on the road to becoming a certified Pilates Instructor.



Valerie Potsos

Valerie is in her 20th season as Head Coach of the nationally ranked University of Michigan Dance Team, where she was the captain of the dance team. She is the Director/Owner of Dancer's Edge Studio in Dexter, Michigan. As an international choreographer for the Vienna Vikings Dance Teams in Austria, she has choreographed for NAIA College Teams, High School Teams, All-Star Teams, and professional corporate sponsors. She is a seminar presenter and curriculum consultant for Varsity University on topics such as motivation, leadership, team building, and many more. Her students have auditioned for America's Got Talent and were featured on the show in 2015. Along with judging local, state, and national competitions, she has judged studio, high school, and college dance nationals for various organizations.



Victoria Spadaro

Tory is a Connecticut native whose training has compiled studio, school, and all-star dance styles. She danced collegiately for Central Connecticut State University where she became captain and lead them to their first national championship. She competed as an athlete at The Dance Worlds and coached/choreographed in all-star dance. Additionally, she's coached and choreographed at the high school and studio levels. She started her professional dance career in the WNBA and later cheered for the New England Patriots, where she was captain for three of her four seasons. She was selected as the 2017 Cheerleader of the Year and sent to the Pro Bowl in Orlando. She performed in Super Bowls XLIX, LI, and LII, and at the 2018 Pro Bowl Halftime Show with Jordan Fisher. She is excited to be a part of The Dance Worlds 2022.

POM / JUNIOR PANEL



Brian Cao

Brian has been involved in the spirit industry for over 25 years on the school, all-star, collegiate and professional levels. A graduate of the University of Oregon and a Pacific Northwest native, he resides and works in Dallas, Texas. His involvement in the industry has afforded him opportunities all around the globe, including work in the United Kingdom, Canada, Finland, and Japan. Brian's dance resume includes performing with several professional companies in Oregon, including three seasons with the NBA Portland Trailblazers Jam Squad. He currently works as a choreographer and consultant to cheer and dance teams of all levels and was the choreographer for Team England Freestyle Pom in 2018. In his limited free time away from training, he travels the world speaking at conferences, judging for major cheer and dance events, and is a 6-time judge for The Dance Worlds.



Heather Fong

Heather, born and raised in San Jose, CA, has been dancing since the age of 2 and is technically trained in all dance styles. She's a graduate of San Diego State University, and while attending, she was captain of their nationally ranked dance team. Heather graduated with her BS in Child and Family Development and a Masters in Education. She was coach and choreographer for two nationally-ranked song teams in south Orange County and worked with numerous award-winning song/dance teams in the area. She has currently been judging for the Varsity Brand companies at the regional/national level for the past 16 years for dance, cheerleading, and Song/Pom, as well as ONP Nationals in Mexico City. Heather is going into her 20th year teaching for the United Spirit Association and 18th as a Songleading Head Instructor. She is excited to be on the Pom Panel for her 3rd year!



Julie Jacobson

Julie has coached cheer and dance in Wisconsin for over 30 years, spending 15 of those years co-coaching a successful cheer and dance team which competed internationally in Australia and New Zealand. Julie has judged all levels and genres of scholastic, recreational, and all-star cheer and dance regionally, at the state level, nationally, and internationally in Australia and New Zealand. She has also been an NFHS Rules Judge for 32 years, and a USASF Dance Legalities judge for ten years. She enjoys life with her husband and two dogs.



Jessika Leonard

Jessika has over 30 years of dance experience, including education/training, coaching, judging, and instructing. Her training includes ballet, pointe, jazz, tap, baton, gymnastics, and she has extensive training in her area of expertise, pom. As a dancer, she studied alongside world-renowned dancers in NYC and received numerous accolades, including her acceptance to the Minnesota Conservatory of Art. Jessika has performed and choreographed for the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, Walt Disney World, College Bowl Games, and several NFL half-time shows. As an accomplished dancer, she later shared her passion for dance by coaching high school and all-star teams, who consistently made appearances in the state finals and captured top national honors. Jessika now focuses her efforts on speaking at conventions and conducts private choreography and workshops with teams and coaches. Jessika has extensive experience judging state, national, and international competitions, including multiple years with The Dance Worlds.



Christina Leone

Christina is wrapping up year 18 coaching at the high school level and is currently the head coach at Rock Canyon HS in Colorado. Her teams have earned numerous regional and state titles and are perennial finalists at UDA Nationals. Most recently, Rock Canyon earned back-to-back State Championship titles in 5A POM and earned three top 5 finishes at the 2022 NDTC, including two bronze medals. In 2018, they were selected as the Varsity Brands American Spirit Leader Award winner. Christina was the National winner of the 2015 Double-Goal Coach Award from the Positive Coaching Alliance and, in 2016, named Coach of the Year by the Colorado HS Coaches Association. She has judged for The Dance Worlds, national championships at the high school, all-star, and collegiate levels for UDA, NDA, USA, GSSA, Dance Summit, JamFest

and JamFest Japan and currently serves on numerous industry committees. Christina is an avid fan of figure skating, all Colorado sports, loves camping, traveling and spending time with her husband and two daughters.



John Peters

John is recognized as one of the Nation's most innovative and award-winning choreographers. Recent choreography projects include live performances with Warren G., Montell Jordan, French Montana, Bebe Rexha, James Corden, Craig David, Tone Loc, and Snoop Dogg. In 2019 he choreographed the NBC Sunday Night Football opener with Carrie Underwood. John is the choreographer for the World Champion Los Angeles Rams Cheerleaders. Other pro sports clients include the Denver Broncos, Indianapolis Colts, San Francisco 49ers, Los Angeles Chargers, Boston Celtics, and the L.A. Laker Girls. Worldwide televised features include the 2017 Hong Kong Chinese New Year parade, NFL America Bowls in London, Tokyo, Barcelona, Pro Bowl Hawaii, Super Bowl XIX, LIII, and LVI. He has choreographed countless winning routines for college, high school, studio, and all-star cheerleading and dance champions. John is a former United Spirit Association Spirit and Dance staff member, Program Director, and Creative Director.



Anke Schoenfelder

Anke is a former athlete in artistic gymnastics. She competed at the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona. After her gymnastics career she first coached the national squad of women's gymnastics in Cape Town/South Africa and then in Swakopmund/Namibia. Anke has been involved in the performance cheer industry since 1999, as first an athlete, then as a coach and choreographer. For more than 10 years she was Head Coach of the Alba Berlin Dance Team and Head of the Dance Department. Anke is an ICU judge and member of the ECU Judges Committee.



Jarrin Rolle Warren

Jarrin has been in the dance industry for more than 30 years. She is a recognized dance coach/director, instructor, and choreographer with works ranging from pee-wee to collegiate and professional. She has judged for numerous dance companies and competitions nationally and internationally and has received choreography awards in hip hop, pom and jazz. Some of Jarrin's accomplishments include dance performance assistant of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, halftime performance coordinator/choreographer for the New Jersey Nets, dance camp instructor/choreographer Japan, dance assistant for the Aloha Bowl Hawaii, production assistant of Thanksgiving in Paris, France, a nine-year judge at The Dance Worlds, a five-year Dance Summit judge, CopBrands Mexico 2018 and 2019 dance judge and COP Virtual Games Mexico 2020.

LEGALITY



Christian Aleman

Christian is originally from Miami, Florida and has been heavily involved in the Dance and Cheer industry for over 20 years. Alongside her All Star and High School dance companies, she achieved countless national team and solo titles. Christian continued to become a coach and choreographer for many area schools and around the country. She also served as an American Dance Alliance staff member and later entered the Judging circuit. In 2007 Christian relocated to Atlanta, Georgia and became a company director for Powerhouse Dance Productions. Christian now resides in Chattanooga, TN, where she was the owner/creative director of First Step Dance Studio for four years. Christian dedicates her weekends to judging countless National and World Bid events worldwide and has been judging The Dance Worlds in Orlando, FL, since 2015. Christian also teaches and develops multilingual educational dance courses for the International Cheer Union at various locations worldwide.



Kathryn Brasfield

Kathryn is a Knoxville, TN native and has been heavily involved in the dance industry for more than 20 years. A graduate of Middle Tennessee State University, she was a member and captain of the University's dance team and earned a degree in Health and Human Performance. She worked as a UDA staff member from

2007 to 2015, instructing dancers and leading camps all across the US. Kathryn is currently the assistant coach for the dance team at Bearden High School, her alma mater, and has helped lead the team to multiple state championships, national finalist placements, and 6 UDA National Championship titles including the 2022 Large Gameday National Championship. In addition to coaching, she choreographs and consults for various school and All Star programs. Her work has earned multiple choreography awards and has helped teams achieve top-three finishes at the regional, state and national levels, including three national championships in 2021. Kathryn enjoys serving as a USASF Legality official for multiple Varsity Brands events.



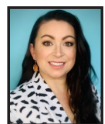
Gregory Collins

Greg has been a part of the cheer industry for over 30 years as an athlete, coach and judge. He is currently certified as a USASF Cheer and Dance official and serves as the Maryland Public Schools State Cheer rules interpreter for NFHS. He judges both nationally and internationally and is excited to be returning to the Dance Worlds for 2022.



Kaya Doyle

Kaya received her B.A. in Performing Arts from Northern Illinois University and her Master in Architecture from the University of Illinois-Chicago and has been blending the skills of both degrees ever since. Most seasons provide thirty or more judging events all over the country and internationally, either as a panel judge or a Dance Legality Official. Internationally judging events include locations such as Japan, Scotland, England, and multiple provinces of Canada, each bringing their own unique cultural experience. As an Adjudicator, Kaya recognizes that every year brings new movement patterns and skill integration trends and provides continual development of spatial utilization. Kaya has enjoyed the honor of being a part of the Dance WORLDS adjudication team from 2011 through 2021 and served as an ambassador at the 2014 Dance Worlds. During the week, you will find Kaya working as the sole proprietor of her Architectural firm or serving the community as a volunteer Emergency Medical Responder.



Laura Harris

Laura resides in Staffordshire in the UK and is a dual Australian/British citizen. She began her classical dance training aged 4, which led to professional qualifications with the IDTA and a 22-year ongoing coaching career. As an athlete, Laura performed at the Dance Worlds in 2013, later returning to the competition as team coach in 2019. As an elite team coach in Australia, her work earned multiple international bids, and she has featured in several TV productions based around dance and cheerleading. She now specializes in dance technique instruction and owns a workshop company in the UK, alongside working as a high school Science specialist educator. Laura began judging in 2009 and has since completed 10+ full seasons of professional judging for event providers located across Australia, the UK and France. Her judging experience incorporates regional, national, state and international championship events, including IASF Worlds-bid events in several countries. Her judging experience covers all dance genres, and she has experience in all dance panel roles, specializing in legalities.



Nichole Hudson

Nichole is a former competitive studio dancer and cheerleader, starting her dance training at three years old. For eleven years, she has been a certified USASF Cheer and Dance Legality Official and Deductions Judge. This has allowed her to work for numerous event producers nationally and internationally. She has had the privilege of judging several prestigious events such as NCA/NDA All Star Nationals, NDA College Nationals, NDA High School Nationals, The Summit, The D2 Summit. She has served as a legality official at The Dance Worlds since 2016.



Melissa Kidd

Melissa has four decades of training in all genres of dance and over 20 years of instruction/choreography experience in approximately 30 studios/schools across the country. Melissa's background includes training under the Cincinnati Ballet and with New York City Ballet and Boston Ballet members. She also owns a fine arts facility in Cincinnati, Ohio and holds multiple certifications in choreography, technique, judging and early childhood dance

education. Dancers who have trained under Ms. Kidd have danced on cruise lines, Broadway productions, NBA dance teams, NFL Cheerleading, Universities, Hallmark movie productions, music videos, and many more professional positions in the dance industry. Melissa enjoys splitting her time between working with her students and traveling to judge competitions and teach master classes. Melissa judges for the All Star dance circuit and the studio dance circuit, where she has served as a judging coordinator/trainer. Miss Kidd's most recent endeavor has included obtaining Pilates (reformer) certifications and anatomy and strength training for dancers.



Robin Page

Robin has been judging cheer and dance for over 25 years. She is a certified USASF Cheer and Dance Legality Official and holds certifications with USA Cheer/NFHS Safety. She has judged for various cheer companies, including Cheer & Dance Extreme, The National Cheerleaders Association, Cheersport, Elite Cheerleading, The World Cheerleading Coalition (ICC LTD), GMCE, The American Championships and British Cheerleading Association. In 2017, Robin was inducted into the Oakland Mills High School Hall of Fame for her 25 years of coaching and dedication to the sport. In addition to judging cheer and dance, she also spends her time judging talent competitions and pageants nationally. She is currently a choreographer for the Miss American Coed pageant system. Robin is also a professional Sign Language Interpreter with the Howard County Public School System in Maryland.



April Pence

April has been dancing for over 20 years, studying the styles of ballet, jazz, lyrical, contemporary/modern and hip-hop. She has worked with choreographers such as Tony Gonzalez, John Peters, Monie Adamson and Dee Caspary. April has worked for the United Spirit Association for fourteen years as a Song Head Instructor and Judge. During this time, she has traveled throughout California, Utah and Arizona, teaching dancers of all levels and judging Junior High, High School and College competitions. April has been USASF Dance Safety Certified for the past ten years and is honored to be back at Dance Worlds this year!



Sonia Ramirez

Sonia is a professional announcer, panel judge, legality official and event director. As a former Head Instructor and member of the Program Development team for the United Spirit Association (USA), Sonia has been involved with competitive cheerleading and dance for over 15 years. Contributions of her choreography have been featured in halftime shows ranging from UCLA football to the Boston Celtics. Sonia has judged and directed competitions at all levels, both nationally and internationally, including the Japan Open, ONP Nationals in Mexico City, and the Dance Worlds from 2012-2022. She has also represented the International Cheer Union (ICU) as a Rules educator and has led international training for coaches, panel judges and Legality Officials in Japan, Mexico and Panama.

QUALITY CONTROL



Shannon Gregg

Shannon has over two decades of cheer and dance experience as a competitor, coach and judge and has also been a contributing author to "Cheer Biz News." Shannon owned an All Star dance and cheer gym and has been judging for 15 years, including international appearances in Mexico and England. Shannon's dance experience includes studio and competitive dance through the collegiate level. She was a feature dancer in Kelly-award-winning musicals "Lil Abner" and "Peter Pan," had an internship with the Pittsburgh Dance Alloy, and went on to study with the Lake Erie Ballet. As a member of the University of Pittsburgh Dance Ensemble, Shannon studied modern dance. She was a finalist at the first-ever USASF Dance Worlds, competing multiple years and judging hip hop and quality in 2015-2021. Shannon holds a BA in English Literature with minors in History and Dance from the University of Pittsburgh, an MBA in Management and a Ph.D. in Community Engagement from Point Park University.



Lindsay Headrick

Lindsay is from St. Louis, MO, where she grew up focusing on ballet, studying with the Missouri State Ballet and the Canadian Ballet of Montreal. Lindsay earned a BA in Dance at Lindenwood University and was a four-year member of the National Champion Lion Line Dance Team. During her time on the team, she began working for UDA, with whom she has become a fifteen-year veteran staff member and has been named Veteran Instructor of the Year. Lindsay has been a part of judging panels on the regional, national, and international levels for over five years. She works with many teams throughout the Midwest, and her choreography and consulting have helped teams earn top National rankings.



Vanessa Jungbluth-Fullmer

Vanessa currently lives in Chicago, IL, and is originally from northeast Ohio, where she studied dance under Denise Gula at Ohio Dance Theatre. As an apprentice with ODT, she performed in numerous classical and original works. While in college at Ashland University, she was an Eagle Elite dance team member. After college, she furthered her studies at the Dayton Ballet and the Lou Conte Dance Studio in Chicago and master classes while living in New York City. Professionally, Vanessa was on the faculty of Ohio Dance Theatre. She was the dance director for multiple competitive programs, coaching and choreographing numerous national champion teams. She has also worked in dance event production as touring manager for New York City Dance Alliance and Onstage New York. Passionate about the future of performing arts, Vanessa served on the Board of Ohio Dance Theatre for eight years.



Allison Markus

Allison lives and teaches in St. Louis, Missouri. Since the age of three, she has had a passion for dance. Allison attended Missouri State University, where she was a four-year member of their dance team. She joined Universal Dance Association as a staff member after graduation and, for the past ten years, has had the privilege to work, teach and choreograph for teams all over the country through UDA. Allison is an Assistant Director at a local dance studio, Charmette Academy of Dance and is the head coach of Marquette High School's varsity dance team.



Tara Noyes

Tara is a dance and cheer judge with eight years of adjudication experience and over 20 years in various roles throughout the industry. She has judged The Dance Worlds, Dance Summit, NCA All-Star Nationals, The Summit and D2 Summit, Groove Dance Nationals, and several grand national, national, and virtual championship competitions across the country, including JamFest Europe. Tara loves connecting with teams performing during these post-pandemic times by educating and rewarding their hard work and dedication. She is grateful for the energy and effort put on the floor by all the dancers and coaches this season and wishes everyone a great event experience!

