Utah Dance Education Organization

State High School Dance Festival 2014 - BYU

Adjudicator and Master Class Teacher Bios



Kay Andersen (SUU)

Kay Andersen received his Master of Arts degree at New York University. He resided in NYC for 15 years. From 1985-1997 he was a soloist with the Nikolais Dance Theatre and the Murray Louis Dance Company. He performed worldwide, participated in the creation of important roles, taught at the Nikolais/Louis Dance Lab in NYC and presented workshops throughout the world. At Southern Utah University he choreographs, teaches improvisation, composition, modern dance technique, tap dance technique, is the advisor of the Orchesis Modern Dance Club, and serves as Chair of the Department of Theatre Arts and Dance. He has choreographed for the Utah Shakespearean Festival and recently taught and choreographed in China, the Netherlands, Mexico, North Carolina School of the Arts, and others.



Ashley Anderson (loveDANCEmore)

Ashley Anderson is a choreographer based in Salt Lake City. Her recent work has been presented locally at the Rose Wagner Performing Arts Center, the Rio Gallery, the BYU Museum of Art, Finch Lane Gallery, the City Library, the Utah Heritage Foundation's Ladies' Literary Club, the Masonic Temple and Urban Lounge as well as national venues including DraftWork at Danspace Project, BodyBlend at Dixon Place, Performance Mix at Joyce SOHO (NY); Mascher Space Cooperative, Crane Arts Gallery, the Arts Bank (PA); and the Taubman Museum of Art (VA), among others. Her work was also presented by the HU/ADF MFA program at the American Dance Festival (NC) and the Kitchen (NY). She has recently performed in dances by Ishmael Houston-Jones, Regina Rocke & Dawn Springer. Teaching includes: the American Dance Festival Six & Four Week Schools, Hollins University, the University of Utah, Dickinson College Dance Theater Group, University of the Arts Continuing Studies, Packing House Center for the Arts, the HMS School, the Virginia Tanner Dance Program, Salt Lake Community College and many high schools and community centers. Ashley currently directs "loveDANCEmore" community dance events using the resources of ashley anderson dances (a registered 501c3). Her projects with loveDANCEmore are also shared in Utah's visual art magazine, 15 BYTES, where she serves as the dance editor. She holds B.A.s with honors in Dance and English from Hollins University as well as an M.F.A. in Dance from the Hollins University/American Dance Festival program under the direction of Donna Faye Burchfield.



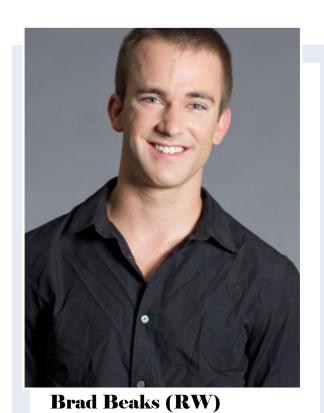
Alissa Schirtzinger Baird

Alissa began her dance training at BalletMet Columbus and obtained her BFA in Dance from The Ohio State University. She is a certified Pilates instructor, and has been a dance educator for the past fourteen years. Alissa has danced professionally with Columbus Dance Theatre (OH). Repertory Dance Theatre (UT), Naganuma Dance (NY), Desert Dance Theatre (AZ), and The DanceWright Project (CA). She has received numerous awards and honors for her performance. choreography, writing, and media work. Her career has taken her from coast to coast and around the world, but she's thrilled to be back in the Utah dance community. Alissa is currently an instructor at Creative Arts Academy in Bountiful and at the Millennium Dance Complex SLC in Salt Lake City.

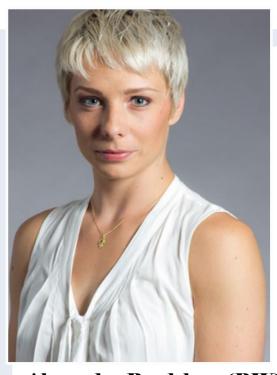


Nathan Balser (BYU)

Nathan Balser, CDT Artistic Director and originally from Springville, UT, is an Assistant Professor of Contemporary Dance at Brigham Young University. He completed his undergraduate degree from BrighamYoung University with a BS in Therapeutic Recreation and his Masters of Fine Arts from the University of Utah. He has performed on Broadway in the original cast of *Promises*, *Promises* with Kristen Chenoweth, 9 to 5: The Musical with Allyson Janney, Damn Yankees with Cheyenne Jackson, and Legally Blonde. You may have seen him on CBS in the Kennedy Center Honors in 2009, 2010, and 2011 honoring Mel Brooks, Jerry Herman, Meryl Streep, and Barbara Cook or on the Tony Awards in 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012 with Mamma Mia!, Promises, Promises, and Neil Patrick Harris, respectively. Nathan has danced professionally with choreographers and groups including Repertory Dance Theatre, Odyssey Dance, Molissa Fenley, John Malashock, Scott Rink, and Utah Regional Ballet. His most recent endeavors in Musical Theatre however blend his love of the arts and teaching. His choreography was recently seen on the Sundance stage in the Summer 2013 production of *Annie Get Your Gun* and he is a new contemporary dance faculty member at Brigham Young University where he will be teaching contemporary dance and choreographing for the student companies and musicals. Prior to teaching at BYU he was on faculty at Western Wyoming and a member of the creative team for the Nauvoo Historical Pageant in Nauvoo, IL, in the summer of 2011. He has taught classes and workshops for the Broadway Dance Projects in NYC, the West Orange Metrowest JCC in New Jersey, at BYU, UVU, UofU, the Utah Theatre Association, Colorado Thespians Conference, and the Utah Higher Education Organization. Nathan is a member of Actor's Equity Association and SAG/AFTRA.



Born and raised in Southern California, Brad began his formal dance training at the age of 15 at Dellos Dance and Performing Arts. He later immersed himself in modern dance at California State University, Fullerton. While based in Los Angeles, Brad performed in Celebrate Dance, Los Angeles Invitational, Palm Desert Choreography Festival: Concert Under the Stars, Mike Esperanza's BARE Dance Company, and performed/choreographed in the American College Dance Festival. He also had the privilege to dance with Visions Dance Theatre where he was recently recognized as the 2010 Lester Horton Award Winner for "Outstanding Male Performance' in Macarena Gandarillas' work "Always Remember Never to Forget." In 2010, Brad moved to NYC to attend The Ailey School and shortly thereafter joined Naganuma Dance, performing in venues such as the Merce Cunningham Studio and SummerStage. -- "I am thrilled and incredibly grateful for my second season with the company and would like to thank my friends and family for their unwavering love and support".



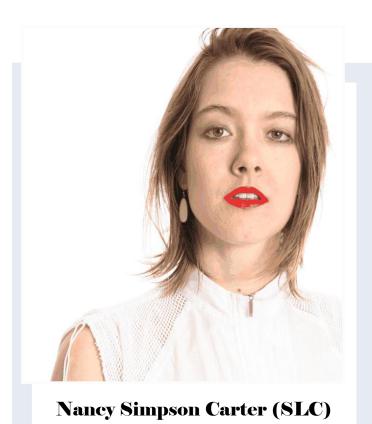
Alexandra Bradshaw (RW)

Alexandra originally hails from the Canadian Rockies but has spent more recent years dancing in Israel, San Francisco, London, New York City, and Houston. She holds a BFA in Dance and a BA in Literature from the University of California, Irvine and has extended her education to Cambridge University, UK, The Ailey School, NYC, and YogaWorks, NYC. Before joining Ririe-Woodbury in 2011, Alexandra performed internationally with Rami Be'er (Israel), Todd Courage, Robert Moses, Janice Garrett, Charles Moulton, Nol Simonse, Alyce Finwall, Kirstin E. Williams (San Francisco), Catherine Galasso, Brooke Broussard, David Dorfman (NYC), Donald McKayle, and Loretta Livingston (Los Angeles).



Graham Brown (BYU)

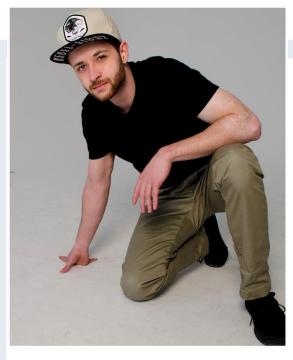
Graham Brown (BFA: U of UT; MFA: U of MD) has recently joined the faculty of Brigham Young University's Department of Dance. He currently tours internationally with PEARSONWIDRIG DANCETHEATER (Washington, DC). A few career highlights include founding and co-directing the improvisation company Movement Forum (SLC), freelance performing with Cie Vili Dorner (Vienna, Austria), Nicholas Leichter Dance (NYC), and Stephen Koester (SLC), teaching on the faculty of Utah Valley University and the Open Look Festival (St. Petersburg, Russia), and having his choreography presented by Queen's College (NY), The Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center (MD), and Repertory Dance Theatre's Link Series (SLC).



Nancy Simpson Carter currently teaches and performs with Aerial Arts of Utah and Movement Forum. Independently she produces eclectic dance-drama-circuses under the name Rumble Motion Jawbone. Nancy has an MFA in Modern Dance from The University of Utah and is a Certified Laban/Bartenieff Movement Analyst and Massage Therapist. Past performing credits include co.da, Revolve Aerial Dance, Performing Dance Company, Choreo Collective and Meredith Dance Theater. nancysimpsoncarter.com



Anna Corvera Currently teaches Modern, Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Composition, and Improvisation at Casper College in Wyoming. She holds an MFA from The College at Brockport and a BFA from the University of Illinois as well as trained at the Ailey School. She has choreographed for commercials, music videos, and multiple concerts. She has worked with choreographers Bill Evans, Darwin Prioleau, Telly Fowler, and Cheryl Johnson, among others.



Max Crebs a.k.a. Bboy baby blue

My name is **Max Crebs** and I was born in Salt Lake City Utah. I started dancing, specifically breaking, in 2004 when I was 16 years old. After I went to my first Battle at Uprok in downtown Salt Lake City, I saw how incredibly challenging and how interesting the culture was and I knew that's what I wanted to do. In the almost 8 years that I've been dancing, I have performed in shows such as EVE Salt Lake, performed and taught workshops at the Utah Arts Festival, "They Reminisce" at Rose Wagner and have travelled and competed in cities such as New York, Las Vegas, Orlando, and Los Angeles. My main focus in my dance career is to continue to travel and compete as much as I can, as well as continue to inspire and train younger generations of Bboys.



Chris DelPorto (MoFo)

Chris DelPorto is a "big strokes" dancer. He has always been drawn to big, athletic movement and across the floor patterns. He is a Utah native who received his BFA in Modern Dance from the University of Utah. After school, Chris danced in New York for various companies, most notably Pilobolus Dance Theatre. Chris has a long time interest in partnering and has studied contact improvisation in many different venues across the country.



Lorin Hansen (Samba Fogo)

Lorin Hansen is a passionate instructor, performer, and lifelong student of Brazilian and Afro-Brazilian dance and percussion. Lorin earned her BFA in Modern Dance from the University of Utah in 2005, and has been studying Afro-Brazilian dance and percussion since 2001, with world-renowned teachers in Brazil and the United States. Lorin has taught and performed as a quest artist for numerous programs and events, including the American College Dance Festival, the Westminster College Artsbridge program, University of Utah, and Utah Arts Festival. Lorin is the Artistic Director and founder of Samba Fogo, a Brazilian music and dance company that performs and teaches in Utah and surrounding states.



Ariel Horton (BYU)

Ariel Hortin is a graduate from BYU, with a BA in Dance Education. Since then she has been the Modern Dance Director at Provo High, where she directed dancers of all levels in 10 concerts and choreographed over 60 pieces. Ariel created an after school hip hop program, and started an all contemporary dance company. She is currently teaching contemporary dance part time at BYU and teaching choreography independently. Ariel lives in Springville, Utah, with her husband, Brian, and two daughters, Emily and Megan. Her mantra is best described by a quote by Marilyn Monroe, "Imperfection is beauty, madness is genius and it's better to be absolutely ridiculous than absolutely boring."



Jiamin Huang (BYU/China)

- MA, Modern Performing & Choreography, Brigham Young University, 1998
- BFA, Dance Education, Beijing Dance Academy, 1984
- Chair of China Activity Committee 2006-present
- Director of Dance Study Abroad Program 2002-present
- Organizer and coordinator faculty members from the dance department at BYU to teach, lecture, and observe national dance composition in China.
- Organizer and coordinator for Chinese Leadership in Arts Education 2003-present
- Choreography Award, Paris, French International Arts Festival 1992
- National Award for "Most Valuable Textbook of the Year", Beijing, China 1994Recent Research Projects and Publications
- "Chinese Leadership in Arts Education Workshop: A Sino-American Cross-Cultural Exchange", Journal of Dance Education 2009
- "Dance Exercise Science in America Dance Education Program Practice and Theory in University Level", Journal of Dance in Higher Education 2009 (Chinese)
- "Intercultural Communication in Higher Dance Education: Testing the effectiveness of two pedagogical methods on building student capability to engage in intercultural communication through the China Dance Study Abroad Program" (ongoing research project)
- Chinese Folk Dance Syllabus (English 2002)
- Teaching Methods for Chinese Classical Dances (Chinese 1992)
- The Movement Analysis for Chinese Dances (Chinese 1990)
- Twenty-five articles published in Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, and China from 1990 to 2006 (Chinese)
 Grants



Amy Jex (BYU)

Amy Jex is a faculty member in the World Dance program at BYU teaching tap, character ballet, clogging, Indian dance as well as other world dance forms. She currently directs *Traditionz*, a world dance outreach program for elementary schools. Amy holds an M.A. in Dance and has taught, adjudicated, and choreographed for many school, community, and church groups, including the Draper Arts Council, Mountain West Ballet, and the Draper Temple Celebration. Amy has also been on the faculty at Janet Gray Studios in Salt Lake City since 1999 teaching ballet and tap.



Taylor Jones (BYU)

Taylor Jones grew up in Riverton, UT and has loved dancing since she was a little girl. She began Irish dancing at age eight and has kept with it ever since. It holds a special place in her heart. Taylor began competing at age ten and quickly moved up to the highest competitive level due to hard work and dedication. Taylor is a national qualifier and has competed in various states including Colorado, Washington, California, Texas, and many more. On top of competing, Taylor began assistant teaching at the age of sixteen for the Shelley School of Irish Dance located in Cedar Hills, UT under the direction of Tina Shelley. Taylor continues to teach at that studio. Additionally, Taylor has taught various leveled Irish dance courses at Brigham Young University for the past three years. Taylor's love for her students and for teaching continues to grow as her teaching career develops.



Jodi Youmans-Jones (Casper)

Jodi Youmans-Jones holds a BA in Theatre and Dance from the University of Wyoming, and an MFA from the University of Illinois-Champaign/Urbana. She is the Program Director of Dance at Casper College in Wyoming. She has performed with and been a part of several companies including Cleo Parker Robinson, Centennial Ballet, and Kema Jaamal. She teaches modern, ballet, jazz, tap, musical theatre, composition, and history.



Ashley Kimsey (UVU)

Ashley Kimsey was a member of Capital Funk, George Washington Universities very own hip hop crew. That year, the crew took 1st at the East Coast Dance Competition and 1st place at Prelude. She then got involved with a hip hop convention called Monsters of Hip hop, after winning a scholarship from them, she joined a hip hop company called Culture Shock D.C. She danced with them for a year traveling from New York to San Diego also performing for a Ludacris Concert. She also was a part of a Bollywood music video by Artistry Films. Ashley graduated from the George Washington University with a BA in Dance. She takes class every year in L.A, she believes in the importance of class and continuing to develop and tune your skills. She has choreographed for Lagoon and many high schools in the Valley. She now resides in Utah teaching at Center Stage and Utah Valley University.



Amy Markgraf-Jacobson (UVU)

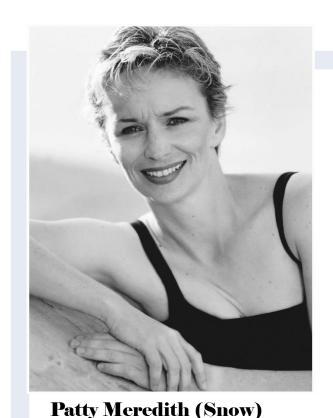
Amy Markgraf Jacobson is an Assistant Professor of Modern Dance at Utah Valley University. Amy began her love for moving and dancing as a child with Brigham Young University's Young Dancemakers. That love for creating, exploring, and learning has guided her throughout her life as a teacher, choreographer, artistic director, mover, and human being. Her choreography has been honored and performed at several (5) American College Dance Festivals Gala Performances, choreographic showcases as as well as throughout the United States, Europe, Australia, South America, Philippians, and Asia. Her teaching and choreography reaches out to elementary school children, high schools, universities, teachers and adults of all levels. Amy research focus on training and conditioning the dancer of today, mentoring student choreography, and creating new and innovative new works of her own. Amy has taught dance workshops for the Utah State Office of Education, Utah school districts, and has been a member of the Utah State of Education curriculum Writing Team for Dance. Recent projects include collaborative projects bringing dance to elementary education students through classes and performances throughout Utah and the British Isles as well as creating a Dance Study Abroad Program. Current, projects include "Lacuna" and "Sense of Place" with fellow faculty member Angie Bancheo-Kelleher. Amy is a National Board Member of dance and the Child international. Amy holds a B.S. in Dance Education from Utah State University, a MA from Brigham Young University, and a MFA from the University of Utah. Amy is currently the Modern Dance and Dance Education Program Coordinator at UVU and the former Artistic Director of Synergy Dance Company. Amy teaches modern dance technique, dance kinesiology, modern dance teaching methods, and dance conditioning. Amy's loves include hers two rambunctious and inquisitive little men, yard work, vacations, reading, her constant attempt to stay in shape, time with her husband, movies, and discovering the little joys in life's journey.

Professional memberships include National Dance Education Association, International Dance Science and Medicine, and Dance and the Child International.



Terri McCabe (BYU)

Teri Riding McCabe, MS, ATC is currently an Adjunct Professor at BYU. She is a Certified Athletic Trainer and graduated from BYU with both a Bachelor and Master's degrees in Athletic Training. As part of her graduate assistantship she worked in BYU's Dance Training Room. She is finishing up a PhD in Dance Science from the University of Wolverhampton, performing research on injuries in ballroom dancers. She has also worked with the United Spirit Association, Cirque du Soleil, and the Radio City Rockettes.



Patricia received her BFA and MFA, with emphasis in Ballet performance from the University of Utah and did post-graduate study at The Ohio State University and U.C. Berkeley. She danced with Ballet West, the Utah Opera Company and was a charter member of Ballet Salt Lake and Jazzin' Dance Company. She became the Chair of the Dance Department at Scottsdale College where the dance program grew, from one faculty member to over 20 under her care. In 2008 Patricia was hired as the Dance Director at Snow College, where she once again, accepted the challenge of developing a fullscale dance program. She was awarded "Laban Teacher Certification" from the Dance Notation Bureau and earned the title of Laban/Bartenieff Movement Analyst. The Dance Department at Snow is now the 4th fastest growing department on campus.



Pam Musil (BYU)

Pamela S. Musil MA, Associate Professor and Contemporary Dance Administrator at Brigham Young University, currently teaches dance major courses including Kinesiology for Dancers and Teaching Methods of Contemporary Dance. Until recently she was also the Artistic Director of dancEnsemble, a student run company offering experiences in choreography and concert performance. Pam believes in the power of collaboration as an educational tool and has created various collaborative choreographic works inspired by personal and shared issues. Her research has often focused on gender-related issues of dancers in adolescence and young adulthood; she is particularly passionate about educating and giving voice to girls and women. She has taught and given presentations in China and India, and has presented at multiple national conferences. She has served on the National Dance Education Organization (NDEO) Board of Directors and currently serves on the Editorial Boards for both the Journal of Dance Education and Arts Education Policy Review. She also currently serves as President-Elect of the Utah Dance Education Organization.



Paul Ocampo (SUU)

Professor Paul C. Ocampo received his M.F.A. degree from Ohio State University in 2003. He choreographed and performed with the Ballet Philippines from 1984-1990 and with Singapore Dance Theatre from 1990-1999. With BP & SDT, he performed extensively and participated in numerous International Festivals. He was awarded the Shell-NAC Young Artist Award and is a recipient of scholarships from National Arts Council (Singapore), Lee Foundation, and Howell Dance Fund. A keen learner of different languages, he has received a Labanotation Teacher Certification. Paul has worked with many illustrious choreographers including: Susan Hadley, Victoria Uris, Bebe Miller, Douglas Nielsen, Joe Alegado, Zvi Gotheiner, Graham Lustig, Jean Paul Commelin, Leigh Warren, Norman Walker, Gener Caringal, Agnes Locsin, Edna Vida, Denisa Reyes, the late Anthony Then, Goh Soo Khim, and many more.

With the Theatre and Dance Department at Southern Utah University, Professor Ocampo teaches modern dance, ballet, principles of choreography, liberal education courses, folk & cultural forms and movement for actors. In 2007, he was awarded the Utah Arts Council Individual Artist Project Grant to present *Bridging Bridges*. Hehas also been invited as a guest artist with Repertory Dance Theatre in Salt Lake City, Utah, STEPS in the Philippines and National Taiwan University of Arts. In 2009, he performed a work cochoreographed with Chien-Ying Wang at Manhattan Movement Arts Center in New York City which received high accolades from Roslyn Sulcas of the New York Times.



Nichole Ortega (UVU)

Nichole Ortega began her classical ballet training in 1975 with Sandra Allen. From 1984 to 1990, she continued her training with Jacqueline P. Colledge, as a member and soloist with the Utah Regional Ballet Company. Nichole completed her undergraduate degree in Health Education and Dance Education at Brigham Young University, and earned a Master of Arts in Dance, from California State University, Long Beach. For ten years, Nichole acted as a secondary dance educator, developing the dance program and Dance Company at Payson High School in Payson, Utah. Currently, Nichole is in her tenth year at Utah Valley University where she is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Dance. She teaches Ballet, Dance Education, and other core courses and acted as Artistic Director during the two inaugural years of UVU Repertory Ballet Ensemble. Nichole is an active member of the National Dance Education Organization, was President of the Utah Dance Education Organization from 2008-2010, and is currently the Past President of the Utah Academy of Science, Arts, and Letters. She served two years as the Secondary Endorsement Dance Representative for the Utah State Office of Education and has choreographed for Synergy Dance Company, Contemporary Dance Ensemble, Utah Regional Ballet, Utah Regional Ballet II, Boise State College, Scera Shell Outdoor Theater, and Scera Theater. She has been awarded two NEA grants, along with fellow UVU department faculty members. Nichole has been published twice in The Academy Journal and once in The Journal of the International Arts in Society, and has shared her research at several conferences, including her most recent presentation at the International Arts in Society Conference in Berlin, Germany. Nichole recently received the UVU Presidential Fellowship for her research with Bart Poulson, integrating dance and technology.



Corinne Penka

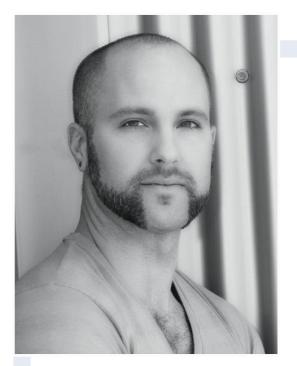
Corinne Penka graduated in 2005 with a BFA in Modern Dance from the University of Utah. She has since worked with a number of local dance and theater artists (including SBdance, Pygmalion Productions, and My Turkey Sandwich), and is currently dancing and performing with both The Penguin Lady and Movement Forum. Corinne is also a Dance Specialist with Tanner Dance's Arts in Education program, an Xtend Barre Instructor, and a personal trainer at iRock Fitness. When not dancing like a fiend or teaching kids to move like molten lava, she is usually sipping coffee for hours, gettin' her yoga on, running madly on some mountain trail, enjoying the company of dear friends, and trying to put a dent in the massive pile of books by her bedside.



Denise Purvis (SUU)

Denise Purvis is founding member and Artistic Director of Shifting Velocity Dance Company in Cedar City, UT. In addition, she is Assistant Professor of Dance at Southern Utah University teaching ballet, modern, jazz and tap technique, composition, creative dance for children, and K-12 methods. Prior to joining SUU, she designed and directed the dance program for the Chesterfield County Specialty Center for the Arts at Thomas Dale High School in Chester, VA. From 2008 until 2012, Purvis danced with Starr Foster Dance Project in Richmond, VA, and she has consistently worked with various free-lance choreographers since 1999. A strong advocate of the arts and arts education, Ms. Purvis serves on the board of the Utah Dance Education Organization as higher education representative. Locally, she serves on the board of the Cedar City Arts Council as the dance arts representative.

Purvis holds a Master of Fine Arts degree in Dance Performance/Choreography from the State University of New York at Brockport, where she was on faculty from 2000 – 2004. She was also on faculty at Hobart and William Smith Colleges, in Geneva, NY, from 2003-2004. In addition to her MFA, she holds an undergraduate degree in dance from Mary Washington University in Fredericksburg, VA; and she studied dance at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, VA. Certified to teach the Bill Evans method, Purvis has been privileged to study under Mr. Evans, Don Halquist, Debra Knapp, Susie Lundgren, Cadence Whittier, Kitty Daniels, Eugene Roscoe, Sharon Kinney, Barbara Grubel, Bebe Miller, Mark Haim, Risa Steinberg, Nina Watt, and many other wonderful dancer/choreographers.



Nathan Shaw (SLC)

Nathan Shaw BFA (Modern Dance), University of Ultah

Mr. Shaw is in his first year at Judge Memorial Catholic High School, where he serves as the first full-time high school male dance teacher in Utah. He is also in his second year at Children's Dance Theatre where he teaches the sophomore class.

Mr. Shaw was a company member of Repertory Dance Theatre for six and a half years where he performed and taught master classes across the nation. He continues to be featured there as a guest artist. Additionally, he often performs for SBDance, and is a charter member of RawMoves Dance Company.

He has taught for the Tanner Dance Program and served as Adjunct Faculty for both Salt Lake Community College and Utah Valley University. Mr. Shaw also has a passion for Musical Theatre. He has appeared in shows for Salt Lake Acting Company, Utah Symphony and Opera, and the Egyptian Theater.



Tyson Small a.k.a. Nosy-T

As a <u>freestyle</u> dancer a good 80% of my skill was honed in the bathroom mirror at home and in my living room and pretty much anywhere I could play my music. My "educated" dance started about 4-5 years ago when I took my first popping workshop with Randm Rok of SBK

Since then I've taken workshops and lessons from:

Randm Rok, Poppin Jon, PopNTod, Marie Poppins, Mr. Wigglez, Brian Greene(house), Freak(house), Dennis Infante(locking), Cyrus Glitch Spencer, Madd Chadd and many more. I have taught various Popping workshops at the Sandy Life Center, USU Danceclub, Collettes Dance studio and the Utah Arts Festival. I Performed with Poppin Jon in Glenn Becks "Man in the Moon" show. I have also performed in conjunction with the Bboy Federation at numerous events and charities including the Utah Arts Festival as well as the Urban Arts Festival and promotional events with Ensoul Collaboration. I was in 6th grade when my friend Riley showed me a very flawless moonwalk out of nowhere that I begged him to teach me. My interest in the moonwalk led me to MJ himself which sparked a fuse for my dance. Mikes movement helped me develop a really basic foundation of how to move yourself to music or dance. I got the arm wave down quick and perfectly just in time for my first high school stomp. The attention was addicting and the dancing social atmosphere of a "dance event" was exciting I had to find more frequent events and improve at dancing. A few years later I was introduced to Poppin Jon via Youtube. He was everything I was aiming for in my dance. All the illusions he created with tutting, waving, animating, and those hits! Between that time and my first workshop I did everything I could for 2 years to try and move like Jon or MJ or David Elsewhere. My goals have differed in dancing over the years but as I got more and more into it, I learned how useful a tool it can be for channel things like stress. Contrary to a lot (not all) of dancers in our collective urban dance scene, I DO NOT aspire to make a living off of my dance. My dance is sacred to me. Its like knowing this crazy language that only a select people can understand I don't want to dilute that with having it as a job. My only goals are to help kids that are where I was almost 10 years ago know that there are people knowledgeable with this dance that would love to share the techniques and drills to get where you want to be. Which is why keeping our urban dance scene real and alive is so important. My other goal is to continue learning this dance that I love. Lots of my friends in the scene would call me a pro or a master but I'll never be that. There is always something I can learn, always something I can work on and there will always be someone better. There's over 1,000 ways to do each and everything in dance, and the BEST dancer ATTEMPTS to figure them all out before they die.



Lindsey Tucker (ISU)

Lindsay Tucker grew up in rural Idaho. She danced competitively with a studio for 18 years winning national accolades. She has performed, coached, and competed at a national and international level, performing throughout the United States, Caribbean, and Mediterranean. Lindsay has been professionally trained in Jazz, Contemporary, Lyrical, Acro, Gymnastics, Ballet, Tap, Clogging, and Cheer. She competed with her high school dance and cheer teams earning both district and state titles. She continues to choreograph throughout the nation on a high school and collegiate level. Lindsay was a 4 year member and 2 year captain of the Idaho State University Bengal Dancers. She then continued to coach the squad for 7 years winning collegiate national dance championships in hip-hop and jazz. She is now currently employed in the Department of Theater and Dance at Idaho State University where she teaches tap, jazz, lyrical, contemporary, and chorography. She currently holds a doctorate in Audiology with an emphasis on vestibular rehabilitation as it pertains to balance and somatosensory cues in dancers. She continues to travel the United States and abroad presenting research on the effects of noise on dynamic stability and how it relays to dance training and technique.



Kaui Tuia (BYU)

Kaui Tuia

Born and raised in Utah and have been dancing professionally since I was twelve. Spent four years at the Polynesian Cultural Center helping to teach and dance. Toured with the Promotional Team for five months before moving back to Orem. Toured most of the Western United states and competed in many Hula Competitions taking between first and eighth places. We were able to open for a few concerts as well as be the dancers for the musical performances. I have been teaching at BYU since 1999 as well as teaching in the community for as long as I can remember. I have spent many hours in community service in bettering our community through dance.



Chris Valdez a.k.a Chacho

Chris (Chacho) Valdez has been training 13yrs bboying, 7yrs house and other styles within the hip hop culture. He first started exploring movement with Capoeira, a Brazilian martial art. He became interested in dance by seeing kids bboy at jr. high dances and his father do new jack dances with his uncle at his grandparents. One day he was told by his older brother to try a head-spin. From there he was hooked. As soon as his brother showed him the vhs battle of the year 1999, his passion for dance only got deeper. Chacho seeked out workshops just so he could dive in and learn all he could. August of 2000 is when he finally found a workshop that would feed is need to learn. From there on the journey moved and Chacho has become the Dancer that he is today.

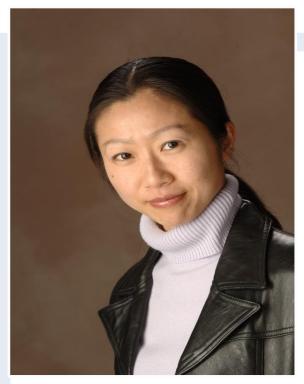
Chacho has performed at various events held in the state. 2002 Winter Olympics closing ceremonies (Capoeira to earth wind and fire), various jazz games, eve, Twilight concert series, various Uprok bboy battles, Bboy Fed battles, Utah cultural celebration center, utah arts festival, urban arts festival, underground season 1 choreographer/cast, poreotix opening solo act at Kingsbury hall and just recently The BBoy Federation: They Reminisce show as a featured choreographer/cast member for house.

Chacho doesn't see dance as a career, he sees it as a way to express and share his experiences. Before he found dance he was shy. Dancing gave him a voice that he didn't have growing up, a big reason why he is called "Muchacho The Mute". He am more confident because of dance. His goal is to share that experience with others, and give back what this dance and culture has given him so much of. He's doing that currently by teaching kids and workshops for all ages shapes and sizes. Chacho teaches at The School of Dance in sugarhouse.



Kori Wakamatsu (BYU)

Kori Wakamatsu MA, is an Assistant Professor at Brigham Young University in the Contemporary Dance Division. She works directly with the Dance Education program as a University Supervisor. She is interested in pop culture, technology, pedagogy, multicultural education and choreography. Before entering higher education, she taught junior high and high school in the Utah public school system. She received her MA from California State University, Long Beach; a Theatre Endorsement from the University of Utah; and a BA from Brigham Young University. One of her most recent projects, Thought of You, has been viewed more than two million times online. She also produces the Provo Sites Series with Ashley Anderson, Kate Monson, and Nathan Balser. She currently serves on the Board of the Utah Dance Education Organization.



Chien-Ying Wang (SUU)

Chien-Ying Wang hails from Taiwan and danced professionally with Taipei Ballet Company (1995-97) and Utah's Repertory Dance Theatre (2002-07). She received her MFA at The Ohio State University, where she received University Fellowship. Wang is a certified Labanotation teacher and has taught master classes at OSU and National Taiwan University of Arts. Her performing experience includes solo roles in several classical ballets, plus contemporary works by Zvi Gotheiner, Gideon Obarzanek, Susan Hadley, Stephen Koester, Lar Lubovitch, Molissa Fenley, Douglas Nielsen, Shapiro & Smith, Laura Dean and many more. She was awarded the Project Support Grant from Salt Lake City Arts Council in 2007 to present an evening-length concert Bridging Bridges. Her choreographic works has been presented in RDT. NTUA, Dance New Amsterdam and Manhattan Movement & Arts Center in New York City, Cultural Center of the Philippines, SUU and other performance venues. In May 2010. She received funding from National Culture and Arts Foundation in Taiwan and SUU Provost's Faculty Development Grant to present Equanimity in National Chiang Kai-Shek Cultural Center, Taiwan. Wang is an Assistant Professor at Southern Utah University.



Natosha Washington (RawMoves)

Natosha Washington has been a professional choreographer and director since 2004 after recieving her Bachelor's degree from the University of Utah in Moden Dance. As a student, Natosha's work was selected to be performed in the National College Dance Festival at the Kenedy Center which went on to recieve the Best Performance award and was featured in Dance Magazine. Natosha co-directs the Utah-based dance company RawMoves which consistently gets featured in Salt Lake City Weekly and recieved a Slammy Award for Best New Dance Company in Salt Lake City 2005. As a highly sought after choreographer, her work has been seen on many professional, collegiate and secondary school companies, both in and out-of-state, including, Repertory Dance Theatre, Unversity of Utah's Performing Dance Company, Brigham Young University's and BYU-Idaho's Contemporary Dance Theatre and Utah Valley University's Dance Ensemble, Sunset Studio Company of West Virginia, and Saint Mary's Hall Dance Company of Houston Texas. Many of these works have been part of touring programs and have been seen across the United States and Abroad including Russia, Croatia, New Zealand, Brazil, Fiji, England and China. As a teacher at Judge Memorial High School (2005-2012), Natosha developed and created curriculum for the Men's Dance Program. Currently she is teaching at NorthWest Middle School (2012-present) where she is developing an educational program for at-risk students to work in tandem with University of Utah Dance students in realizing the possibilities of recieving higher education. In addition to teaching, Natosha's is set to launch her own dance company, The Penguin Lady, in Fall 2014 made possible by the Salt Lake Arts Council Project Grant.



Emilee Wright (BYU)

Emilee Wright has been dancing as long as she can remember. She trained first in ballet, jazz and tap and then in college began exploring the many world dance forms. Emilee has trained and performed all over the world in many different genres. She began dancing flamenco when she was a member of the Folk Performing Arts Company and loved it! It is a dance form with such soul and passion, footwork and grace. All of the things that she loves. She has trained in New York City and Los Angeles in flamenco. Her diverse background has allowed Emilee to be a teacher of many genres and she loves them all equally. She loves to be able to share her love of dance with students young and old!

A heart-felt thanks to the following individuals who have put in tremendous time and effort for this festival:















