

FACULTY- 2009

CARA RICCI



Originally from Riverside, California Cara moved to Boston when she was 18. In 1996 she graduated from The Boston Conservatory in Boston, Massachusetts with her BFA in dance. In 2002 Cara moved to Colorado with her husband and children to be near her parents and siblings. Her extensive ballet training comes from teachers such as Mel Tomlinson (NYC Ballet and Boston Ballet), Donna Silva (Joffrey Ballet) and the late Anne Marie Sarazin (Boston Ballet). Her modern training comes from Erica Drew (Graham), Anne Marie Forsythe (Horton), Jennifer Scanlon (Limon) and Diane Arvanites-Noya. Her jazz training comes from teachers such as Doug Caldwell, Wes Veldink, Frank Hatchett, Kenneth Green, Jim Viera, Jane Eubanks and Adrienne Hawkins. Tap training from Sue Ronson, Jane Eubanks and teachers from the Freddie Finn Dance Studio in California. She has danced for Disney, Ace Entertainment in Boston and The Boston Conservatory Dance Theater. She has taught children with special needs in dance and regular education. Through her experience and training she has become a well-rounded teacher and choreographer. She has been teaching for 16 years.

ANNA BYRNES



Anna has been studying ballet, Vaganova technique, since the age of 10. She was actively involved in local ballet companies in her teens, placed among the top ten in Denver's Ballet Guild, and was accepted and attended many prestigious summer ballet programs such as Boston Ballet, American Ballet Theater, and Jurgen Schneider's International Ballet Seminar. She received a professional contract with Ruth Page Foundation in Chicago for their Nutcracker season at the age of 16. She attended the University of Utah for 2 years and studied in their Ballet Program, but then transferred and graduated from Colorado State University with a B.S. in Natural Resource Recreation and Tourism with a minor in Spanish. Anna has extensive teaching experience in and out of the ballet field. She has recently returned from Mexico where she was teaching English at a private bilingual high school and taught advanced ballet students at the local dance studio. She has worked with Aspen Department of Recreation as a Recreational Programmer, developing recreational programs for children and adults. She recently received her Primary Aerobic Certification and teaching at Bally's. Anna's patience and wonderful teaching is why all of our students at IDC adore her. IDC is honored to have Anna share her knowledge and joy of ballet.

KIM KAHMAN



Kim is originally from Iowa where she first began her dance training. She then moved on to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where she danced for the Cornhusker Scarlet dance team for four years. Receiving a grant from the University, she choreographed in Taipei, Taiwan for the Taiwan National University of the Arts. Kim received a bachelor of arts in dance from the University. Kim then went on to perform with Kim Robards Modern Dance Company and was a dancer for the Colorado Crush Girls for two seasons. Kim continues to choreograph and instruct for studio, high school and collegiate dance teams all over the country.



LAURA LUNA



Laura has been caring for children for the past 8 years, including being a lead teacher at a few local preschools. She graduated from Metropolitan State College of Denver with a degree in Behavioral Science, and a teacher licensure in Early Childhood Education. Laura currently has a primary aerobics certification and teaches at Bally Total Fitness. She has worked with the creative movement and ballet instruction at Bally's for the past year. Laura is enthusiastic to join our staff and excited to instruct the many children that join her in class.

PARIS FARR



Paris is originally from Cleveland, Oh where he attended the Cleveland School of the Arts. There he studied ballet, modern (Graham), jazz, hip hop, break dance, Pilobolus style non-traditional partnering under the guidance of Bill Wade. During his time there he also study with Pilobolus, Alvin Ailey, and Martha Graham. He then went on to study at the Chicago Academy for the Arts under the instruction of Randy Duncan and Anna Paskevka. He also was a junior under study for Joffrey Ballet. He went on to begin teaching at the age of 15 for the Shannon Community Center in Dublin, Ca. He also taught at the Sonoma Academy for Dance and the Arts and also Chico Creek Dance Center. He was also the former assistant director of Full Force Hip Hop and Jazz Company.

JENNIFER MIDDLETON



Jen Middleton has been dancing for over 16 years. She was a company member of her home town dance studio for 6 years. While at the studio, Jen studied; tap, jazz, lyrical, ballet, and hip-hop. She has also studied under many famous choreographers, participated in dance team for pro-basketball and performed in Disney World, on Carnival, Royal Caribbean, and Celebrity cruise lines. Dance is her passion, and she loves to teach!

MICHELLE JANIS



Michelle Janis was born in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where she grew up and began her dance training. She has performed with the Southwest Ballet Company and as a soloist with the New Mexico Ballet Company as well as various other small performance troupes. Janis was invited to participate in the prestigious New York State Summer School of the Arts, which is part of New York City Ballet's summer program at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center, where she attended as the only non- New York resident three years in a row. Janis has studied with countless master instructors and principal dancers from companies including New York City Ballet, American Ballet Theater and Boston Ballet. After graduating from the University of New Mexico in 2003, she moved to Colorado and has since continued teaching and taking classes in Denver.



MARIE SOUTH



Marie is originally from Chandler, Arizona. She has her Bachelor of Arts in Theatre from the University of Northern Colorado (UNC), and has an emphasis in dance and music. Growing up, she studied Jazz, Tap, Ballet, Clogging, and Modern dance. In college she played in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat*, *Pirates of Penzance*, and *The Music Man*.

At UNC she was a member of the Dance Tour Troupe, performing throughout Colorado. She also directed the one act of *Anything Goes* at the university. She has choreographed *Thoroughly Modern Mille* and *Beauty and the Beast*, and

choreographed/assistant directed the musical *Swing* at Greeley West High School. Down in Denver she has choreographed/assistant directed *The Jungle Book*, *The Little Mermaid*, and *Horton Hears a Who* for children's theatre. She loves working with children and is excited to work at Inspirations Dance Company and Performing Arts.