

# FUSION FORCE

presents

" AN AFTERNOON OF DANCE "



FEBRUARY 6, 2022

SHOWTIME 2:30 PM

West Boca High School  
Auditorium

That's  
Dancing  
A Professional Dance Technique Studio

# Dear Friends & Families,

As we navigated another season of challenges and uncertainty, dance and our dance family have been the constant and the thread that holds us together. Coming off of a season that our faces were covered and we had to express all of our emotion and determination through our bodies without the ability to express our emotions on our faces, our dancers have persevered and continued to hone their craft. As performing artists, we as dancers, crave the stage. Being on a stage represents hundreds of hours of sweat and hard work as well as being a place to share our artistry for personal and public accolades. Today is a special day for all of us and we are truly grateful for your support. Attending this show in person or logging in to watch us virtually means more than we could adequately express with words. Thank you.

Our very own full-time faculty member and Fusion Force Dance Company mentor and choreographer, Nicole Smith, was handed a very scary diagnosis at the beginning of our season. She shared her breast cancer diagnosis and journey with our team with strength, grace, and grit. The dancer inside of her relied on the discipline that she was trained to have as a young dancer and continues to instill as an educator. Our faculty rallied to cover classes and make it easy for Nicole to focus on her health. Without hesitation, Nicole did not want to walk away from dance or the team or her job and successfully completed 4 rounds of chemotherapy all while continuing to teach and choreograph. She has been the role model that we ALL need. The faculty at That's Dancing love you Nicole and so do the students. Thank you for showing us that showing up when things are hard makes everyone better.

Thank you to our dedicated, resilient, creative, caring, and finest faculty and staff. You have all been an exemplary examples of teamwork. We cannot thank you enough for your dedication to our students, our studio, and your fellow faculty members. Love and utmost respect to each of you.

Thank you to the families that support our studio and our dancers. We are all living in a time so challenging to navigate and the families of Fusion Force Dance Company have been our rock. Your flexibility and trust in us have allowed us to continue to do what we love. Thank you for making dance and arts education a priority and for choosing That's Dancing. To our mom, thank you for what you have done behind the scenes to support us. For the last 24 years of owning a small business and all of the years leading up, you have shown us unconditional love and unwavering support. We hope we continue to make you proud. Your example of love has enabled us to share love with others. Thank you, mom. We love you.

Congratulations to the Graduating Class of 2022. The team is lucky to have a strong group of 7 senior team members setting the tone of positivity, leadership, and strength. Thank you for holding us all to a high standard of excellence. May you all continue to soar as you begin to choose what direction your life will take. We are certain success is waiting for all of you and you all truly deserve it. Thank you for dancing ... enjoy your senior performances this afternoon. I know we all will and will be cheering for you in the theatre and throughout the country on live stream!

As we take the stage today, we celebrate dance! The thread in our lives that connects us and brings us joy. We know you will appreciate the young artists that you will see today as they use their instruments to create art. Whether they are at the beginning of their exploration or just diving into the possibilities of this journey being part of their future goals, your support is integral to their growth. Supporting local businesses and local artists keeps our community grounded and goal-oriented. These dancers are the future and you are about to see the finest dancers in Palm Beach County! We know that they will work hard to give you their finest performance. Enjoy the show!

With love and respect,  
Andrea LaMaina & Michele Walsh  
Co-Owners / Artist Directors  
That's Dancing & Fusion Force Dance Company



# meet the artistic directors

## ANDREA LAMAINA



**Andrea LaMaina** received her BFA in Dance Performance and Education from Towson University in Maryland. Mrs. LaMaina is the past President of DMA, Florida Chapter 2. She holds a National Teacher Education Certification as well as a Teacher Certification in Dance/Vocational Arts. She is an active member of Dance Educators of American and Dance Masters of America. She is the President of "The Young Dancer Foundation of South Florida, Inc." a non-profit 501(c) (3) organization that accepts charitable, tax deductible donations to benefit talented young dancers. Andrea is the Founder of the So Flo Tap Festival, and produces an annual event to promote the american art form of tap dancing, tap jamming and improvisation. Andrea is the teacher and choreographer of many title holders on a regional and national level. Her students have earned many scholarships to prestigious summer intensives and higher education dance degree programs. Her choreography has earned many awards throughout the years and Andrea is sought after as a judge on several competition circuits. She enjoys teaching master classes both locally and regionally and sharing her love of dance with eager dancers. Before college, Andrea trained under master teacher Fred Knecht. Andrea has choreographed for the Wellington High School Dance Team from Wellington, Florida, who was invited to perform at the Orange Bowl Classic's half time show. Before becoming co-owner and Artistic Director of That's Dancing, she was a faculty member at Glen Rock Middle School where she designed and created an exploratory arts curriculum, which included dance and creative movement. In 1997, she was nominated for The Sallie Mae Best New Teacher of the Year Award, a national honor recognizing her achievements in innovative curriculum development and design for public education. Andrea has also danced professionally with DDM Company based in Fairlawn, New Jersey. She is an active member of the National Dance Association and the Florida Dance Association. In 1994, she was chosen to perform with renowned choreographer Maureen Flemming in an original work at the Stephen's Hall Theater in Baltimore. In 1990, Andrea was a scholarship recipient for the Alvin Ailey Summer Dance Program. For several years, Andrea was a performer and featured dancer in various roles at the Bucks County Playhouse in Pennsylvania.

# *meet the artistic directors*

## MICHELE WALSH



Michele Walsh holds a Master of Education in Dance from Temple University and a Bachelor of Arts in Theater from the University of Miami. She is the past Vice-President of Dance Masters of America Florida Chapter 2. She is a certified teacher with the Dance Masters of America Organization. She belongs to Dance Educators of America, Florida Chapter. Michele is the teacher and choreographer of Petite Miss Dance of Florida, 2012. She has trained with many respectable dance instructors including Fred Knecht, Katiti King, Eva Gholson, David Howard and Francis Kiernan. Before moving to Florida, she was a faculty member at the Purnell School in Pottersville, New Jersey, where she was the Head of the Performing Arts Department and dance teacher. At Purnell, she taught ballet, pointe, jazz, modern, tap, African dance, movement improvisation and choreography to students ages 13-18. Michele has choreographed several musicals including Quilters, The Utter Glory of Morrissey Hall, Prom Queens Unchained, Starmites, Smile and I'm Sorry The Bridge Is Out, You'll Have To Spend The Night. Her work was nominated for Best Ensemble from the Papermill Playhouse Rising Stars Awards, a professional theater company in Millburn, New Jersey. Michele has danced professionally with the Red Bank Ballet Company and the American Repertory Theatre. She has performed as a lead dancer for the band The Beat Club, known for the song "Security", in live concerts throughout South Florida. She has even danced in the Super Bowl XXIII half time show in Miami at Joe Robbie Stadium, where she was a featured dancer. To stay on the cutting edge of dance, she has attended the Jazz Dance World Congress in Chicago; the Dance Teacher Now Convention in NYC; the Bates Dance Festival in Lewiston, Maine; the Florida Dance Festival in Tampa, Houston Ballet's Teacher Seminar in Texas, and New York on the Road, a traveling dance workshop. Michele is also an active member of both the National Dance Association and The Florida Dance Association which promote dance in a variety of venues.



*mini*



*petite*

*tween*



teen teal



teen black



Senior



SAVERY  
EVERY  
EVERY

EMMA  
EMMA  
EMMA

MADI  
MADI  
MADI

ELLIE  
ELLIE  
ELLIE

TRINITY  
TRINITY  
TRINITY

ALYSSA  
ALYSSA  
ALYSSA

DEVAN  
DEVAN  
DEVAN

2021.2022



# ACT ONE

## On the Sunny Side

*Senior Jazz*

Choreographed by Andrea LaMaina

## Car Wash

*Mini Jazz*

Choreographed by Andrea LaMaina

Student Apprentice: Emma Mulé

## Mr. Sandman

*Teen Teal Tap*

Choreographed by Andrea LaMaina

## Hands

*Teen Black Contemporary*

Choreographed by Struther White

## Renegade

*Senior Acrobatics*

Choreographed by Michele Walsh

## Word Up!

*Tween Jazz*

Choreographed by Christi Cianciotto

## Kill the Lights

*Teen Teal Jazz*

Choreographed by Christi Cianciotto

## Bittersweet Symphony

*Senior Contemporary*

Choreographed by Jessica Pearl

## Sway

*Senior FFDC Member Alyssa Marten*

Choreographed by Clarissa Castaneda

## Rolling in the Deep

*Teen Black Modern*

Choreographed by Loren Foster

## Comin' Home Baby

*Senior Heels*

Choreographed by Andrea LaMaina

## Fix You

*Teen Teal Lyrical*

Choreographed by Nicole Smith



# ACT ONE

## Sweet Disposition

*Teen Black Open*

Choreographed by Nicole Smith

## Home to You

*Teen Black Contemporary*

Choreographed by Jessica Pearl

## Don't Leave Me Now

*Senior Boys*

Choreographed by Struther White

## People Need a Melody

*Senior Choreography*

Choreographed by the FFDC Graduating Seniors

Mentored by Michele Walsh

## Woo Hoo

*Teen Teal Tap*

Choreographed by Andrea LaMaina

## Waterfall

*Teen Black Pointe*

Choreographed by Michele Walsh

## Magic Man

*Senior FFDC Member Avery Janenda*

Choreographed by Struther White

## Heaven I Know

*Senior FFDC Member Emma Mulé*

Choreographed by Brennan Gonzalez

## Yes, Yes I Can

*Teen Teal Acrobatics*

Choreographed by Michele Walsh

## International Mix

*Teen Black Acrobatics*

Choreographed by Michele Walsh

## Walks with Me

*Senior Contemporary*

Choreographed by Struther White

# INTERMISSION

# ACT TWO

## **Ants**

*Teen Black & Senior Character*

Choreographed by Brenan Gonzalez & Nicole Smith

## **Baby I'm a Star**

*Petite Jazz*

Choreographed by Nicole Smith

Student Assistant: Savannah Ehrlich

## **Get it Girl, You Go**

*Tween Tap*

Choreographed by Nicole Smith

## **Romeo & Juliet**

*Senior Modern*

Choreographed by Clarissa Castaneda

## **Cringe**

*Senior FFDC Member Devan Maida*

Choreographed by Devan Maida

Mentored by Kameron Bink

## **Scat**

*Teen Black Tap*

Choreographed by Andrea LaMaina

## **Cheers**

*Senior Open*

Choreographed by Nicole Smith

## **Nothing Like This**

*Teen Teal Jazz*

Choreographed by Michele Walsh

## **A Shine on Your Shoes**

*Senior FFDC Member Madison Andres*

Choreographed by Andrea LaMaina

## **Fresh Prince**

*Teen Black & Senior Hip Hop*

Choreographed by Melissa Ruiz

## **Cello Wars**

*Senior Pointe*

Choreographed by Michele Walsh

## **At the Playground**

*Petite & Tween Hip Hop*

Choreographed by Larry Albright



# ACT TWO

## **Bailar**

*Teen Teal Latin*

Choreographed by Nicole Smith

## **Who?**

*Senior Contemporary*

Choreographed by Struther White

## **Bloom**

*Teen Black Tap*

Choreographed by Andrea LaMaina

## **New York**

*Senior FFDC Member Ellie Bender*

Choreographed by Andrea LaMaina

## **Multiply**

*Senior Tap*

Choreographed by John Manzari

## **Call Me Irresponsible**

*Teen Black Jazz*

Choreographed by Andrea LaMaina

## **Sonnet**

*Senior Contemporary*

Choreographed by Nicholas LaMaina

## **Youth**

*Senior FFDC Member Trinity Suma*

Choreographed by Nicole Smith

## **Dancing Flame**

*Teen Black Jazz*

Choreographed by Nicole Smith

## **Let's Groove**

*Senior Tap*

Choreographed by Andrea LaMaina

## **Company Bows**

*All FFDC*

# Graduating Seniors

Madison Andres will be graduating from The King's Academy with an engineering distinction. She plans to major in chemical engineering which will lead her to pursue pharmaceutical engineering as a career. Madison has been dancing at That's Dancing for ten years and has been a part of FFDC for eight years. She would like to thank her parents, Allyson and Derrick, and her sister, Brittney, for always supporting her along with all her other family. She would also like to thank Mrs. Andrea, Ms. Michele, and all the other amazing faculty for being so gracious and offering so many different opportunities to grow as a dancer and a human being. There is no way she would have been able to make it here without the unconditional love and support from her teammates.



Ellie Bender will be graduating from Park Vista High School and plans on studying civil engineering with a minor in dance next year. Ellie has been dancing for 16 years at That's Dancing, nine of them on FFDC. She would like to thank her parents and family for always supporting her throughout her dance career and other passions and hobbies, Mrs. Andrea and Ms. Michele for always pushing her to be the best dancer and artist, as well as her friends for the unconditional love and support.

Avery Janenda will be graduating from a homeschool education program. She will attend Rice University in the fall, where she will major in environmental engineering with a minor in engineering design. Avery has been dancing for 15 years, eight at That's Dancing and seven on Fusion Force. She would like to thank the That's Dancing faculty, who have shaped her into the person she is today, and her teammates and friends, who fill her with so much joy every day. Finally, Avery would like to extend the biggest thank you to her parents, Lisa and John, and her grandmother, Mima, for their endless love and wholehearted support in all her endeavors. She wouldn't be where she is today without them. Last year best year. Lots of love.



# Graduating Seniors



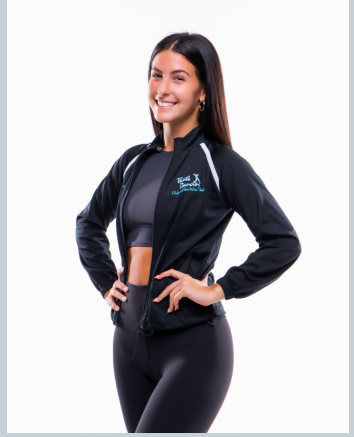
Devan Maida will be graduating from the Fine Arts Academy at Wellington High School as a vocal major and member of the Royals Varsity Dance Team. She plans on studying both Criminology and Psychology and eventually earning a Ph.D. to work as a forensic psychologist. Devan has been dancing for 14 years, 7 of them at That's Dancing, and 4 on FFDC. She would like to thank her parents, Lisa and Vinnie, for always supporting her and her journey across the art forms. She would also like to thank her amazing teachers at That's Dancing for inspiring her and pushing her to work hard throughout the years, and the friends she's made along the way.

Alyssa Marten will be graduating from Park Vista Community High School and plans to earn her BFA in Dance Performance. Alyssa has been dancing for 16 years and has been a member of Fusion Force Dance Company for 5 years. Through dance, Alyssa has been blessed with opportunities such as being in a World of Dance commercial, dancing back up for a recording artist, being featured in music videos for artists such as Chris Porter and Ecclesia, and earning her first IMDB credit, from being in a short film. She is a current member of Loud Live Productions and The Hoodlums Company Crew and is currently signed with Artsy Talent Agency. Alyssa would like to thank her parents for always being in the audience for her even on 8 hour competition days, and loving her unconditionally, as well as the rest of her family and friends for supporting her as she achieves her dreams. That's Dancing will always be her support system and her refuge. She would like to thank the studio and the team for all of the corrections, laughs, and life lessons, without the studio she would not have been able to make what seemed like an impossible dream, possible.



# Graduating Seniors

Emma Mulé will be graduating from Park Vista Community High School. Emma intends on continuing her study of dance in college and earning her Bachelor in Fine Arts, with a minor in creative writing. She has been dancing at That's Dancing for 12 years and has been a part of Fusion Force Dance Company for 7 years. Emma was given the opportunity to start teaching classes and be a part of the Young Dancer Program at That's Dancing. Last season Emma was awarded a full-tuition scholarship and is so grateful for her That's Dancing family for making that possible. She would like to thank her parents, Lisa and Anthony, for their constant support throughout her many years of dance and all the late-night advice on the harder days. She would also like to thank her teachers at That's Dancing for making her the dancer and person she is today. Emma can't wait for her last season and is ready to make it count.



Trinity Suma will be graduating from Florida Atlantic University High School, where she is currently pursuing a data analytics concentration through FAU High School Jupiter's partnerships with the Max Planck Academy and Wilkes Honors College. She plans to pursue a bachelor of science degree in computer science and continue her academic endeavors through scientific research and graduate school. Trinity has been a That's Dancing student for 12 years and has been a member of FFDC since 2013. She would like to thank her parents, Marisa and Joe, for supporting her throughout her high school academic and dance careers and her teammates for being an incredible support system and second family all these years.

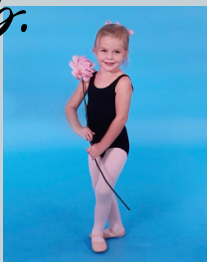


# Match the Senior

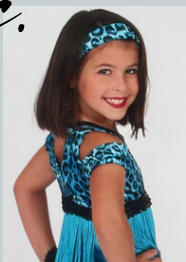
a.



b.



c.



d.



e.



f.



g.



1. MADISON ANDRES

2. ELLIE BENDER

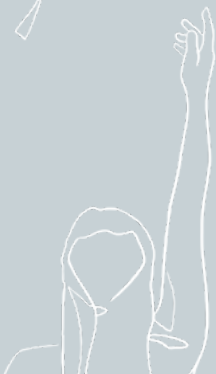
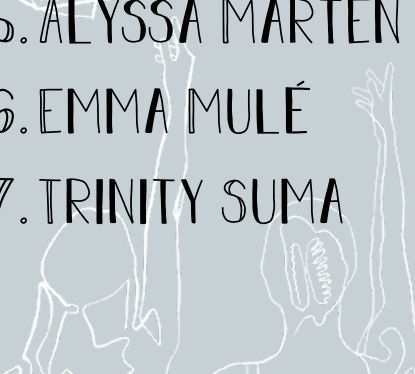
3. AVERY JANENDA

4. DEVAN MAIDA

5. ALYSSA MARTEN

6. EMMA MULÉ

7. TRINITY SUMA



# 2021-2022 FACULTY

# FUSION FORCE

*choreographers*



NICOLE SMITH

Nicole Smith graduated from the University of Central Florida with a Bachelor of the Arts degree in Interdisciplinary Studies and a minor in dance. She is a That's Dancing and Fusion Force Dance Company Alumni and also attended New World School of the Arts, a dance conservatory and performing arts college, in downtown Miami. Shortly after completing her first year at NWSA, she was accepted into the University of Central Florida. While attending UCF, Nicole focused her degree studies on dance and the arts. In addition to her active role in the UCF dance community, Nicole also became involved in the performing arts throughout Central Florida; by teaching and choreographing at several dance studios. While in college, Nicole was selected to tour with MAC Cosmetics as a model and a tap dancer to help launch their cosmetic line "Hey Sailor!" She has been a part of the Entertainment Department at SeaWorld in Orlando, Florida as a character performer. After a successful season at SeaWorld, Nicole accepted a contract with VEE Corporation to travel and tour the United States and Canada with Sesame Street Live where she was chosen to play the lead role of Elmo in the production: Elmo Makes Music. After her tour ended Nicole moved to South Florida where she continues to teach, perform, and choreograph. Nicole is Co-Producer of the annual So Flo Tap Fest that is held in South Florida. Recently, Nicole had the opportunity to reach a larger audience by becoming one of the dance counselors for the online subscription service Happy Camper Live. She is thrilled to share her love of tap dancing through her online tutorials and classes. Her most recent accomplishments include earning her first IMDb credit through her choreography and production work on the short dance film 'Ayita's Dream,' which recently won Best Film at Film Gate film festival. Nicole also has the opportunity to work as the lead choreographer for the concept dance video "Presidente," which was used as a part of the Pepsi campaign in 2020.

# 2021-2022 FACULTY

## FUSION FORCE

*choreographers*



### CHRISTI CIANCIOTTO

Christi Cianciotto was born and raised in Boynton Beach Florida. She trained at That's Dancing until 2015 and was a member of Fusion Force Dance Company for 5 years. She was also a part of the Park Vista Community High School Dance Team from 2011-2015. Christi attended Florida Atlantic University and graduated in 2019 with her Bachelors in Communication Studies with a minor in Film and Video. During her college experience, she was a dedicated member of the Florida Atlantic University Dance Team. The FAU Dance Team entertained and energized crowds at designated FAU athletic events, all football, and women and men's basketball games, and promotional events at the direction of the administration of the FAU Department of Athletics. The FAU Dance Team also annually competes in NDA collegiate nationals. Bringing positivity and enthusiasm for the University and the Boca Raton area and beyond was Christi's passion during her 4 years at FAU. She is currently a Youth Protection Advocates in Dance certified dance instructor. Being trained in ballet, tap, jazz, contemporary, and hip-hop, Christi is now dedicated to teaching and spreading her passion and love for the art of dance to all her students.



### CLARISSA CASTAÑEDA

A native of Lake Worth, Florida, Clarissa Castañeda began dancing on and off at the age of five but did not start ballet until the age of 13 at Boca Ballet Theater under the direction of Dan Guin and Jane Tyree. While at Boca Ballet Theater, she performed many roles and ballets such as Lilac Fairy in *The Sleeping Beauty*, *The Sacrifice* in Dan Guin's *The Rite of Spring*, George Balanchine's *Serenade*, George Balanchine's *Valse Fantisie*, and *Arabian Lead* in *The Nutcracker*. After graduating in 2015, she went on to attend The Juilliard School. While at The Juilliard School, Castañeda has performed new works by Helen Simoneau, Katarzyna Skarpetowska, Roy Assaf, Stefanie Batten Bland, and Madison Hicks. She has also performed repertoire such as Crystal Pite's *Grace Engine*, Richard Alston's *Sheer Bravado*, Alejandro Cerrudo's *Little mortal jump*, and Peter Chu's *Smile Masking* (solo excerpt). Castañeda has also furthered her training at summer programs such as Alonzo King LINES Ballet (full merit scholarship) and Springboard Danse Montréal where she performed William Forsythe's *WorkWithinWork* (duet excerpt) and a new work by Jasmine Ellis. After receiving her BFA in Dance from The Juilliard School in 2019, Castañeda moved back home to establish herself as a teacher and choreographer in the South Florida region.

# 2021-2022 FACULTY FUSION FORCE *choreographers*

**Struther White** began his professional dance career in Los Angeles in 2011, after moving from his hometown Frederick, Maryland. Currently represented by Clear talent group, his most recent attributes to television has been Prom, the movie based off of the Broadway show starring his dance partner Meryl Streep; and a Netflix series starting this fall Worn Stories. He has worked with music sensations including Kanye West, Blake Shelton, Sofia Carson, Backstreet Boys, Eden XO, Aluna George, Jack Black, Will.i.Am, Leona Lewis, Sam Tsui, and was on the 2016 Purity Ring Tour. Struther has also created a successful career for himself in the television industry and can be seen in commercials for GAP, The Greatest Showman, Ellen, Audi, Maserati, Volvo, Ford, Staples, Vivienne Westwood, JOY, he has performed on the Emmys, The Ellen Show, People's choice awards with Rita Ora, and assisted Mia Michael's for season 14 of So You Think You Can Dance. He has also performed live for VMA's in Beijing, China, MAC cosmetics tour, and several LA contemporary companies including Royal Flux and Embodiment; who were on season two of World Of Dance.

## STRUTHER WHITE



## LOREN FOSTER

**Loren Foster** received her BFA in Dance from Florida State University with honors in Liberal Studies. While at FSU, she was a member of the Dance Repertory Theatre, the dance department's performance company. She was also a member of FSU's Golden Girls, the university's competition dance team. A native Floridian, Loren trained with many local teachers and graduated from the Alexander Dreyfoos School of the Arts as a dance major. She joined the faculty of That's Dancing in 2002 teaching classes in ballet, pointe, tap, jazz, lyrical and modern dance at all ages and levels. Ms. Foster also works with Fusion Force Dance Company and her choreography has received numerous awards at regional competitions. Ms. Foster is the teacher and choreographer of Senior Miss Headliner National 2006-2007. Her award winning solo choreography represented Team USA at the IDO World Showdance Championships 2006 in Riesa, Germany and placed 4th in the world. Before joining the That's Dancing family, she served as Dance Director of LimeLight Productions, Inc. in Sierra Vista, Arizona, teaching ballet, jazz, and tap, modern, hip-hop and musical theater. She regularly attends dance workshops and festivals including the Arizona Jazz Dance Festival in Tucson, the Florida Dance Festival in Miami, the Southeastern Tap Explosion in Atlanta and the Jazz Dance World Congress in Chicago. Loren is certified by the state of Florida in Dance K-12 and Elementary Education K-6 and is currently teaching Dance and Project Based Learning at The Conservatory School at North Palm Beach where she collaborates with classroom teachers to design and implement arts integrated projects which inspire students to learn through the arts.



2021-2022 FACULTY  
**FUSION FORCE**  
*choreographers*



**LARRY ALBRIGHT**

Larry Albright graduated with a BA concentrated in Hip Hop culture from Rutgers University in 2003. Mr. Larry has been teaching, dancing, training and performing his style of hip-hop for 20 years. He has had the pleasure of choreographing for artists such as Sean Kingston "Fire Burning," JRand "Ride," & Black Dada "Imma Zoe". He has also been featured as an opening act for such artists as B.O.B., T-Pain, Cobra Starship, Rae Sremmurd, Kirko Bangz, Sean Paul, The Spinners and the Village People. Larry has also been seen on MTV with Pitbull and The Tonight Show with Jay Leno where he performed with J Rand featuring Flo Rida. Though he loves to perform, his passion lies in teaching. His teaching experience is quite extensive having taught all over the country and abroad. He teaches all levels from elementary to collegiate and professionals. Some of his former students have gone on to dance with Michael Jackson, Janet Jackson, Beyonce, Brittny Spears and Rihanna. He has conducted master classes for many conventions including Dance Educators of America, Dance 4 Life (Bahamas), Pick the Stars International (Can), and UDX Hip Hop Convention. He has also taught at many colleges including Rutgers University, FIU, FSU and Florida School of the Arts. His latest projects include being one of the choreographers for the crowd immersive & energetic productions of "Palm Beach Nights" & "KOORAZY" presented by Loud Live Productions . Currently, Mr Larry teaches dance for the school district of Palm Beach County, the Greene School and Palm Beach Atlantic University. Most recently, Mr. Larry can be seen performing in and Choreographing music videos for GAWVI and Ecclesiaworld.



# 2021-2022 FACULTY

## FUSION FORCE

*guest choreographers*



JESSICA PEARL

Jessica Pearl received her BFA from the University of Florida's New World School of the Arts, where she trained under many respected dance instructors and choreographers. She has performed for companies including Battleworks Dance Company, Paul Taylor Dance Company, and the José Limón Company. She has committed to hours of intensive training with the Jacob's Pillow Summer Intensive, the Martha Graham Summer Intensive, and the former Southeastern Tap Explosion and the Florida Dance Festival, to name a few. She is the proud teacher and choreographer of Petite Miss Dance of Florida 2012 and 2013, Miss Ticket to Broadway 2015, Teen Miss Onstage 2016, Teen Miss Candance 2016, Miss Onstage 2017, Miss Candance 2017, Senior Miss Onstage 2018, Senior Miss Candance 2019, 2019 Future Stars Dancer, and Senior Miss Candance 2019. She has been teaching with That's Dancing for a decade and is amazed every day by the talent and passion her dancers bring to class each day. Jessica is now CEO of Essentials Group Inc., a social media marketing and event planning agency located in West Palm Beach, FL.



MELISSA RUIZ

Melissa Ruiz was born and raised in Miami, FL where she began dancing at the age of 4 and continued her training in Ballet, Jazz, Hip Hop and Modern throughout her school years. Later moving to Orlando, FL brought her many opportunities in the dance industry performing with many recording artists, Nickelodeon Studios, MTV, McDonalds, Miller Beer and Surf Expo. In addition, she has choreographed for NBA's Orlando Magic Dancers, Orlando Predators, FSU's Golden Girls along with numerous dance studios and dance teams throughout the country. She has been a dance educator in the dance studio world for the past 21yrs and continues to teach and choreograph in Hip Hop & Jazz. Melissa is now a teacher for KAR conventions and is owner Underground Dance Xperience & Underground Movement in Orlando, FL.

2021-2022 FACULTY  
**FUSION FORCE**  
*guest choreographers*



**JOHN MANZARI**

**John Manzari** is an Ovation Award and Helen Hayes Award nominated artist. Stage: Maurice Hines is Tappin' Thru Life, The Wiz is 40: A Celebration in Dance and Music, Duke Ellington's Sophisticated Ladies, Ellington Songbook and Sacred Concert, and Apollo Club Harlem. Television: The View, PBS special Michael Feinstein at the Rainbow Room, The Mo'Nique Show, The Jerry Lewis Telethon, BeBe Winans' special America, America, and Season 7 finale of So You Think You Can Dance.

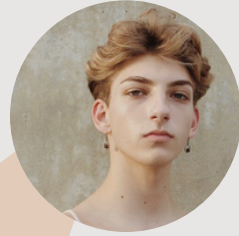
**Brenan Gonzalez** was born in sunny Lake Worth and began dancing at the age of 4. He is a 2021 graduate from Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts, as well as a former student and company member at That's Dancing and Fusion Force Dance Company. Brenan has trained in all styles of dance, with a recent concentration in contemporary movement. During the 2019-2020 dance season, Brenan trained as an assistant with Intrigue Dance Convention on their National Competition Tour. Brenan is attending the University of Southern California as a part of the Glorya Kaufman Dance Class of 2025.

**BRENAN GONZALEZ**





2021-2022 FACULTY  
**FUSION FORCE**  
*guest choreographers*



**NICHOLAS LAMAINA**

**Nicholas LaMaina** is from West Palm Beach, Florida, and is a current first-year dancer at The Juilliard School in New York City. He is a 2021 graduate of Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts where he attended as a dance major. He is also a former student of That's Dancing in Lake Worth, Florida. Nicholas has attended The Juilliard Summer Dance Intensive (2019,2020) and The Jacob's Pillow Contemporary Ballet Summer Program (2021). He was also recently selected as a 2022 YoungArts Winner for Modern/Contemporary Dance. Nicholas has experience in ballet, modern, contemporary, jazz, percussive dance, and has a great interest in choreography. He most recently has had self-choreographed work in a Juilliard Student Choreographic Workshop (2021).



FUSION FORCE  
minis

That's  
Dancing



Abigail



Caroline



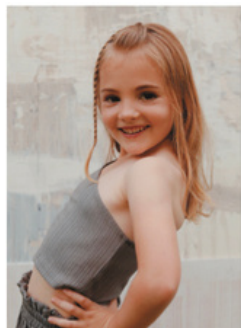
Reese



Martina



Aubrey



River

FUSION FORCE  
petites

That's  
Dancing 



Isabella



Ellis



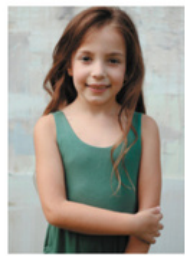
Liam



Emma



Addison



Gemma



Kaelyn



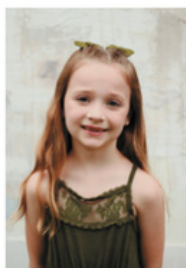
Nari



Lionel



Mila



Hallie



Angie





Ava



Jannaissa



Leiya



Liel



Amany



Kaelyn



Olivia



Liv



Ava



Layla



Kate

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Ava



Victoria



Logan



Aaliyah



Emily



Izabella



Lucy



Emma



Amarissa



Madison



Kylie



Sarah



Kaiya



Julia



Sydney



Colbi

# teen black



Grace



Madeline



Jamie



Skylar



Eva



Allison



Elise



Lexi



Kristianna



Ella



Jordyn



Madelyn



Allison



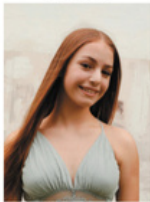
Acendra



Laila



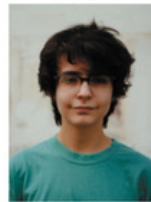
Kayley



Madison



Taeler



Zachary



Sophia



Lily



Isaac



Meilan



Gabriela



Rayvin



# FUSION FORCE seniors

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Jordan



Brittney



Madison



Ellie



Amanda



Valentina



Savannah



Emma



Lilly



Jack



Samantha



Madison



Avery



Milana



Devan



Alyssa



Noah



Emma



Christina



Justin



Raechel



Trinity



Sayda



Riley

2021-2022





## FUSION FORCE

# faculty choreographers



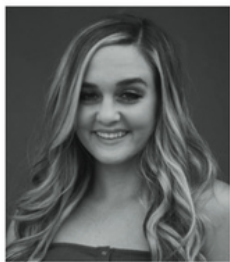
**Andrea LaMaina**  
Artistic Director of That's Dancing &  
Fusion Force Dance Company



**Michele Walsh**  
Artistic Director of That's Dancing &  
Fusion Force Dance Company



**Nicole Smith**  
That's Dancing faculty member  
FFDC choreographer



**Christi Cianciotto**  
That's Dancing faculty member  
FFDC choreographer



**Clarissa Castaneda**  
That's Dancing faculty member  
FFDC choreographer



**Struther White**  
That's Dancing faculty member  
FFDC choreographer



**Loren Foster**  
That's Dancing faculty member  
FFDC choreographer



**Larry Albright**  
That's Dancing faculty member  
FFDC choreographer

That's  
Dancing

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# graduating seniors



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# guest artists



Jessica Pearl



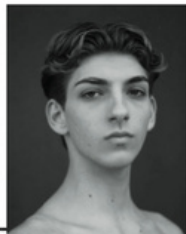
John Manzari



Melissa Ruiz



Brennan Gonzalez



Nicholas LaMaina

# The Young Dancer Foundation

OF SOUTH FLORIDA



GIFTING ALL CHILDREN  
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY  
AT THE ART OF DANCE  
DONATE WITHOUT EVEN TRYING!

**amazon**smile

# WHAT IS THE Young Dancer Foundation of SF, Inc.

## **What is The Young Dancer Foundation of South Florida, Inc.?**

The Young Dancer Foundation of South Florida, Inc. is a non-profit organization that is designed to accept charitable, tax-deductible donations to benefit talented young dancers and aspiring dancers. Donations are accepted in monetary form as well as tangible items such as dance costumes and other performance needs such as shoes, dancewear, etc.

The Foundation raises funds with the goal of benefiting dancers of any age, race, or religion, provided they have displayed dance talent and/or the desire to pursue dance education. The Young Dancer Foundation of South Florida, Inc. aims to give young dance talent the opportunity to experience all that the performing art has to offer and reaches out to parts of the community that lack the means to educate in the dance arts. Fundraising committees of the foundation strive to find support through community donations and create benefit events to raise funds for the foundation. Donations from individuals and companies ultimately determine the amount of aid that the foundation is able to award to individuals or groups.

## **How Does The Foundation Aid Talented Young Dancers?**

Grants are awarded to individuals and groups that are achieving or express a desire to train in the field of dance. The monies raised by The Young Dancer Foundation of South Florida, Inc. will be awarded to young dancers and dance groups through a scholarship system. Scholarships are awarded through a formal application process. Foundation Committees determine how the awards will be distributed based upon applications and the financial capabilities of the foundation at that given time.

## **Why Should I Help?**

When access, opportunity, and education to dance arts is limited or halted, the effects ripple in a downward spiral for aspiring young artists. As a creative outlet and source of exercise for the body and the mind, dance is a necessity in many young people's lives. Being exposed to dance as a young person provides benefits that range from creating focus, creativity, and discipline to the social benefits of improving sensitivity, understanding, appreciation, and consideration for others. The impact of creative learning and dance movement with children is enormous. It promotes the importance of teamwork and social inclusion in a subtle but direct manner. A child who has the opportunity to study dance and the performing arts becomes more confident and that is vital to their future happiness and success.

There are countless reasons to support young people that want to pursue dance as a hobby, a creative outlet, and a career. During the past year, the arts as we know it in America halted. Artists became unemployed and deemed unnecessary. Young aspiring artists are left wondering if their dreams and aspirations will ever have a place again. The countless hours, months, and years that they have spent honing their craft and dreaming their dreams now become a worrisome burden instead of a joyous release.

## **How Can I Help?**

Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to this outstanding foundation. Be part of the community that applauds children for choosing dance education and performance as an outlet for their creative expression. With your support, many young talented dancers will be given opportunities they never dreamed possible. Youngsters that dedicate themselves to the art of dance are sure to make the community proud. Dancing is a healthy outlet for the children in our community. Any amount or form of support is graciously accepted. With support from you, the young dancers that you help today, may be gracing our stages in years to come!

## **Who have we helped?**

To date, the Young Dancer Foundation of South Florida, Inc. has provided opportunities for individuals and groups of dancers to continue their arts education at the following prestigious establishments:

Florida State University, Jacob's Pillow, The Juilliard School Dance Division, New York University, PACE University, Pacific Northwest Ballet, OnStage America, University of South California, Kaufman School of Dance, University of Tampa, University of Central Florida, The Kravis Center of the Performing Arts



THANK YOU FOR COMING AND FOR YOUR  
CONTINUED TO SUPPORT!

## Links to help

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ALL PROCEEDS FROM THIS EVENT BENEFIT THE  
FOUNDATIONS SCHOLARSHIP FUND



FFDC PHOTOGRAPHY BY ADIE GONZALEZ & MOLLY JOURDIN  
SENIOR FFDC GRAPHICS BY MORGAN JOURDIN

# Thank You!

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