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<http://www.danceartstraverse.com>

INTRODUCING!!



Dance Arts Academy is thrilled to have **KRISTI DAVIDSON** as a new addition to our faculty! Kristi has a degree in Dance from Oklahoma City University, a highly acclaimed dance program strong in Musical Theater, Tap, and Jazz. After graduation, Kristi was hired by Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines, and spent time performing all over the Caribbean. Kristi also served as the Dance Captain on the ship. Her early training was in Minneapolis, where she spent a year competing with the National Champion Larkin Studio, as well as training at her home studio, Victoria's. She most recently ran a dance program in the Outer Banks in North Carolina. Kristi's talent and enthusiasm, as well as her versatility as a dancer will inspire and challenge all of our students!

Another Wonderful Addition to our summer intensive faculty is **JENNIFER TURNER**. Jennifer is a Professional Ballet Dancer and Teacher from New York City. She is on the faculty at Ballet Academy East, and spent the past semester as the Guest Artist for the San Angelo Civic Ballet Company. She received her early training in NYC, and was on scholarship at the prestigious North Carolina School of the Arts. Her summer program study included SAB, Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet, and Boston Ballet. Jennifer danced professionally with Miami City Ballet, and Ballet Austin, performing such diverse Ballets including: Napoli, Tarantella, Five Concerti, Serenade, Balobile, Raymonda Variations, Stars and Stripes, George Balanchine's The Nutcracker, Sleeping Beauty, Swan Lake, Emeralds from Jewels, Twinkiana, and The Magic Flute. Jennifer is also a certified Pilates Instructor. We are looking forward to having Jennifer with us this summer.

NEW CLASSES

MUSICAL THEATRE is a form of theatre combining music, songs, spoken dialogue and dance. Musical theatre dance, in all of its forms, utilizes dance traditions in exciting and accessible ways. By embracing the tone set by a writer, composer, or choreographer, these routines and performances illustrate the way dance can stretch across mediums, reaching a variety of audiences and expressing any number of ideas. Since theatre itself is tied up in the idea of performance and spectatorship, musical theatre dance becomes another language spoken between artist and audience. It emphasizes the effectiveness of movement in storytelling and character development while standing as a testament to the way in which dance can be simultaneously exploratory and entertaining.

FUSION indicates when one or more dance styles have been blended. Fusion is a class for advanced dancers who are well versed in all movement styles. It combines contemporary choreography, technique, and use of all dance forms to create a new and exciting class for our ITP Level 4 and up dancers. Don't Miss It!!!

NEW ADULT CLASSES

JAZZ has become one of the most popular dance styles in recent years, mainly due to its popularity on television shows, movies, music videos and commercials. People enjoy watching jazz dancers, as the dancing is fun and energetic. Jazz consists of unique moves, fancy footwork, big leaps and quick turns. To truly excel in jazz, dancers need a strong background in ballet, as it encourages grace and balance.

Cara Steen will get you moving and grooving to the latest hits. No experience necessary...just come expecting to get a good workout. Learn some moves that will even impress your kids!

MODERN DANCE, born in the early 20th century, is a dance style that centers on a dancer's own interpretations and favors a more relaxed, free style of dancing. Modern dance encourages dancers to use their emotions and moods to design their own movements, and express the teacher's direction. Modern dance uses gravity, and the weight of their body weight to enhance movement. Modern dancers use dancing to express their innermost emotions, often to get closer to their inner-selves.

HIP-HOP is a dance style, usually danced to hip hop music that evolved from the hip-hop culture. The first dance associated with hip-hop was break dancing. While break dancing consists primarily of moves executed close to the ground, the majority of hip-hop moves are done standing up. Hip-hop developed from several cultures, including jazz, rock, tap and American and Latino cultures. Hip-hop is a very energetic form of dancing. It is unique in that it allows its dancers to perform with freedom of movement, adding in their own personalities.

PILATES is an excellent way to improve posture, alignment, breathing and poise. Pilates helps the dancer gain a better understanding of their body and the unique alignment issues they may have. This empowers them to embrace finding solutions through strengthening and balancing muscles. We will apply these ideas directly to the movements they practice daily in their dance classes. Both Rachel James and Melissa Maury are Level 2 Stott Pilates Certified, and look forward to opening new doors for our Pilates Students.

YOGA is a great way to stretch and strengthen the body, and also to connect the heart and soul. Yoga stretches are one of the most important aspects of yoga in general, and can also be very beneficial to dancers. Stretching and strengthening help to achieve supple and flexible bodies. Without continuous attention to flexibility, it is difficult to achieve the strong, limber body that creates beautiful poise and grace. Cara Steen trained at the Om Yoga in New York City and is a certified Vinyasa Teacher.

CECCHETTI



The Cecchetti Council of America is an organization dedicated to maintaining the standards and method of ballet training established by Cav. Enrico Cecchetti. The organization uses his teaching and writings in a sequence of grades, carefully measured as to degree of difficulty and physical development, and provides a system of accredited examinations to test the student's proficiency within those grades.

The Cecchetti Council of America holds examinations in classical ballet for students and teachers who are training in the Cecchetti method. The Syllabus tests the technical and artistic accomplishments of student candidates who have been prepared by member teachers. It offers students an opportunity to demonstrate their technical ability and understanding of the material. Each level provides attainable goals that build self-confidence in their developmental progress and successful achievements.

Dance Arts Academy has approximately 40 students that will take their Cecchetti Examinations this June. They have been working all year towards this goal, and are looking wonderful! Serious Ballet Students can sign up for these classes for the fall of 2009.

CONGRATULATIONS to Company Dance Traverse, Dance Arts Academy's resident pre-professional company! CDT has just been selected for the Young Tanzsommer European Tour for June of 2010. We are looking forward to performances in Austria next summer! CDT Auditions for 2009-2010 Season are May 27th and 28th.

