

# 2022 FUSION NATIONAL FACULTY & JUDGES



## **Allyson Wood – Fusion Faculty**

Allyson is very enthusiastic to share her love of dance with you all! She began dancing at the young age of 2 and fell in love immediately. She began her dance career as a professional dancer at the age of 17, where she landed a dream roll as a dancer for Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida. She then took on many auditions where she got to perform all over the United States in many varies dance gigs. She began to teach dance at the age of 17 as an assistant teacher, then began to teach her own classes at the age of 18. She has taught at many studios over her career that led her and inspired her to continue her growth and love for dance. Her main background in dance includes Ballet, Lyrical, Musical Theatre and Jazz. She has also studied other styles for many years, including Tap, Modern, Hip Hop, and Acro (Tumbling). Allyson Moved to

Georgia in 2016 and took on the task of owning a dance studio up there for a few years, before life led her back to her home to central Florida. Allyson is now currently still working in the dance industry at dance competitions and conventions. Allyson also has a Master's degree in Special Needs Education and works as a Speech Therapy Assistant part time.



## **Keith Leonhardt – Fusion Faculty/Tap & Judge**

Keith Leonhardt originally hails from the northeast working in New York and Connecticut. An accomplished dancer, choreographer, and producer, he has been seen working with some of the best current industry professionals on multiple platforms. His training was mentored at The Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts, The University of the Arts, and serves as an alumni of The 2017 Tap Program at The School of Jacob's Pillow under the direction of *Michelle Dorrance* and *Dormeshia*, One of the most profound dance training centers in the United States. He has studied with tap dance legends *Dianne Walker*, *Brenda Bufalino*, *Derick K Grant*, *Ayodele Casel* and *Jason Bernard*. As a dancer he has been seen working for Six Flags Amusement Parks and DFX Entertainment at Foxwoods Resort Casino. He was a principal company member of OD N TAP and Connecticut Tap. He has taught on the convention and competition platform with Turn It Up! Dance Challenge, Star Dance Alliance, VIPDANCE, and IDA Impact Dance Adjudicators. As an educator he has served on The Hartt School BFA Music Theater

Faculty and Sacred Heart University's Dance Department. He has self produced several in house dance workshops and festivals creating opportunities and networking platforms for dancers. As a choreographer his projects include DRA (Dancers Responding to Aids) at SUNY NY, CT DanceFest @ The Palace Theater, & #AAPI Yale School Of Nee Haven. Most recently, Keith relocated to Orlando and continues to pursue dance for theme parks, major cruise-lines, and entertainment corporations.



## **Chris Wendorff – Fusion Faculty/Jazz Fusion & Judge**

Chris Wendorff began his dance training at the age of 9. Throughout his younger years, he was a competitive dancer and attended many competitions and conventions throughout the United States. While competing, he was awarded many awards and scholarships. Chris continued his dance training while attending the prestigious Point Park University and received a BFA in Dance. While at Point Park University, he continued learning and training in styles such as Bob Fosse, commercial jazz, lyrical, ballet, modern and contemporary techniques.

Chris has worked for Walt Disney World as a parade and stage performer. He has also been seen working as a professional dancer on cruise ships, most notably, would be Regent Seven Seas and Carnival Cruise Line. Chris has taught many master classes and conventions throughout the United States and in the United Kingdom. He is currently a sought after dancer, guest teacher, choreographer, and adjudicator. He has recently choreographed a contemporary jazz piece for Zenon Dance Company's pre-professional program. Chris plans on continuing to expand his knowledge and experiences of the dance world by pursuing a MFA in Dance in the year 2020. He is very excited to continue to be a part of the dance universe and cannot wait to see where this journey will take him next.

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## Cassandra Pappy Springs – Fusion Faculty/Musical Theatre & Judge

Cassandra Pappy Springs is a business owner, choreographer, and dance educator currently living in Atlanta, GA. Originally from Charlotte, North Carolina, her breadth of dance experience has afforded her the opportunity to train and work with teachers, choreographers, dance teams and students across the nation. She received her early competitive dance training from Dance Productions Performing Arts Studio and pursued higher education at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG). There she served as a member and captain of the Spartan G's dance team. Upon graduation in 2012, she received a B.A. in Dance with a K-12 teaching license in dance. She has trained in the genres of ballet, jazz, tap, contemporary, modern, lyrical, west african, hip hop and heels technique. After graduating from UNCG, Cassandra taught dance in the North Carolina Public School System for 7 years. She also continued her performing career as a member of Techmoja Theater and Dance Company. As a member of the company, she danced and acted in productions such as "The Color Purple" and "Dreamgirls". She has also

choreographed and performed for international recording artist IYAZ, multi-platinum recording artist Ginuwine, and Grammy nominated producer/artist Imani. In 2019, Cassandra appeared as a dancer in the movie "Bolden!"

Cassandra's extensive background in performance, dance education, and choreography led to the creation of her professional dance company, Elite DanceWerks LLC. (EDW) in 2016. The company began as a summer project and blossomed into an effort to reach and inspire dancers nationally. EDW's services target dancers from the ages of 7 and up. The company specializes in private lessons, choreography, master classes and consulting services. Some of EDW's clients include Philadelphia 76ers Dancers, Elon University Dance Team, The North Carolina Black Film Festival, and East Carolina University Dance Team. Cassandra loves sharing her knowledge and passion for dance with students and clients hoping to inspire, motivate, and challenge them beyond what they believe they can be!

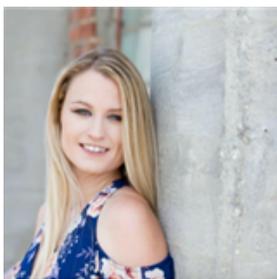
Currently, Cassandra is still growing the EDW brand. Aside from her dance company, her passion for dance continues to extend beyond the classroom as she also serves as a judge for various dance competitions.



## Hailey Beasley – Faculty/Contemporary

At the young age of two, Hailey began her dancing career to find out that this was definitely a passion of hers! Once she was old enough to begin dancing competitively her drive for this art form grew even stronger. She began traveling across the country with various conventions training and assisting various faculty. Since high school, Hailey began choreographing solos for dancers across the nation where her choreography won multiple choreography awards. Hailey is also well versed in the world of gymnastics, trained as a TOPS gymnast and competing up to Level 9 where she decided she wanted to pursue dance moreso than gymnastics. Upon high school graduation, at the age of 18, Hailey moved to LA to continue her dance training and to pursue dance on a more professional level. She was immediately picked up by GTA Talent Agency in Los Angeles. Up until Covid occurred in 2020, Hailey appeared in several music videos including "Something About You" by Hello My Name is Lana and "Why You Mad" by Viandra Dunn. She also appeared in several live performances including Mitchell Kelly's "Phases of Love" in Hollywood and Jete with Mollee Grey and Rumer Noel. Her film credits include Assistant Choreographer for Elton John Aids Foundation promo video "Rocketman" a Mashup musical. Hailey has trained and mentored under such performers as Jojo

Gomez, Mollee Grey, Erica Klein, Sabrina Philip, Hannah Wintrose and DJ Smart to name just a few. At this time, Hailey has since moved back to Georgia where she continues to choreograph but has also since been certified as a personal trainer and nationally qualified as a bikini bodybuilder. Hailey's passion for dance has never ceased and she is very thankful for all opportunities that allow her to share her knowledge and love for this art form with others.



## Jamie Howard - Judge

Jamie has thirty-five years of dance training and has been a dance instructor for twenty-two years. As a child she trained under Angela Franko-Burns. From there she went on to train at many other studios across Georgia including the prestigious Georgia Ballet, Atlanta Ballet, and Ruth Mitchell. Jamie has performed many leading roles such as Cinderella, Roxie in Chicago, Christine in Phantom of the Opera, and Alice in Alice in Wonderland. Jamie is an energetic teacher who is proficient in ballet, pointe, tap, jazz, contemporary, lyrical, bachata & salsa. She is a graduate of Georgia State University and holds a Bachelor's of Arts degree in Psychology with an emphasis in Early Childhood Psychology. Jamie enjoys teaching adults and children of all ages. She has owned and operated her own studio in North Georgia for over 15 years. Her competitive dancers have won numerous awards at both regional and national dance competitions and she also won numerous "Best Choreography" awards. Jamie choreographed a scene in the movie "The Change Up" starring Ryan Reynolds & Jason Bateman. Not only did she train the child actresses Sydney Rouvieve and

Faith Aldhoff for the dance scene, she worked alongside legendary stuntman Jack Gill to choreograph stunts in the movie. Jamie is so proud of her tiny ballerina's who were also cast in the dance scene. Jamie is extremely dedicated to the art of dance and considers herself blessed to have a career encompassing her passion for dance and love for children.