

Announcing Registration 2010-2011 Classes

for All Ages!

For specific class placement information,

cost, and schedule,

please call us at 562-9556

Our Mission

It is our sincere desire as professional dance, music, and theatre educators to see our students achieve success, whatever their level might be. THE DANCE STUDIO strives to provide an experience that will inspire each and every student to love and appreciate dance, music, and theatre, as both artist and patron.



Who we are

A private dance academy, THE DANCE STUDIO is a technique based, multi-dance discipline program, taught by professional faculty, using sound developmental curriculum. With a strong ballet-centered approach, the director and faculty use only research-supported methods based upon nationally recognized syllabi. They include: Dance Masters of America, Dance Educators of America, Inc, Royal Academy of Dancing (RAD), The National Cecchetti Ballet Council, Vaganova Ballet System, Al Gilbert Graded Tap Technique, Luigi Jazz System, and Florida State University Dance Department. In addition, well-known and highly respected artists and teachers are often brought in to teach master classes and workshops to our students.

The Dance Studio operates on a nine and one-half month main season (mid-August through mid-May), with an additional six to eight week summer session (June and July).

Classes

The Dance Studio offers a full array of classes for male and female children, teens, and adults at the beginner, intermediate, and advanced level. Classes include **Creative Dance and Primary-Ballet and Tap for young children, Ballet, Pointe, Tap, Jazz, Hip-Hop, Modern, Contemporary (Lyrical), Musical Theatre, Acting, and Singing** for elementary through senior levels. Most sections are grouped by age and technique level, and culminate with a concert performance in the spring.



Many of our non-beginner classes require a prerequisite to maintain the technique of the level; therefore, each student is individually assessed by the director to determine the very best class placement. Our sincere desire is to help each and every student achieve their personal artistic goal.

Adult Classes at The Dance Studio

Adults are very important at The Dance Studio. For men and women of all ages, shapes, and sizes, we have tailored our program to encourage, inspire, and challenge adults of all levels. We know that dance is for everyone and can be lifelong pursuit for those who desire it to be.

Whether you are continuing on from high school and college, returning to dance after a long absence, or an absolute beginner, we welcome you to our program. Our classes are fun and non-competitive and everyone is treated with respect. It is no surprise that wonderful and lasting friendships have been made between students and faculty.

Currently, we offer adult classes and Workshops in **Ballet, Tap, Contemporary (Lyrical, Modern), Jazz, and Musical Theatre** with curriculum that is specifically designed for adults at the beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels. But make no mistake, these classes are taught with the same standard of excellence as our youth classes. Rather than steps taught randomly, our adult program features a developmental technique taught sequentially, which insures a strong foundation to build upon in subsequent levels. Oh yes - and classes are tons of fun!



Faculty

Nancy Carroll Abbey....*Ballet Mistress and Instructor*

Sarah Harkness....*Instructor, Senior Modern/Contemporary*

Sonia Livingston....*Senior Tap, Musical Theatre Workshops*

Amy Mutterilli....*Ballet and Jazz Instructor*

Bonnie McCluskey....*Acting Instructor*

Becky Miller....*Beginning Ballet Instructor for Children and Adults*

Michael Norris....*Piano & Vocal Instructor*

Katrina Reid....*Jazz, Modern, Hip-Hop Instructor*

Visiting Faculty... Scott Benson....*Instructor & Choreographer*

About the Director...

Michele Ackermann,

Owner/Director



"Miss Michele", is nationally accredited to teach all disciplines of dancing by Dance Masters of America, Inc. and Dance Educators of America, Inc. She is happy to enter her thirty-eight year as a professional teacher. A native of Miami, Mrs. Ackermann has trained with such noted educators as Judy Bassing, Janice Barringer, Daryl Retter, and the internationally known master of Tap, the late Mr. Al Gilbert.

A prolific choreographer, Michele Ackermann's musical theatre work has been seen on the stages of Tallahassee Community College, Tallahassee Little Theatre, Young Actor's Theatre, and Quincy Musical Theatre. Some of her many show credits, include "Phantom", "Follies", "Me and My Girl", "La Cage Au Folles, The Who's Tommy", "Gypsy", "1776", "The Who's Tommy", "Peter Pan, the Musical", "Scrooge, the Musical", "Ragtime" and nationally recognized, "Nine", to name just a few. Mrs. Ackermann has been the Dance Director for Theatre A la Carte since 1993. She was the first resident choreographer at Young Actors Theatre in the late '70s and early '80's. Mrs. Ackermann has enjoyed staging several Leon High School/TCC's summer musicals as well as productions for other Leon County Schools. In addition, Mrs. Ackermann was twice honored to have her tap choreography selected to be showcased in the "Winter Dance Fest Invitational Concert" held at Flagler College in Saint Augustine, Florida.

"Miss Michele" designed unique, educational, and entertaining music/movement programs for several area pre-schools, including FSU's Educational Research Center for Child Development, The Creative pre-School, and Annsworth Academy. In the 1990's, she presented workshops at early Childhood Conferences on the local, state, and regional level in the area of pre-school music and movement. As the director of the award winning, "THE DANCE STUDIO COMPANY", Mrs. Ackermann and her staff directed and staged thirty-minute dance concerts at Walt Disney World Magic Kingdom and Downtown Disney in 1998, 2002, 2006 and 2010, after successfully auditioning for this honor. She is thrilled to be among the group of studio directors whose students have achieved National Title Championship several times. She is enormously proud that many of her former students and cast members work professionally as both teachers and performers. As a member of the Board of Directors for Florida State University's Friends of Dance, Mrs. Ackermann is very happy to be able to share her life's work with others who have a passion for dance. She is listed in "Who's Who in American Women", and was honored in 2008 by the faculty of DanceMakers, Inc. with the "Marjorie Perry Spirit Award" for her dedication and standard of excellence in Dance Education.

Mrs. Ackermann feels blessed to be wife to John for nearly thirty-six years, mother to Brandon and Joey, and "Nonnie" to nine-year old granddaughter, Philomena.



Onstage at Downtown Disney

The Dance Studio Company

“The Dance Studio Company” is a happy blend of children, teens, and adults who are multi-leveled and multi-aged. They come together with one common desire- to further develop their passion for dance while encouraging, supporting, and reveling in each other’s achievements. Our faculty intentionally fosters this positive approach to show our acceptance and non-competitiveness of one another, and we have a true desire to see each other succeed. Company members are expected to consistently demonstrate strong dance technique, excellent performance ability, leadership skills, and an unwavering commitment in their weekly dance classes throughout the entire season. They are generally among the hardest working and most disciplined students at The Dance Studio.

Previous “Company” performances include Springtime Tallahassee, Winter Festival, Capital City Country Club, Miss Tallahassee Pageant, to name just a few. Our Company has performed in Jekyll Island Georgia, Daytona Beach, Orlando, Jacksonville, and New York City, and onboard the luxury liner, The Sovereign of the Seas in the Bahamas. A highlight of our experiences has been the three thirty-minute concerts the “Company” has performed on stage at Disney’s Magic Kingdom (1998, 2002, 2005, 2010). Our dancers have consistently achieved highest honors at National and Regional venues.



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“Dance Camp Fierce 2010”

The Dance Studio

3840 - 201 N. Monroe Street

Tallahassee, FL 32303

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“Through Discipline and Passion Comes Excellence”

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850-562-9556

www.dancestudiotallahassee.com

*Owner | Director
Michele Ackermann*