

McLean County Dance Association Faculty

Julia Blumenshine

Pilates, Zumba

Ms. Blumenshine is an AFAA Certified Personal Trainer. She is Power House Pilates Mat, Pilates Reformer, Yoga Fit, and ZUMBA certified. She has taught in the fitness industry for over six years and currently teaches fitness classes and is a personal trainer at a local CrossFit affiliate gym.

Heather Degenhart

Ballet

Ms. Degenhart holds a BS in Arts Administration with Dance Concentration from Butler University. She has danced professionally with the Georgia Ballet. Heather is an experienced teacher in pre-ballet, ballet, tap and creative.

Chelsea DuBois

Ballet

Ms. DuBois began her dance training at Springfield Dance Inc. in Springfield, Illinois. She was a member of the Springfield Ballet Company for six years and has studied with Carolina Ballet Theatre. Chelsea is a double major in Dance Performance and Small Business Management at Illinois State University, where she is president of Illinois State Dance Association and a member of Illinois State Dance Theatre.

Dana Knickelbein

Hip Hop

Ms. Knickelbein began dancing at the age of four in the suburbs of Chicago. She was highly involved in her high school's dance program and local dance studio, where she has taught dancers of all ages. Dana attends Illinois State University, majoring in Dance Education and minoring in Physical Education. She is treasurer of Illinois State Dance Theatre.

Sheri Marley Co-Director, Contemporary Dance Theatre

Jazz, Creative, Social Dance

Ms. Marley studied dance at Fresno State University and ISU and has danced professionally in both California and Illinois. She has choreographed for Prairie Fire Theatre, Fresno Community Theatre, Fresno Jazz Company, Der Tanz, University Dance Theatre (ISU), Eastlight Players, Bloomington Community Players, Illinois Wesleyan University's School of Music Opera, Collegiate Choir, "A Touch of Class" (women's a capella group), and IWU Faculty Dance Concerts. Sheri has been an adjunct faculty member at IWU for the past 20 years, where she teaches modern, jazz, and social dance.

Greg Merriman Director, Bloomington Ballet

Ballet, Pointe, Modern

Mr. Merriman is a graduate of Texas Christian University with a BFA in Classical Ballet. He studied with the Houston Ballet Academy and was a company member of Joffrey II, Houston Ballet, Fort Worth Ballet & Fort Worth Opera Ballet. He has just completed his 15th season as resident choreographer of "The Nutcracker" for the Barrington Youth Ballet in the Chicago area. He has been a guest teacher at the Tennessee Governor's School for the Arts and the American College Dance Festival. Greg currently teaches dance at both Illinois State University and Illinois Wesleyan University.

Jessica Riss Co-Director, Contemporary Dance Theatre

Jazz, Hip Hop, Dance Experience

Ms. Riss is a 2002 ISU graduate, where she was a leading member of the Illinois State Dance Theatre. She has choreographed for the University High School Color Guard and Dance Team, the Heyworth High School Dance Team, and for local community theatre productions. Jessica teaches tap and jazz at Illinois Wesleyan University and has choreographed for the IWU faculty dance concert.

Sarah Sorensen

Tap, Ballet

Ms. Sorensen is a 2007 ISU graduate with a minor in Dance Education. She was a member of Illinois State Dance Theatre and currently teaches at Morton High School, where she is also the musical choreographer.

Dance is the only art wherein we ourselves are the stuff of which it is made.

**McLean County Dance reserves the right to cancel any class due to low enrollment.
No refunds, credits or make-ups due to missed or dropped classes.**

If classes are cancelled due to inclement weather, the cancellation will be reported to WJBC/WBNQ and included in our voicemail message.

**McLean County Dance Association is a not-for-profit organization managed by a board of directors.
Scholarships may be available based upon financial need. Contact McLean County Dance Association at 829-7070 for info.**

The art of dance taught by dance professionals

*McLean County Dance Association
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