

Elizabeth Avantaggio holds a B.F.A. in Ballet performance from The University of the Arts where she was awarded a four year Promising Artist Scholarship. Originally from New Jersey, Elizabeth has trained at numerous prestigious ballet schools in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania including Joffrey Ballet School and private instruction from Ekaterina Strelnikova of N.Y.O.Dancers. She has performed professionally with Shore Ballet Company, Performing Arts Ensemble of New Jersey and Portland Ballet. Her dance repertory includes Swan Lake, Coppelia, Raymonda, The Nutcracker, Giselle, Portland Dances!, Capriccio, Dance for the Cure, Best of Broadway, Requiem and The legend of Sleepy Hollow. Mrs. Avantaggio's teaching credits include South Jersey Performing Arts Group, Westchester Dance Academy, Atlantic Ballet Company, Scarborough Dance Center, Portland Ballet and Studio for the Living Arts Dance Complex.

Jessica Alexander started her career at the age of three at Scarborough Dance Center where she studied tap, jazz and ballet, and she continued her dance training there for 14 years. At the age of 7 Jessica was introduced to (and fell in love with) cheerleading and gymnastics. She first cheered with Westbrook Tuffy Cheering and was then invited to try out for one of the first all-star competition teams in Maine, "Elite All-Stars" where she cheered for over 17 years. Jessica has studied gymnastics and tumbling at gyms all over Maine including the Maine Academy of Gymnastics, Dudziak's School of Gymnastics and Andy Valley. In 2009 Jessica started dancing for the Pro D-league basketball team, the "Maine Red Claws" and enjoyed 2 great years of performing with them. She currently coaches tumbling and Acro classes at area dance studios and she has worked with hundreds of athletes throughout Southern Maine to help them greater their tumbling, dance and cheerleading skills.

Susan Cloutier is the owner and director of Studio for the Living Arts Dance Complex where she teaches jazz, tap, and creative movement classes. Susan specializes in teaching children and she has created and implemented numerous movement and dance programs for area preschools and public school departments including Freeport, Falmouth, Songbird Creative Centers in Yarmouth and Cumberland Foreside, and the Sunshine Childcare Center in Gray and the Childrens Museum of Maine. Susan received her early training from Jean Devou's Dance Studio in Portland then later began the study of jazz dance in 1992 with Sheila Bellefleur at Casco Bay Movers. Susan continues to renew and update her teaching skills by regularly attending master class programs and teacher conferences such as New England Dance workshops for teachers. While attending dance conventions in Las Vegas, Boston, Minneapolis and New York, she has had the privilege to study under dance legends Joe Tremaine, Frank Hatchett, Joe Lanterni, Darryl Retter, Avi Miller, Susan Samuels, Ofer Ben, Jeannette Neill, Jim Viera, and Rennie Gold.

As the director of Pulse Dance Company. Susan founded and produced "Dance for Autism" an annual fundraising performance that raises funds for the Autism Society of Maine. The event is a collaboration of works presented by Studio for the Living Arts and hundreds of talented and giving dancers from surrounding studios in our local

dance community. Over the past years the studio has donated over \$15,000 to the Autism Society. The studio creates a huge enthusiasm for social issues and causes and its dancers and families are involved in many other local projects that give back. Susan's passion and vision for the studio is as strong today as it was 25 years ago. She believes that the discipline, creativity and self-confidence that is involved in a student's dance experience, will have a lasting and positive effect on their lives. She also believes that it's the studio's professional top-notch faculty that remains the driving force behind the studio's longevity. Year after year technically trained dancers and versatile performers are being produced and the dancers continue to be motivated through a contagious spirit, positive energy, and an abundance of opportunities to explore the arts.

Kelly Fantigrossi Kelly's education includes an M.F.A. in Acting from UCLA (Magna Cum Laude), B.A. in Theater with a Minor in Dance from Temple University (Magna Cum Laude), and the Teaching Artist/Process Pedagogy Program for Jacques D'Amboise's The National Dance Institute based out of NYC. Kelly's teaching history includes teaching and choreographing Tap, Jazz, Ballet and Theater for universities, studios, camps and institutes across the United States. Some of which are: University of California-Los Angeles, The American Academy of Dramatic Arts-Manhattan, The National Dance Institute and Celebrate the Beat's Artist in Residency programs, US Performing Arts Camp-Los Angeles, University of Southern Maine ("The Wild Party"), and Future Artists: A Performing Arts Camp for Young Adults (Co-creator/Director). Kelly has trained with many notable names in the dance and theater community such as: Andy Blackenbuehler, Josh Bergasse, Chett Walker, Frank Hatchett, Anthony Hopkins, Helen Hunt, and Savion Glover. She judged for Turn It Up Dance Challenge on the East Coast and has been a Master Class Instructor and Guest Choreographer in the New York City area.

Beth Gaudet Beth teaches creative movement, tap, ballet, and musical theater classes. She received her dance training in Maine throughout her childhood years and continued to study dance and theater classes while attending the University of Vermont. Since that time she has received her certification as a childhood dance educator through "Little Peoples" and she has also been fortunate to study with many renowned professional teachers such as Avi Miller, Ofer Ben, Debbi Dee, Lainie Munro, and Darryl Retter to name a few. Beth is also the director of our Pulse Dance Company tap repertoire, and her distinctive and creative choreography has received Gold Medal standings at dance competitions. In her spare time, Beth teaches piano and also participates in, and choreographs for local theater productions. Her theater credits include "Sound of Music", "Grease", "A Little Princess", and "Annie". Experience, unlimited patience, and a sincere love of teaching commits Beth to producing high quality instruction for a variety of ages. Beth is the owner/director of Center Stage Performing Arts in Raymond.

Cheryl Greeley Leach Cheryl joined the SLA faculty when directing our successful "Glee" camp and she continues to share her love for musical theater (singing-dancing-acting) with our dance family. Cheryl brings to us a vast amount of education and teaching experience after owning her own studio, Cheryl Greeley Theatra-Dance Studio in South Portland for 25 years. During that time, she received numerous high score performance and choreography awards and was the proud teacher of many title winners at national and regional competitions. Many of Cheryl's students have gone on to perform on Broadway, movies or with professional touring companies, and nominated for a Tony and an Oscar. (Actress Anna Kendrick trained with Cheryl for 12 years). Cheryl herself is no stranger to the stage having performed in community and professional theaters since she was a kid. Cheryl is well-known for her "insanity" tap - a fast and furious zany style of rhythms combined with advanced technique and is available for private lessons for small groups and soloists in tap, musical theater, vocal performance, Broadway jazz and ballroom .

Victoria Perreault received most of her professional training in Los Angeles on a Tremaine National Scholarship & in the San Francisco area with some of the most talented choreographers and educators. She has been a guest judge for Dance Masters Nationals in San Jose, CA. Victoria also filmed a commercial with Star Wars George Lucas, performed for Tom Hanks, and danced on the TV pilot More than Entertainment. In California, Viki wrote & directed Amour Du Mal (an original play told through dance) for Visual Rhythm Dance Company. For years, she was guest jazz & hip hop instructor at San Jose State University, as well as a teacher for several amazing studios which included student Nick Lazzarini who emerged as the winner of SYTYCD first season. Some of her former students have gone on to Broadway and successful careers in dance. Upon returning to her native State of Maine, Viki received awards & accolades for her choreographies, scholarships to Millenium Dance Complex in L.A., and filmed a television commercial with Blake McGrath of SYTYCD. The pinnacle of her career occurred January 2007 when Mia Michaels honored Viki with a BDC scholarship. Victoria loves to teach with enthusiasm & her choreographies are known for their originality.

Michelle Melvin Perry Michelle is thrilled to come on board with such a talented, positive group of teachers and students. She started at SLA over a summer session working on GLEE camp and fell in love with the students and the hard working, fun loving philosophy of the studio. Michelle started her dance education at her Grandmother's dance studio and comes from a family of dance instructors including her mother, who currently is choreographing for a line dance team. She then studied Ballet at Portland Ballet School of East with Sarah Whale. She joined Cheryl Greeley's competition team in 1992, and from there Cheryl opened the doors to the musical theater world. Michelle was in her first musical theater production at Lyric Theater and from there she performed at Portland Players, Arundel Barn Playhouse, and Maine State Music Theater. She took her love for the stage and moved to NYC and studied dance at Broadway Dance Center. She got an agent and was in Feature Films with Jim Carey, Jack Black, and Ben stiller. She was in a Law and Order – criminal intent

episode, and she also performed in a Mountain Dew Amp commercial for MTV at BCBG. She loves to work with children and her favorite style of dance is lyrical contemporary. She looks forward to continuing her love for dance and competition choreography with SLA.

Amanda Preble is a hip hop instructor who has been influenced by her experiences with the college competition and crew scenes throughout the Northeast. She graduated from Quinnipiac University in the spring of 2009 with her BA in Communications. At Quinnipiac she was a choreographer and captain of Dance Fusion, which is a competitive hip hop team. Since being back in Maine, Amanda has been dancing for the Maine Red Claws Basketball Team. Throughout the years Amanda has trained with Michelle Stuckey, Bruce Tracey and Victoria Perreault at Casco Bay Movers. While not dancing, Amanda is a promoter for Citadel Broadcasting in Portland, Maine and she is also an avid skier and runner.

Stefanie Robinson began her journey as a dancer at The Studio for the Living Arts in 1992. She was a member of the Studio for the Living Arts, in Gray, competition dance team "Full-FX" now known as "Pulse Dance Company" from 1993-1999 training in jazz, hip-hop, and ballet. As a competitor, Stefanie received many regional and national dance awards and titles. Over the past 15 years she has attended numerous dance workshops and conventions in Minneapolis, Las Vegas, Boston, and New York where she received master instruction under the direction of world-renowned dancers, such as Frank Hatchett, Joe Lanteri, Joe Tremaine, and Doug Caldwell. Since graduating high school in 2000 she has enjoyed working with children as a full time private nanny. Stefanie has the patience and devotion to help children learn and love dance. The combination of her extensive dance training and childcare experience make her an asset to our faculty.

Kate Smedal Kate received her early training at the Thomas School with Ivy Forrest before continuing at the North Carolina School of the Arts with Nina Danilova, Melissa Hayden and Frank Smith. Ms. Smedal studied at several summer programs including American Ballet Theatre, Boston Ballet, Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet and Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre School. In 2001 she was awarded the presidential scholarship for dance and joined the Festival Ballet of Providence, RI. She holds a B.S. in Kinesiology from UMO and is an ABT® Certified teacher, in levels Primary - 3. Ms. Smedal has performed professionally with the Portland Ballet appearing in Carmina Burana, The Legend of Sleepy Hollow, Giselle and The Victorian Nutcracker as the Sugar Plum Fairy and the Snow Queen. She served as both an instructor for the Portland School of Ballet as well as a rehearsal assistant for the Portland Ballet Company.

Daniela Sabbath Daniela is a native of Brazil and holds a BFA in Dance from The Boston Conservatory and a Master's Degree in Dance Education from NYU: Teaching Dance in Higher Ed and the Professions: American Ballet Theatre Pedagogy. As part of her master's program she has completed the ABT® National Training Curriculum

and is certified in levels Pre-Primary through 7, and Partnering. Daniela has extensive teaching experience in Recife, São Paulo (Brazil) and in the US. She was a member of Los Ballets de Madrid under the direction of Aurora Zerdan and performed in productions such as Swan Lake, Don Quijote, Sleeping Beauty and El Amor Brujo. Daniela was a member of Portland Ballet Company for the 2004-2006/ 2010-2012 seasons and was Principal of Portland School of Ballet from 2014 to 2016. She is also an adjunct professor at University of New England where she teaches dance fundamentals for undergraduate students.

Pamela Collins-Stahle Pam has been a dance educator and performer for almost 20 years. Pam currently teaches our Acro/Tumbling program and our Pulse Dance Company Acro competition team. Her career as a professional dancer has carried her overseas to such exotic places as Singapore and Taiwan while employed with "DisneyFest" and "Sesame Street Live". She has graced the Disney World stages performing in "Mickey's International Songbook" at Epcot Center and in the 25th Anniversary "Spectro Magic Parade". One of her most memorable moments as a dancer was performing on the Today Show with NBC. Pam is a current member of USA Gymnastics and is continuing her teaching education with courses offered through the USAG University. She has continued her professional development through one of the largest training facilities in the world at the International Gymnastics Camp in Pennsylvania. Her gymnastics background is due to the wonderful teachings at Maine Academy of Gymnastics, Bridgton's Broadway Dance Studio, and Dudziaks Gymnastics. She has showcased her talents during Gym Shows, local parades, recitals, as well as team performances on Royal Caribbean and Carnival Cruise Lines. Her strength, power, and the combination of tumbling and dance earned her a role as Peter Pan with Disney. Another favorite past time of Miss Pam's is choreographing musical theater. She has undertaken this persona for ten years and has pieced together 13 shows between Lake Region Community Theater, Lake Region High School and Lewiston Middle School. Some of her most notable work includes "High School Musical", "Oliver!", "Cinderella", and "Suessical the Musical". Ms. Collins-Stahle has been a competitive choreographer for HipHop, Jazz, AcroJazz, and High School Cheering at many different levels. Her dance numbers have won numerous awards including Platinums, Specialty Awards, and Top Scores at Turn It Up Dance Challenge, Dance Educators of America, Spirit of Dance Awards and Jump. Her coaching career includes such feats as her team earning a spot at the State Competition for 3 consecutive years and winning Western Maine Conference Cheering Competition in 2005. Pam also has been recognized by the National Cheerleaders Association for Safety, Excellence in Motion, Superior Jumps, and winning the coveted Team Herkie award twice while attending camp. Many of her former dancers and cheerleaders have continued on as coaches and choreographers. She states "one of my passions in life is mentoring young dancers, gymnasts and cheerleaders. I hope to go above and beyond educating in the classroom, I want to inspire".

Jamie Werner Miss Jamie is delighted to join the Studio of the Living Arts Staff. With a strong background in competitive and professional dance, in addition to teaching and choreographing for top nationally ranked dancers, she's eager to begin her work at SLADC. Jamie was recognized as a top dancer from the start of her training, with her powerful ability capture an audience. She was honored with various top awards including: Diamond Dancer of the Year, Miss T.A. Dance, and Universal Dance Association Top Dancer. She has performed both nationally, and internationally. She was honored to represent UDA, dancing in the Macy's Day Parade. Jamie was also selected as back-up dancer with Fantasy, performing at various sites, including the L.A. Music Awards and Miami Music Gala. Jamie enjoyed back-up dancing in venues and working alongside, various artists including: Nick Cannon, Nick Lachey, Christina Milian, O-Town, and Lenny Kravitz. Miss Jamie is nationally recognized choreographer. She prides herself on her the success of her students, and the leaps and bounds of improvement, they make under her direction. Jamie currently choreographs for Dance Enthusiasm, ranked in the top five of New England, with the National Dance Competition Association. She specializes in acro, lyrical, contemporary, and jazz choreography. Her dancers hold national titles, and continue to excel professionally. Miss Jamie's students can or have been seen dancing with, the Patriots Cheerleaders, Boston Ballet, Relativity School L.A., Rockettes, and Christmas Story on Broadway. Miss Jamie looks forward to working alongside the fellow SLADC Staff, with such talent. She's also looking forward to working with the numerous talented dancers, of the Studio of the Living Arts Dance Complex.

Sasha Yapparov was born in Russia and received his academic and ballet training at the renowned Perm State Ballet Academy, Russia. He is a Specialty Degree recipient requiring 8 Years of Intense Study, covering History of Theatre, Dance, Art, Music, and Instructor Techniques. Mr. Yapparov worked with such prominent teachers and artists as A. Messerer, M. Plisetskaya and V. Gordeev. He was invited as a guest principal throughout the former Soviet Union, Italy, Hungary, Portugal, Finland, India, Spain and Canada. Mr. Yapparov's athleticism, elevation, stage personality and strong artistry gained him significant recognition. He won numerous prestigious awards for his highly creative works and artistic performances, including the rank of Honored Artist of the Ukraine. Mr. Yapparov was also an elected member of Artistic Committee at Odessa Opera House. In the United States, he served as Ballet Master for the Sarasota Ballet of Florida for eleven years. He has been a guest faculty member at North Carolina School for the Arts, the USF School of Theater and Dance, and Ballet Conservatory Dallas. Mr. Yapparov was most recently an instructor and Assistant to Artistic Director at Kirov Ballet Academy, Washington, DC. Sasha's technique classes are "non-recital" classes and they are also open to any dancer in the community.