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FINE ARTS CENTER

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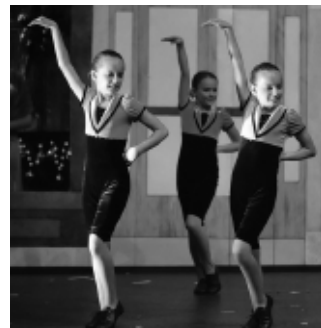
## SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

Celebrating a decade of arts education.  
fall 2009 - spring 2010



www.metrofinearts.com

# Welcome to Metropolitan Fine Arts Center!



**Metropolitan Fine Arts Center (MFAC)** is the premiere fine and performing arts school in the Metropolitan DC area. Our faculty and staff strive to provide our students with the highest level of expertise and technical proficiency in the fine and performing arts. MFAC offers over 175 classes to over 900 students each week. We invite you to visit our two facilities spanning over 10,000 square feet located in Alexandria and Fairfax Station, Virginia. We provide quality learning and performing experiences in a nurturing, artistic environment. Our professional teachers, dancers and choreographers guide people of all ages toward their dreams.

**Notice: All classes listed in this schedule are subject to change and/or cancellation based on enrollment.**

In an effort to uphold a professional learning environment, we are making minor changes to our attire for the 2009-2010 school year.

To help facilitate your purchase of the appropriate MFAC dance attire, please purchase all new attire for dance classes through MFAC beginning May 30, 2009 at Pre-Registration. We will accept orders for all required dance attire, shoes, and tights for the 2009-2010 school year. Merchandise will be stocked at our studio locations throughout the year for your convenience.

## CLASS LEVELS

**Level I (Basic):** Little to no previous class instruction in this dance form.

**Level II (Beginning):** Class is geared toward mastering basic skills and building upon the technique learned in Level I.

*Pre-Requisite: Successful completion of Level I.*

**Level III (Low-Intermediate):** Class is intended for students with a solid dance foundation. Students will focus on developing intermediate level skills and vocabulary. Teachers will challenge students with increasingly difficult exercises and combinations to build strength and proper technique.

*Pre-Requisite: Successful completion of a minimum of two years of Level II classes in dance form or permission of instructor.*

**Level IV (Intermediate):** Geared for dancers with a sound knowledge of dance technique and terminology within the discipline and ability to execute movements with ease. Dancers are challenged with increasing complexity in movement and skills.

*Note: Class levels are a general guideline. ALL CLASSES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.*

*Pre-Requisite: Successful completion of minimum of two years of Level III classes in dance form or permission of instructor.*

**Level V (High-Intermediate):** Classes are structured for the serious dancer. Teachers provide instruction on perfecting skills and performance technique. Classes emphasize complex combinations and mastering dance as an art form.

*Pre-Requisite: Successful completion of minimum of two years of Level IV classes in dance form or permission of instructor.*

**Level VI/VII (Advanced):** Classes are structured for the advanced level student. Taught at a fast pace, combinations and exercises are complex and challenging. Combinations will change direction and have more intricate rhythmic changes. A personal commitment to work on flexibility, strength and constant improvement is expected at this level.

*Prerequisite: Permission of Director.*

## YOUTH DANCE CLASS ATTIRE

### Ballet Attire

Pre-Primary and Primary Ballet	• Light pink cap sleeve leotard • pink footed tights, Pink full-sole leather ballet shoes • Hair in a classical Ballet Bun
Ballet I and II	• Lavender tank leotard, pink footed tights • Pink full-sole leather ballet shoes • Black 1 inch heel character shoes with snap closure • Hair in a classical Ballet Bun
Ballet III-V	• Mulberry tank leotard, pink footed tights • Pink full-sole leather ballet shoes • Black 1.5 inch heel character shoes with snap closure • Hair in a classical Ballet Bun
Ballet VI and above	• Black camisole leotard, pink footed tights • Pink split sole ballet shoes • Black 1.5 inch heel character shoes with snap closure • Hair in a classical Ballet Bun
Teen Ballet	• Black camisole leotard, pink footed tights • Pink split sole ballet shoes • Hair in a classical Ballet Bun

### Combination Attire

Pre-Primary I, Pre-Primary II, Combination I	• Light pink cap sleeve leotard, pink tights • Pink full-sole leather ballet shoes • Black Mary Jane tap shoes with Velcro, no ties please.
Combination II	• Black short sleeve leotard, pink footed tights • Black oxford style tap shoes • Black slip on jazz shoes • Plain black dance shorts or jazz pants are acceptable.

### Jazz, Hip-Hop, Modern, Lyrical Attire

Jazz	• Black leotard, skin colored or pink footed tights • Black slip on jazz shoes • Plain black dance shorts or jazz pants are acceptable • Tan slip on jazz shoes may be required for the Spring Production.
Hip-hop	• Comfortable Dance Attire • Black Jazz Sneakers
Lyrical and Modern	• Black leotard, Skin colored or pink footed tights • Bare feet or Lyrical Shoes

### Tap Attire

Tap Classes	• Black leotard, Skin colored or pink footed tights • Black oxford style, full sole tap shoes • Plain black dance shorts, jazz capris or jazz pants are acceptable • Advanced dancers are encouraged to dance in Capezio K360 Tap shoes or similar style.
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### Tumbling Attire

Tumbling	• Any color leotard, bare feet or gymnastics shoes
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### Irish, Musical Theater and Social Dance Attire

Irish I and II	• Black leotard, Skin colored or pink footed tights • Black ghillies, and white Irish socks • Plain black dance shorts are acceptable
Irish III and IV	• Black leotard, Skin colored or pink footed tights • Black ghillies, Black Hard Shoe Irish Shoes and white Irish socks • Plain black dance shorts are acceptable
Musical Theater	• Comfortable dance attire • Black slip on jazz shoes
Social Dance	• Comfortable dance attire • Black 1/2 inch character shoes or ballroom shoes

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND CLOSINGS 2009-2010

August 30, 2009	Open House at Fairfax Station-1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
September 12, 2009	DT Auditions at Alexandria. Please visit our website for details.
September 13, 2009	Nutcracker Auditions at Fairfax Station. Please visit our website for details.
September 14, 2009	Classes Begin at Fairfax Station and Alexandria
September 19, 2009	Frosty Follies Auditions at Alexandria. Please visit our website for details.
September 26 and 27, 2009	Fall Master Class Weekend
October 3, 2009	DT Classes Begin
October 12, 2009	Columbus Day Holiday, Studio is OPEN
October 12-18, 2009	Bring a friend to class week!
October 31, 2009	Happy Halloween-Studio will CLOSE at 6:00 p.m.
Nov. 26-29, 2009	Thanksgiving Holidays-Studio is CLOSED
December 6, 2009	Winter Music Recital
December 12 and 13, 2009	Nutcracker Performance Weekend-No Classes are held.
December 19, 2009	Holiday Showcase Performance-No Classes are held.
Dec 21, 2009-Jan. 3, 2010	Winter Vacation-Studio is CLOSED
January 4, 2010	Studio re-opens and all classes resume
January 8-10, 2010	Jump Convention-Required for DT Students
January 16-17, 2010	Winter Master Class Weekend
January 18, 2010	King's Birthday Holiday, Studio is OPEN
February 6, 2010	Auditions for Ensemble for Spring Performance-Details will be posted at studios
February 15, 2010	President's Day-Studio is OPEN
Mar 1, 2010	RAD Exam Fees are Due to front desk.
March 29-April 4, 2009	Spring Vacation-Studio is CLOSED
Late March-Early April 2010	RAD Exams at Fairfax Station
May 23, 2010	Spring Music Recital
May 29-31, 2010	Memorial Day Holiday-Studio is CLOSED
June 5-6, 2010	PRE-REGISTRATION DAYS-Classes and Private Lessons for Fall 2010-Spring 2011
June 19 & 20, 2010	Picture Days at Studio. No classes are held
June 21-June 24, 2010	PRODUCTION WEEK. No classes are held
June 25, 26 and 27, 2010	SPRING PRODUCTION

## EMERGENCY CLOSINGS

We will **USUALLY** follow the inclement weather policy of Fairfax County Public Schools. If Fairfax County Schools close early or are closed all day due to snow, ice, etc., the studio will most likely also be closed to provide maximum safety for our children. For questionable situations, please visit our website at [www.metrofinearts.com](http://www.metrofinearts.com) and read the EMERGENCY ANNOUNCEMENTS. If schools open one to two hours late, our evening classes will take place as scheduled. For weekend classes, please check the website or call the studio. Please understand, these are situations over which we have no control and we are not able to make up these classes.

## COMBINATION CLASSES

**Pre-Primary I (Three-year olds):** Three year olds will participate in a 45-minute class each week, especially designed for little dancers. The class will include approximately 25 minutes of beginning tap and 20 minutes of pre- primary ballet. With the incorporation of many fun props and imaginative music, children will learn a sense of rhythm and coordination as a love for dance is instilled in their lives. As students grow and become increasingly proficient in their study, their poise, self-assurance, and confidence will soar!

**Pre-Primary II (Four-year olds):** Four year olds will participate in a 45-minute class each week, designed for budding young dancers. The class will include approximately 25 minutes of beginning tap to develop gross motor coordination, rhythm and timing. Also included in this class is 20 minutes of Pre-Primary Ballet, which introduces students to the fundamentals of classical ballet while developing a love for dance. This class incorporates fun and imaginative props and age appropriate music and exercises. As students grow and become increasingly proficient in their study, their poise, self-assurance, and confidence will soar!

**Combination I (5-6 year olds):** Five and six year-olds who are new to dance will participate in a 45-minute class each week, especially designed for young dancers. The first half of the class will include 25 minutes of beginning tap to develop coordination, rhythm, and timing. Also included in this class is 20 minutes of primary ballet, which introduces students to the beauty of classical ballet while developing poise, grace, and musicality. This class also incorporates many fun and imaginative props. Dancers will develop confidence; enhance their self-esteem and master techniques that will be the foundation for disciplined learning, a lifetime asset.

**Combination II (6-8 year olds):** First and second graders will participate in a 1 hour and 15 minute class once a week, which includes 45 minutes of beginning tap to develop coordination, rhythm, and timing. Students will also be introduced to funky "street jam" steps and new jazz combinations using the latest, hottest jazz music. The basic dance concepts learned throughout this class build a solid foundation for further development as they begin to relate music to movement. Primary Ballet is a recommended complement to this class.

Class	Location	Day	Time	Age	Requirements	Teacher
Pre-Primary I	ALX	Monday	5:15-6:00 p.m.	3 yrs	Must be 3 years old by September 1, 2009.	Haynes, Carrie
Pre-Primary I	ALX	Saturday	9:00-9:45 a.m.	3 yrs	Must be 3 years old by September 1, 2009.	Dobbs, Melissa
Pre-Primary I	FFX	Tuesday	5:15-6:00 p.m.	3 yrs	Must be 3 years old by September 1, 2009.	Swetland, Breanna
Pre-Primary I	FFX	Saturday	9:00-9:45 a.m.	3 yrs	Must be 3 years old by September 1, 2009.	Armstrong, Danya
Pre-Primary II	ALX	Monday	6:15-7:00 p.m.	4 yrs	Must be 4 years old by September 1, 2009.	Haynes, Carrie
Pre-Primary II	ALX	Saturday	10:00-10:45 a.m.	4 yrs	Must be 4 years old by September 1, 2009.	Dobbs, Melissa
Pre-Primary II	FFX	Tuesday	6:15-7:00 p.m.	4 yrs	Must be 4 years old by September 1, 2009.	Swetland, Breanna
Pre-Primary II	FFX	Saturday	10:00-10:45 a.m.	4 yrs	Must be 4 years old by September 1, 2009.	Armstrong, Danya
Combination I	ALX	Monday	7:15-8:00 p.m.	5 yrs	Must be 5 years old by September 1, 2009.	Haynes, Carrie
Combination I	ALX	Wednesday	4:00-4:45 p.m.	5 yrs	Must be 5 years old by September 1, 2009.	Dobbs, Melissa
Combination I	ALX	Saturday	11:00-11:45 a.m.	5 yrs	Must be 5 years old by September 1, 2009.	Dobbs, Melissa
Combination I	FFX	Monday	5:00-5:45 p.m.	5 yrs	Must be 5 years old by September 1, 2009.	Armstrong, Danya
Combination I	FFX	Tuesday	7:15-8:00 p.m.	5 yrs	Must be 5 years old by September 1, 2009.	Swetland, Breanna
Combination I	FFX	Saturday	11:00-11:45 a.m.	5 yrs	Must be 5 years old by September 1, 2009.	Armstrong, Danya
Combination II	ALX	Wednesday	5:00-6:15 p.m.	6-8 yrs	Must be 6 years old by September 1, 2009.	Dobbs, Melissa
Combination II	ALX	Saturday	10:00-11:15 a.m.	6-8 yrs	Must be 6 years old by September 1, 2009.	Hart, Sara
Combination II	FFX	Wednesday	6:00-7:15 p.m.	6-8 yrs	Must be 6 years old by September 1, 2009.	Armstrong, Danya



# BALLET

**Pre-Primary Ballet:** At Pre- Primary Ballet: At MFAC, a students' journey through classical ballet begins with an introduction to the Pre- Primary Grade of the Royal Academy of Dance. These 45-minute classes for 5 year olds introduce traditional ballet warm-ups, across the floor progressions and dances designed especially for young children. The American Academy of Ballet curriculum is also incorporated to encourage creativity, imagination, and the joy of dance.

**Ballet (Primary through Ballet VII):** A child is accepted into our beginning ballet class at 6 years of age or as soon as they reach first grade. Our beginning students are instructed through the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) method, which consists of a graded syllabus and examination schedule. Students will learn classical work, free movement and character studies in class. All students will be eligible to enter into an in-school assessment, an RAD Presentation class, or an RAD Exam based on the discretion of the teacher. Additional RAD Presentation Class and Exam Fees will apply for entering students. The ballet faculty at the center is trained to provide individualized instruction to each student in order to produce quality technique, strength, and flexibility. Ballet I classes and above consist of a structured ballet barre', along with stretching and strengthening exercises. Center work focuses on coordination, musicality, and performance quality. Ballet students will gain the benefits of poise, grace, proper posture, and self-assurance, along with a solid foundation for all forms of dance.

**Ballet Tech:** Ballet Tech is a fundamental ballet class that stresses proper technique and placement of classical ballet. Technique of classical ballet is taught with respect to the tradition of ballet history. Correct placement of head and arms in coordination with leg and body movements is stressed in the class. Students are coached thoughtfully and kindly to eventually master the finer points of technique. They are also encouraged to develop a thorough understanding of basic ballet fundamentals and the vocabulary necessary for genuine mastery of classical dance. A scientific approach to movement involving kinetics and anatomical principles is utilized in the instruction of advanced ballet tech classes. Advanced students require more than one ballet class per week. Ballet Tech Classes DO NOT perform in the Spring Production and ARE NOT charged a costume fee.



**Conservatory Division:** This program is designed to give serious students a comprehensive education in Classical Ballet studies based on the Intermediate Foundation and Intermediate Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) curriculum. Conservatory students will participate in weekly Pilates Classes and will perform in a Conservatory Ballet piece in the Spring Production. Participation in the Conservatory Program is by invitation only. Students may request to schedule an audition for entrance into the Conservatory Program.

**About the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD):** The Royal Academy of Dance is an internationally recognized organization that provides a certification program in classical ballet. Highly trained and certified registered teachers administer a curriculum in dance that is approved by the UK Department of Education and follows UK national standards for arts education. At the end of the year, candidates for the RAD exams have been taught a carefully developed curriculum that is both educationally and developmentally sound. At the end of the year, candidates are assessed and educators alike can know exactly what skills have been attained, and where further study is required. In this way, the RAD program is an exceptional educational extracurricular experience that serves as a viable alternative for arts programs that may have been reduced from traditional academic schools. A certificate is awarded to successful candidates, and provides proof that candidates have attained an international standard in classical dance appropriate to their age. The certificate also shows that students have been committed to working hard towards a high standard of achievement in the arts, in addition to their school activities. An RAD certificate provides a foundation for future teacher certification if students should desire to become teachers of dance. As there are few teacher certification programs available to classical ballet dancers, this is a valuable credential for future dancers and teachers. MFAC students have the opportunity to study the Royal Academy of Dance Ballet Method and have the opportunity to participate in annual RAD Exams. The RAD offers a holistic approach to learning ballet and emphasizes the importance of inspiration and dedication. "With over 15,500 members' spread across 82 countries, The Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) is one of the largest and most influential dance education and training organizations in the world ([www.rad.org.uk](http://www.rad.org.uk))."



Class	Location	Day	Time	Age	Requirements	Teacher
Pre-Primary Ballet	ALX	Wednesday	6:15-7:00 p.m.	5 yrs	Must be 5 years old by September 1, 2009.	Dobbs, Melissa
Pre-Primary Ballet	FFX	Wednesday	4:00-4:45 p.m.	5 yrs	Must be 5 years old by September 1, 2009.	Armstrong, Danya
Primary Ballet	ALX	Tuesday	4:00-5:00 p.m.	6-7 yrs	Must be 6 years old by September 1, 2009.	Dobbs, Melissa
Primary Ballet	ALX	Saturday	9:00-10:00 a.m.	6-7 yrs	Must be 6 years old by September 1, 2009.	Hart, Sara
Primary Ballet	FFX	Monday	4:00-5:00 p.m.	6-7 yrs	Must be 6 years old by September 1, 2009.	Shearer, Lesley/ Doherty, Jackie
Primary Ballet	FFX	Wednesday	5:00-6:00 p.m.	6-7 yrs	Must be 6 years old by September 1, 2009.	Armstrong, Danya
Ballet I	ALX	Monday	2:00-3:00 p.m.	8-12 yrs	Highly recommended to take 2 classes/week.	Dobbs, Melissa
Ballet I	ALX	Tuesday	5:00-6:00 p.m.	8-12 yrs	Highly recommended to take 2 classes/week.	Dobbs, Melissa
Ballet I	ALX	Wednesday	6:00-7:00 p.m.	8-12 yrs	Highly recommended to take 2 classes/week.	Doherty, Jackie
Ballet I	FFX	Monday	5:00-6:00 p.m.	8-12 yrs	Highly recommended to take 2 classes/week.	Shearer, Lesley/ Doherty, Jackie
Ballet I	FFX	Thursday	4:00-5:00 p.m.	8-12 yrs	Highly recommended to take 2 classes/week.	Smith, Caitlyn
Ballet II	ALX	Monday	2:00-3:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Highly recommended to take 2 classes/week.	Burke, Judy
Ballet II	ALX	Tuesday	6:00-7:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Highly recommended to take 2 classes/week.	Dobbs, Melissa
Ballet II	ALX	Wednesday	5:00-6:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Highly recommended to take 2 classes/week.	Doherty, Jackie
Ballet II	FFX	Monday	6:00-7:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Highly recommended to take 2 classes/week.	Shearer, Lesley/ Doherty, Jackie
Ballet II	FFX	Thursday	5:00-6:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Highly recommended to take 2 classes/week.	Smith, Caitlyn
Ballet III	ALX	Tuesday	7:00-8:30 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Highly recommended to take 2 classes/week.	Doherty, Jackie
Ballet III	ALX	Thursday	5:45-7:15 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Highly recommended to take 2 classes/week.	Shearer, Lesley/ Doherty, Jackie
Ballet III	FFX	Monday	7:00-8:30 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Highly recommended to take 2 classes/week.	Shearer, Lesley/ Doherty, Jackie
Ballet IV	ALX	Thursday	4:00-5:45 p.m.	by placement	Students are required to attend Ballet IV Tech class in addition to this class. This class includes pre-pointe.	Shearer, Lesley/ Penick, Katie
Ballet IV	FFX	Tuesday	5:45-7:30 p.m.	by placement	Students are required to attend a minimum of one Ballet IV class in addition to this class. This class includes pre-pointe work.	Smith, Caitlyn
Ballet IV Tech	ALX	Saturday	9:00-10:30 a.m.	by placement	Students are required to attend a minimum of one Ballet IV class in addition to this class. This class includes pre-pointe work.	York, Marilyn
Ballet V	ALX	Thursday	7:15-9:00 p.m.	by placement	Students are required to attend Ballet V Tech class in addition to this class. This class includes Pointe work.	Shearer, Lesley/ Penick, Katie
Ballet V	FFX	Tuesday	4:00-5:45 p.m.	by placement	Students are required to attend a minimum of one Ballet V class in addition to this class. This class includes Pointe work.	Smith, Caitlyn
Ballet V Tech	ALX	Saturday	10:30-12:00 p.m.	by placement	Students are required to attend a minimum of one Ballet V class in addition to this class. This class includes Pointe work.	York, Marilyn
Ballet VI	ALX	Thursday	7:15-9:15 p.m.	by placement	Students are required to attend Ballet VI Tech in addition to this class. This class includes Pointe work.	Doherty, Jackie
Ballet VI	FFX	Tuesday	4:00-6:00 p.m.	by placement	Students are required to attend a minimum of one Ballet VI or VII class in addition to this class. This class includes Pointe work.	Shearer, Lesley/ Doherty, Jackie
Ballet VI/VII Tech	ALX	Saturday	12:00-1:45 p.m.	by placement	Students are required to attend Ballet VI/VII Tech in addition to this class. This class includes Pointe Work.	York, Marilyn
Ballet VII	ALX	Thursday	4:00-5:45 p.m.	by placement	Students are required to attend a minimum of one Ballet VI or VII class in addition to this class. This class includes Pointe Work.	
Conservatory -Intermediate	FFX	Tuesday	6:00-8:00 p.m.	by placement	Conservatory Program	Shearer, Lesley/ Penick, Katie
Conservatory -Int. Foundation	FFX	Friday	5:45-7:45 p.m.	by placement	Conservatory Program	Shearer, Lesley/ Penick, Katie
Conservatory-Pilates	ALX	Thursday	6:00-7:15 p.m.	by placement	Conservatory Program	Celentano, Suzie
Teen Ballet I/II	ALX	Tuesday	8:30-9:30 p.m.	13-18 yrs		Doherty, Jackie
Teen Ballet I/II	FFX	Monday	7:00-8:00 p.m.	13-18 yrs		Spinelli, Diane
Teen Ballet III/IV	ALX	Tuesday	8:00-9:30 p.m.	13-18 yrs		Burke, Judy

## JAZZ

Jazz is a stylized theatrical form of dancing that originated in America and has influenced the dance community throughout the world. Jazz dance varies from classical and folk forms, such as Lyrical Jazz, to more contem-

porary and modern styles, such as Hip-Hop. Jazz dance is typically performed in music videos, Broadway musicals, and in many other theatrical venues throughout the world.

Class	Location	Day	Time	Age	Requirements	Teacher
Jazz I	ALX	Tuesday	6:00-7:00 p.m.	6-8 yrs	Highly recommended to enroll in Ballet.	Armstrong, Danya
Jazz I	ALX	Thursday	5:00-6:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Highly recommended to enroll in Ballet.	York, Marilyn
Jazz I	ALX	Friday	6:00-7:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Highly recommended to enroll in Ballet.	Dobbs, Melissa
Jazz I	FFX	Monday	4:00-5:00 p.m.	6-8 yrs	Highly recommended to enroll in Ballet.	Hart, Sara
Jazz I	FFX	Monday	6:00-7:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Highly recommended to enroll in Ballet.	Armstrong, Danya
Jazz I	FFX	Saturday	10:00-11:00 a.m.	9-12 yrs	Highly recommended to enroll in Ballet.	Gibson, Melanie
Jazz II	ALX	Monday	3:00-4:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Highly recommended to enroll in Ballet.	Dobbs, Melissa
Jazz II	ALX	Friday	5:00-6:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Highly recommended to enroll in Ballet.	Armstrong, Danya
Jazz II	FFX	Thursday	4:00-5:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Highly recommended to enroll in Ballet.	Hart, Sara
Jazz II	FFX	Friday	5:00-6:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Highly recommended to enroll in Ballet.	Gibson, Melanie
Jazz III	ALX	Tuesday	4:00-5:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Highly recommended to enroll in Ballet.	Armstrong, Danya
Jazz III	ALX	Friday	5:00-6:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Highly recommended to enroll in Ballet.	Hart, Sara
Jazz III	FFX	Thursday	6:00-7:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Highly recommended to enroll in Ballet.	Burke, Judy
Jazz IV	ALX	Monday	4:00-5:00 p.m.	by placement	Must be enrolled in a Ballet Class at MFAC.	Burke, Judy
Jazz IV	FFX	Thursday	6:00-7:00 p.m.	by placement	Must be enrolled in a Ballet Class at MFAC.	Hart, Sara
Jazz V	ALX	Monday	8:00-9:15 p.m.	by placement	Must be enrolled in a Ballet Class at MFAC.	Dobbs, Melissa/ Penick, Katie
Jazz V	ALX	Thursday	6:00-7:15 p.m.	by placement	Must be enrolled in a Ballet Class at MFAC.	York, Marilyn
Jazz VI	ALX	Monday	8:00-9:30 p.m.	by placement	Must be enrolled in a Ballet Class at MFAC.	Hart, Sara
Teen Jazz I	ALX	Wednesday	7:00-8:00 p.m.	13-18 yrs		York, Marilyn
Teen Jazz I	FFX	Tuesday	7:30-8:30 p.m.	13-18 yrs		Gibson, Melanie
Teen Jazz II/III	ALX	Wednesday	8:00-9:00 p.m.	13-18 yrs		York, Marilyn
Teen Jazz II/III	FFX	Monday	8:00-9:00 p.m.	13-18 yrs		Armstrong, Danya



## DEDICATED & TALENTED PROGRAM

**Auditions: Saturday September 12, 2009 at MFAC Alexandria**  
**Please see our website for additional audition information.**

Our Dedicated and Talented Program (DT) is designed for the serious dance student who possesses a desire to make dance training a priority along with their academic responsibilities. Our goal is to give students the foundation for success. We hope to see our students excel in the future with acceptance into the finest colleges, universities and conservatories available, whether they choose dance as a life goal or not. The self-reliance and determination necessary for the individual to reach their fullest potential are necessary to flourish in the DT Program. Our focus is on dedication, proper work ethic, the spirit of teamwork, and other qualities needed to enhance every student's future. Dancers in the DT Program truly love to dance, and have the confidence, desire, and passion to achieve individual

success within the group dynamic. We look for our students to find a measure of success in every class, rehearsal and performance. Ballet is the foundation of good dance training. Dancers who dislike ballet may not find the DT Program their best avenue for success and may not wish to pursue this program. Placement is always made with consideration for the student's best interest and is by invitation and audition only. New students interested in auditioning should download a DT audition application and information packet from our website.

Class	Location	Day	Time	Age	Requirement	Teacher
DT Jazz A	ALX	Saturday	Saturday 2:00-3:00 p.m.	by placement	By Audition in September 2009	Staff
DT Jazz B	ALX	Saturday	Saturday 3:00-4:00 p.m.	by placement	By Audition in September 2009	Staff
DT Jazz C	ALX	Saturday	Saturday 4:00-5:00 p.m.	by placement	By Audition in September 2009	Staff
DT Jazz D	ALX	Saturday	Saturday 5:00-6:00 p.m.	by placement	By Audition in September 2009	Staff
DT Jazz E	ALX	Saturday	Saturday 2:00-3:00 p.m.	by placement	By Audition in September 2009	Staff
DT Jazz F	ALX	Saturday	Saturday 4:00-6:00 p.m.	by placement	By Audition in September 2009	Staff
DT Tap A	ALX	Saturday	Saturday 1:00-2:00 p.m.	by placement	By Audition in September 2009	Staff
DT Tap B	ALX	Saturday	Saturday 2:00-3:00 p.m.	by placement	By Audition in September 2009	Staff
DT Tap C	ALX	Saturday	Saturday 3:00-4:00 p.m.	by placement	By Audition in September 2009	Staff
DT Tap D	ALX	Saturday	Saturday 4:00-5:00 p.m.	by placement	By Audition in September 2009	Staff
DT Tap E	ALX	Saturday	Saturday 5:00-6:00 p.m.	by placement	By Audition in September 2009	Staff

## HIP - HOP

This style of dance is comprised both of sharp and relaxed isolations of the body. HIP-HOP contains both high and low impact footwork that offers a fun and healthy work out, and a loose free range of motion that improves flexibility. Due to its increasing popularity

and demand Hip-Hop is often utilized by choreographers in the music industry, in videos and on stage, and is practiced by many throughout the world.

Class	Location	Day	Time	Age	Requirements	Teacher
Hip-Hop I	ALX	Tuesday	5:00-6:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Highly recommended to enroll in Jazz.	Magalhaes, Roberson
Hip-Hop I	FFX	Saturday	12:00-1:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Highly recommended to enroll in Jazz.	Armstrong, Danya
Hip-Hop I	FFX	Wednesday	4:00-5:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Highly recommended to enroll in Jazz.	Staff
Hip-Hop II/III	ALX	Tuesday	4:00-5:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Highly recommended to enroll in Jazz.	Magalhaes, Roberson
Hip-Hop II/III	FFX	Wednesday	5:00-6:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Highly recommended to enroll in Jazz.	Staff
Hip-Hop IV/V	FFX	Wednesday	6:00-7:00 p.m.	by placement	Highly recommended to enroll in Jazz.	Staff
Hip-Hop VI	FFX	Wednesday	7:00-8:00 p.m.	by placement	Highly recommended to enroll in Jazz.	Staff
Teen Hip-Hop	ALX	Tuesday	6:00-7:00 p.m.	13-18 yrs		Magalhaes, Roberson
Teen Hip-Hop	FFX	Wednesday	8:00-9:00 p.m.	13-18 yrs		Staff

## TAP

Tap classes at MFAC combine a classical "Broadway" style warm-up with new and innovative "Rhythm Tap" combinations and techniques. Combinations are modeled after funk and rhythm styles from many of the greats including, Brenda Bufalino, Savion Glover, Buster Brown, and other

rhythm tap dancers. Tap students will work on syncopation and coordination as they begin to develop an individualized style of tap dancing. Advanced tappers will formulate acapella combinations as they analyze measures, rhythms, sound quality, and other musical aspects of tap dancing.



Class	Location	Day	Time	Age	Teacher
Tap I	ALX	Tuesday	7:00-8:00 p.m.	6-8 yrs	Armstrong, Danya
Tap I	ALX	Friday	5:00-6:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Dobbs, Melissa
Tap I	FFX	Monday	5:00-6:00 p.m.	6-8 yrs	Hart, Sara
Tap I	FFX	Monday	7:00-8:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Armstrong, Danya
Tap I	FFX	Saturday	11:00-12:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Gibson, Melanie
Tap II	ALX	Monday	4:00-5:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Dobbs, Melissa
Tap II	ALX	Friday	6:00-7:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Armstrong, Danya
Tap II	FFX	Thursday	5:00-6:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Hart, Sara
Tap II	FFX	Friday	6:00-7:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Gibson, Melanie
Tap III	ALX	Tuesday	5:00-6:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Armstrong, Danya
Tap III	ALX	Friday	6:00-7:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Hart, Sara
Tap III	FFX	Thursday	7:00-8:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Burke, Judy
Tap IV	ALX	Monday	5:00-6:00 p.m.	by placement	Dobbs, Melissa
Tap IV	FFX	Thursday	7:00-8:00 p.m.	by placement	Hart, Sara
Tap V	ALX	Monday	7:00-8:00 p.m.	by placement	Staff
Tap VI	ALX	Monday	6:00-7:00 p.m.	by placement	Staff
Teen Tap I	ALX	Wednesday	8:00-9:00 p.m.	13-18 yrs	Dobbs, Melissa
Teen Tap I	FFX	Tuesday	8:30-9:30 p.m.	13-18 yrs	Gibson, Melanie
Teen Tap II/III	ALX	Wednesday	7:00-8:00 p.m.	13-18 yrs	Dobbs, Melissa
Teen Tap II/III	FFX	Monday	6:00-7:00 p.m.	13-18 yrs	Hart, Sara



## CONTEMPORARY & LYRICAL

**Lyrical:** Lyrical jazz is a stylized form of classical jazz technique. Our lyrical instructors utilize many principles of classical ballet, classical jazz, and modern to create a beautiful expression through dance.

**Contemporary:** Contemporary dance draws on modern dance technique and an array of continually developing philosophies of movement based on

the inter-relationships of the mind and body. Contemporary is a synergy between modern, ballet and jazz dance with a focus on personal expression and gaining a deeper understanding of using dance as a personal outlet. Contemporary dance is growing in popularity and is widely seen in popular culture and concert stages across the globe.

Class	Location	Day	Time	Age	Requirements	Teacher
Lyrical I	FFX	Wednesday	5:00-6:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Must have completed at least one year of Ballet I and be currently enrolled in Ballet I+	Bressler, Meagan
Lyrical II/III	FFX	Wednesday	4:00-5:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Must be enrolled in Ballet III+	Bressler, Meagan
Lyrical IV/V	FFX	Wednesday	7:00-8:00 p.m.	by placement	Must be enrolled in Ballet IV+	Bressler, Meagan
Lyrical VI	FFX	Wednesday	6:00-7:00 p.m.	by placement	Must be enrolled in Ballet VI+	Bressler, Meagan
Contemporary I	ALX	Monday	4:00-5:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Must be enrolled in Ballet II+	Penick, Katie
Contemporary II/III	ALX	Monday	5:00-6:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Must be enrolled in Ballet III+	Penick, Katie
Contemporary IV/V	ALX	Monday	6:00-7:00 p.m.	by placement	Must be enrolled in Ballet IV+	Penick, Katie
Contemporary VI	ALX	Monday	7:00-8:00 p.m.	by placement	Must be enrolled in Ballet VI+	Penick, Katie

## IRISH DANCE

Class	Location	Day	Time	Age	Requirements	Teacher
Irish I	ALX	Monday	2:00-3:00 p.m.	6 + yrs		McGrath, Patrick
Irish I	FFX	Thursday	4:00-5:00 p.m.	6 + yrs		McGrath, Patrick
Irish II	ALX	Monday	3:00-4:00 p.m.	by placement	Must have completed at least one year of Irish Dance or one year of Ballet and one year of Tap.	McGrath, Patrick
Irish II	FFX	Thursday	6:00-7:00 p.m.	by placement	Must have completed at least one year of Irish Dance or one year of Ballet and one year of Tap.	McGrath, Patrick
Irish III	FFX	Thursday	5:00-6:00 p.m.	by placement	Must have completed at least 2 years of Irish Dance or 2 years of Ballet and 2 years of Tap.	McGrath, Patrick
Irish IV	FFX	Thursday	7:00-8:00 p.m.	by placement	Must have completed at least 3 years of Irish Dance or 3 years of Ballet and 3 years of Tap.	McGrath, Patrick



## ACTING

**ACTING I:** Self-esteem and confidence will sky rocket with this beginning acting class. Fundamental acting skills will be discovered through improv games and technique exercises. As the class progresses, students will learn to create unique characters and how to use those characters within a cooperative scene. While having fun, students will learn to push their limits and release their fears. This class will emphasize cooperative learning, self-awareness, and problem solving skills.

**ACTING II:** Fundamental acting skills are taught through the use of improv games and technique exercises. Through these exercises, students will learn to act with their voice, face and body equally. As the class progresses, students will delve in to character work learning to develop full characters through scene work and monologues. Time will be given to learning the skill of auditioning; having a repertoire of prepared monologues and how to tackle cold readings so each student may walk into an audition confidently. Students will discover their unique voices and inner

natures while building confidence and self-esteem. This class will emphasize cooperative learning and interdependence among the young actors.

**ACTING III:** In this course, students will be pushed to reach beyond their limits towards their full potential. The course begins with a general overview of the basic principles of acting for the stage. Students will learn exercises and techniques that will allow them to open themselves to acting fully with mind, body and spirit. The focus is on understanding the acting process, self-awareness, physical/vocal control, simple monologues and scene work. Time will be given to learning the skill of auditioning; having a repertoire of prepared monologues and how to tackle cold readings so each student may walk into an audition confidently. Students are not expected to have any acting experience. The only prerequisites are life experience, passion, and a desire to learn. Students with some acting experience will find the course useful in revisiting and further developing their acting skills.

Class	Location	Day	Time	Age	Requirements	Teacher
Acting I	ALX	Saturday	11:15-12:00 p.m.	6-8 yrs		Kopas, Drew
Acting II	ALX	Saturday	12:00-1:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs		Kopas, Drew
Acting III	ALX	Sunday	5:00-6:00 p.m.	13-18 yrs		Kopas, Drew

## MUSICAL THEATER

**MUSICAL THEATER I:** This class is designed to allow your little one to express their creativity and provides an outlet for their early discovery of stage presence. Students work on speech, stage movement, vocal projection, and basic dance technique. Each student will have the opportunity to perform in a Broadway review each year. No pre-requisite required.

**MUSICAL THEATRE II:** This class is designed to allow a student to gain a more specific and developed knowledge of music theatre technique and history. Students work on a variety of music theatre styles that encourage them to dance, sing, and act all at once. Each week, the class will include vocal training, acting exercises, and dance techniques. Each student will have the opportunity to perform in a Broadway review each year. Additional enrollment in jazz class is required.

**MUSICAL THEATRE III:** This class is designed for a more serious student who aims to be a "triple threat." Students work on mastering what it takes to become a Broadway performer. Each week students will participate in vocal training, acting exercises, and dance technique.

In addition, each student will develop the confidence to perform solo work in preparation for auditions. Students will have the opportunity to perform in a Broadway review each year. Students will learn original Broadway choreography, therefore enrollment in a jazz class is required.

Class	Location	Day	Time	Age	Requirements	Teacher
Musical Theater I	ALX	Saturday	12:00-1:00 p.m.	6-8 yrs	Must be enrolled in a Jazz Class at MFAC.	Hart, Sara
Musical Theater II	ALX	Saturday	1:00-2:00 p.m.	by placement	Must be enrolled in a Jazz Class at MFAC.	Hart, Sara
Musical Theater III	ALX	Saturday	3:00-4:00 p.m.	by placement	Must be enrolled in a Jazz Class at MFAC.	Hart, Sara

## SOCIAL DANCE

Class	Location	Day	Time	Age	Requirements	Teacher
Teen Social Dance	ALX	Monday	3:00-4:00 p.m.	13-18 yrs		Burke, Judy

\*\*\*PRIVATE VOICE AND INSTRUMENT LESSONS ARE AVAILABLE.

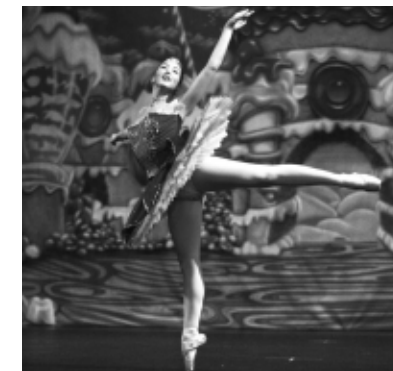
PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE OR CALL EITHER MFAC LOCATON FOR MORE INFORMATION! \*\*\*

## TUMBLING

MFAC tumbling classes are offered for students interested in learning the basics of tumbling, flexibility, and balance. Our youngest students will participate in organized warm-ups and age-appropriate activities including balance beam work, trampoline work as well as basic gymnastics mat skills. Tumbling classes are highly recommended for the serious dancer interested in pursuing dance as a career as it will expand body awareness and ability.

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Class	Location	Day	Time	Age	Requirements	Teacher
Tumbling-Pre-School	ALX	Wednesday	5:00-6:00 p.m.	4-5 yrs	Must be 4 years old by September 1, 2009.	Norman, Alexis
Tumbling II	ALX	Wednesday	6:00-7:00 p.m.	6-8 yrs	Must have permission of Instructor.	Norman, Alexis
Tumbling III	ALX	Wednesday	7:00-8:00 p.m.	9-12 yrs	Must have permission of Instructor.	Norman, Alexis
Tumbling-Advanced	ALX	Wednesday	8:00-9:00 p.m.	by placement	Must have permission of Instructor.	Norman, Alexis



# MEET OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM



## DANYA ARMSTRONG

Danya Armstrong, originally from Canada, has trained in New York, Los Angeles, Toronto, London, and Germany. After performing in Germany for over three and a half years in Mama Mia, 42nd Street, and The Buddy Holly Show, Danya made her way to the USA! Other stage credits span Patty Simcox in Grease (Toronto), 42nd Street (Moscow, Russia),

Oklahoma, Brigadoon, A Christmas Carol, The Chairmaker, Anne of Green Gables and Nunsense II (Canada). She has 20 years of professional stage experience and over 15 years teaching experience. Her choreography credits include Tosca (workshop of a new musical/Germany), Slap That Base (Gala/Germany), Flight of the Lawnchairman (Alexandria, VA), and assistant choreographer in the motion pictures Superstar and Global Heresy. She has worked with such stars as: Molly Shannon, Alicia Silverstone, Peter O'Toole, and the Backstreet Boys. Since arriving in the USA she has received awards for her choreography, and has been acknowledge for her dance education techniques. While residing in Hamburg, Germany, Danya taught the Advanced level of Jazz and Tap at the top European Musical College, The Joop Van Den Ende Academy, which is run by one of the largest musical producing companies in the world, Stage Entertainment. Danya is thrilled to be part of the MFAC team and is excited about the year ahead!

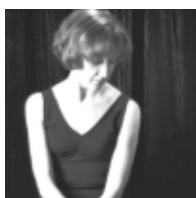


## MATT ARMSTRONG

### Managing Director

Matthew Armstrong is a Northern Virginia native who has an extensive background in Real Estate Development and Project Management in the Washington DC Metropolitan area. Currently, Mr. Armstrong is the owner of M.P. Armstrong and

Associates, a Northern Virginia based organization, offering construction management, real estate development and business development services for area businesses. Mr. Armstrong is currently in his eighth year serving as MFAC's Business Director.



## JUDY BURKE

### Adult Dance Director

Ms. Burke began her formal training at age 4 in upstate New York. She studied tap, ballet, and jazz under Deborah Boughton, David Shields, David Howard, Tim Roberts, Danny Sloan, Rhee and Rennie Gold, Robert Audy, Nancy Newell, and Suzanne Hayles. She is a former member of Syracuse Ballet Theatre, Hayles & Company Dance, Jazz Dance in NH, and TAPestry in Washington, DC. Ms. Burke has appeared on Broadway and in many regional dinner theatre and community theatre productions. She has also performed and choreographed for television and film. Ms. Burke has taught children and adults in many studios throughout New England, Canada and the DC Metropolitan area. Mrs. Burke competes professionally on the national swing circuit and is the five time VA State Hustle Champion.



## JOHN DOBBS

### Rock University Music Director

John Dobbs is a highly versatile singer, musician and performer with an experience totaling over 35 years. Not only have his bands performed in the most prestigious venues in Washington D.C. such as the Wax Museum, Jaxx, and the Crazy Horse, he also

performed in touring bands through Chicago, Boston, Florida, and the Carolinas. His style of music is broad as well as deep. He has performed almost every type of musical style from light rock, jazz, hard rock, and acoustic folk, to bluegrass, show music & instrumentals. Mr. Dobbs has formal recording experience, having created demos and CD's for several of his bands. He also managed several groups, and was a booking agent for Barry Rick Associates for a number of years. He knows the music business, the market place, and has the knowledge to take students from learning their instrument to professional performances. For a developing performer, Mr. Dobbs represents someone who has really "been there and done that", so the performer can save time and energy to make the most of their musical experience.



## MELISSA DOBBS

### Founder/Artistic Director

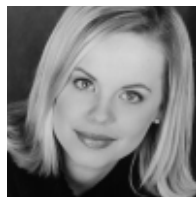
Melissa Dobbs is the founder and Artistic Director of Metropolitan Fine Arts Center and Metropolitan Performing Arts Theater in Alexandria and Fairfax Station, Virginia and is currently pursuing the Certificate in Ballet Teaching Studies through the

Royal Academy of Dance in London.

Ms. Dobbs began her dance training at age eleven with the highly acclaimed dance educator, Marilyn Baird. She continued her training in New York at the Briansky-Saratoga Ballet in New York, Duke Ellington School of the Arts in Washington, DC, and received her interdisciplinary degree from New Century College in Fine Arts Management from George Mason University.

Known for her motivational and enthusiastic teaching methodology in tap, jazz, ballet and hip-hop, she strives to encourage her students to embrace dance with enduring eagerness. Dancers trained by Ms. Dobbs can be seen in various schools such as The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, The Washington Ballet, The American Academy of Ballet, Universal Ballet Academy, and The Hartt School, to name a few.

Ms. Dobbs has performed in numerous theatrical venues and national events, including the Special Olympics Gala, ABC Thanksgiving Day Parade in Philadelphia, Walt Disney World, Clinton's Presidential Inaugural Ball in Washington DC, and most recently as a tap dancer in the 13th annual gala: A Salute to the 1940's Broadway Musical, with the National Symphony Orchestra, hosted by Julie Andrews on the Kennedy Center stage and the 14th annual gala hosted by Angela Lansbury.



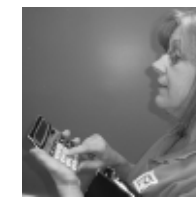
## SARA HART

### Director of Creative Development

Sara graduated from NYU with a Bachelors in Music and continued her career in NYC for several years. She is a proud member of Actors Equity and was most recently in a performance conducted by Marvin Hamlisch at Lincoln Center. She began her

professional career as a performer, dance captain, and choreographer at Hersheypark (in her hometown). Sara has performed at the Goodspeed Opera House in CT, where she was the assistant director as well as a member of the ensemble in High Button Shoes. Other regional credits include: Seven Brides for Seven Brothers (assistant dir., dance capt., & Martha) at Goodspeed, The Wizard of Oz (assistant dir., dance capt., and Ensemble) at North Carolina Theatre, Mame (Ensemble) at Northshore Music Theatre, Ain't Misbehavin' (assistant dir./ chor.) at Dallas Theatre Center & Cape Playhouse, Pirates of Penzance (assistant dir./ chor.) at Virginia Opera, and Off Broadway's Great American Trailerpark Musical workshop (assistant chor.) in NYC. Sara also served as assistant choreographer for Ringley Bros. and Barnum & Bailey's Greatest Show on Earth in 2006. Recently, she traveled to Michigan

State University to recreate Randy Skinner's choreography for Babes in Arms and has enjoyed returning to her alma mater to Metropolitan Fine Arts Center.



## KATHY HOWARD

### Bookkeeper

Kathy got her first bookkeeping job at a car dealership when she was still in high school. It was the beginning of a lifelong, if unusual, love of debits and credits. She earned a degree in accounting from Montclair State University when dinosaurs still

roamed the earth and calculators had not been invented. Kathy has since passed her CPA exam, worked for the IRS and the Department of the Army. However, she was thrilled to leave the fast-paced, exciting world of high finance to return to her roots, keeping books for a family business. She is a number cruncher at heart and nothing makes her happier than balancing a checkbook to the last penny.



## MATT NALL

### Music Director

Matt graduated from Texas Tech University with Bachelors in Music and then moved to NYC to complete his Masters of Arts in Vocal Performance from New York University. He is a proud member of Actors Equity and most recently played the role of

Vito in Kiss Me Kate at St. Mary's Music Festival. Matt is currently a baritone member of The United States Army Chorus. In the past two years, he has sung for President Bush, The Pope, Queen Elizabeth, the funeral for President Gerald Ford, Tom Hanks, Dolly Parton, Stephen Spielberg, and various other dignitaries at the White House and the Kennedy Center. In NYC, Matt had a successful music theatre and opera performing career. His regional music theatre credits include: A Christmas (Joe & Christmas Present) at North Shore Music Theatre, Beauty and the Beast (Gaston Merry Go Round Playhouse, Oklahoma (Curly) Gateway Playhouse & West Virginia Public Theatre. Other credits include: Babes in Arms (Sheriff), Jacques Brel (Jacques Brel), Fiddler on the Roof (Lazar Wolf), Paint Your Wagon (Julio), Into the Woods (Wolf & Cinderella's Prince), Street Scene (Frank Murrant), Hansel and Gretel (Father), Old Man and the Thief (Bob), Don Giovanni (Leporello), and The Mikado (Mikado). He has studied voice with Richard Stilwell, Michael Riccardone, Karl Dent, and Gerald Dolter, and has studied acting with Bill Wesbrooks, Greg Ganakas, Diane Cielsa, and Meg Bussert. Matt is happy to be coaching and sharing his knowledge of vocal training with MFAC students.

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## KATIE PENICK

A contemporary dancer and choreographer, Katie began her dance training in classical ballet and at 16, moved to New York City to study on scholarship at the Joffrey Ballet School, the school for American Ballet Theatre (ABT), was a member of ABT II, and trained under the tutelage of famed Balanchine dancer, Gelsey Kirkland. In NYC, Katie began training contemporary dance under Mia Michaels while on scholarship at Broadway Dance Center's Pre-Professional Program, STEPS, and at The Edge Performing Arts Center (Los Angeles). She competed in many national dance competitions and received the Overall High Score Award for the National Dance America Competition in Orlando, FL. As a professional dancer, Katie was a member of Mia Michaels' company RAW and performed Ms. Michaels' choreography in Celine Dion's critically acclaimed Las Vegas show, A New Day, at Caesar's Palace. A New Day

won the awards for "Best of Las Vegas" including Best Show Choreography and Best Headliner. Katie was also blessed to work with Franco Dragone, the creator of A New Day and Cirque du Soleil. Katie's choreography has been awarded special recognition at prestigious international ballet competitions, including the Youth American Grand Prix in New York City, its European semi-finals in Italy, and the Prix de Lausanne in Switzerland. In 2008, her work won "Choreographic Review" at the national Cathy Roe Ultimate Dance Competition in Ohio. Future projects include a choreographic commission with the Baryshnikov Arts Center in NYC and founding her own junior contemporary company, kirekai, which are set to occur in the summer and fall of 2009 respectively. A graduate from Georgetown University Law Center, she has worked on Capitol Hill as a lobbyist for affordable housing and legislative attorney where she wrote congressional testimony for the United States Senate Committee on Finance. Most recently, she's worked in the D.C. Court of Appeals as a prosecutor for victims of domestic violence.



## LESLEY SHEARER

### Ballet and Conservatory Director

Lesley trained at London College of Dance and Drama and also the Royal Academy of Dance. She also has a Bachelors Degree from Durham University, UK majoring in Child Development, Pedagogy and Human Movement Dynamics.

Lesley spent many years in Dubai in the United Arab Emirates where she was Owner/Artistic Director of one of the largest and most prestigious dance schools in the country.

In 1998 she was appointed to the Board of Tutors of the Royal Academy of Dance. This position involves worldwide travel training ballet teachers in the Royal Academy of Dance method. Since 2002 Lesley has also been on the Board of Examiners for the Royal Academy and annually examines up to 2,000 students all over the world. Lesley also holds an adjunct professorial position of Teaching Supervisor for a Bachelor of Dance Education degree with the University of Surrey, UK. She joins the staff of MFAC with the aim of further developing the Ballet Program to make MFAC the school of choice for all serious ballet students in the Washington area.



## DAN STAPULA

### Director of Theater Program

Dan Stapula just moved back to the D.C. area after three years in Germany where he directed and performed with his family in over 15 community theatre productions for the U.S. Army. Most recently, his musical production of "Suburb"

placed 3rd in the American Association of Community Theatre's nationwide competition. As an actor, he has played Horace in "Hello Dolly," Sir Peter in "School for Scandal," Maximillium in "Cinderella," Erronius in "Forum," Labisse in "Victor/Victoria" and Dauntless in "Once Upon a Mattress." Dan is excited to begin his journey as the Director of Theater at Metropolitan Fine Arts Center.



