

Dance Productions



Legendary dance educator Joe Tremaine writes - "Tami Siscoe Richardson! Wow! A true dance educator! I have known Tami over 25 years! I have seen her grow from an amazing dancer into one of the best dance teachers in America today! Any person who has the opportunity to study with her is indeed extremely fortunate!"

INSTILLING CREATIVITY AND INDIVIDUALITY WHILE DEVELOPING INCREDIBLE PERFORMERS by pamelahammonds

In order for a dance studio to stand out, to be unique and offer something that generates interest and buzz in the community, it needs to be exceptional. At Dance Productions in Pearland, students and their parents are all saying the same thing: Tami Siscoe Richardson and her daughter, Kassi, are distinct in a market replete with cookie-cutter dance studios.

Tami started her studio because she has a passion for dance and a commitment to surround herself with the best instructors. Award-winning dancers and notable performers make her studio perfect for all students—from preschoolers to young adults.

"It's increasingly difficult to find studios that can challenge an advanced student," Tami said. "We have such amazing instructors that we are able to grow a dancer from a very young child past his or her teen years."

Peggy Kastner, of Friendswood, moved her daughter, Leisha, 14, two years ago to Dance Productions. "She's really excelled here," said Peggy. "I've noticed a huge leap in her ability in the short time that she's been here." The level of instruction is evidenced by the number of awards and scholarships Dance Productions students have earned. Recently, Cristal Guel, 12, won a 2007 Pulse Protégé award scholarship, allowing her to assist So You Think You Can Dance choreographers in New York. Cristal also won a Jump VIP scholarship and has an opportunity to perform with other VIP winners at the Kodak Theater in Los Angeles.

Additionally, Kayla Robert, 11, won scholarships with Monsters of Hip Hop, a jazz scholarship from Jump, and The Capezio Scholarship for The Pulse. Jordyn Groover, 10, also won a jazz scholarship from Jump. And at the Tremaine Dance Convention 2006, Britany Gilman, 16, won the senior scholarship, and Kaitlyn Gahring, 14, won a teen scholarship.

A FAMILY OF DANCERS

Tami has taught dance for 28 years and now is privileged to teach in her own studio with her daughter Kassi by her side. "It really feels like a family atmosphere in the studio," Tami said. "We have wonderful parents who are so supportive, and I love the kids a lot. Getting to work with my daughter makes it even more special."

Kassi Richardson, 21, has "pretty much been dancing my whole life," she said. "I choreographed my first solo at age 12. My favorite thing to do is choreography for other people, but I also love





seeing how much better our students get and how they start to love dance. This is exactly what I wanted to do with my life.”

Cheya Ure grew up in a dance studio—her grandmother, mother and she were all instructors. When she chose a studio for her daughter, Elexa, naturally, “I’m very particular,” Cheya said. “I didn’t see any good dance programs until I stopped in Dance Productions. Tami is just wonderful and loving to her students. Then I saw the students perform and they were all so good.” Cheya also battled scheduling conflicts, with other studios holding dance recitals on Sunday. Tami listened to her concerns and worked to hold theirs on Saturday. “Since she was so willing to work with us in that matter, she has my loyalty,” Cheya continued. “My daughter is extremely happy and she feels very loved. What I like most is they compete but there’s not a competitive atmosphere among the dancers. Tami and her instructors are able to teach in a way that is so positive. Her daughter Kassi has an incredible, creative mind, and Mr. Manuel far exceeds any expectations I have had for a ballet teacher. His teaching style allows his students to build the very foundation of technique that you need to progress as you get older. All the girls just adore him.”

CLASSES THAT CHALLENGE EVERYONE


Dance Productions is housed in a spacious 6000-square-foot building, divided into three separate studios. The two larger rooms feature a floating wood flooring system that is easy on the dancers’ joints. All studios have viewing windows for parents and friends. Classes are offered in classical ballet/pointe, tap, jazz, hip-hop and musical theater and are taught from age three and up.

“We have an exceptional hip-hop program,” said Tami. “It’s really hard to find good teachers in that genre of dance but our program is outstanding. We’re starting to attract more boys and that’s awesome.”

In addition to Manuel Barra, Kassi Richardson and the other great instructors, Tami is pleased to welcome Jade Whitmire, known for her phenomenal tap, jazz and hip-hop, who studied with Kim Kelly of Houston’s Progressions Dance Studio and in New York at Broadway Dance Center. She will be teaching at the summer intensive beginning July 7 through 24 for new and current students, intermediate and advanced, with additional classes for beginners.

“We strive to provide excellent instructors who will help our students reach their highest potential,” said Tami. Previous guest instructors have included Tony Testa, choreographer and back-up dancer for Janet Jackson; Marty Dew who dances with celebrities including Britney Spears and also appeared in *You Got Served*; Dorrell Martin, originally with the Houston Met, who now teaches jazz with the Joffrey Ballet; and Gustavo Vargas, choreographer for *Dance Wars*, *Dancing with the Stars* and Jennifer Lopez.

“Tami is an incredibly courteous and fair business woman,” said Testa. “Her dedication to bringing in the most elite guest teachers only shows that she truly has the best interests of her students in mind.”

Register now for summer classes including an intensive class for advanced students and sessions for beginner and intermediate. Also a new beginner adult jazz class is launching soon on Fridays from 5:30-6:15 p.m. Registration for next fall begins May 1. “It’s important to register early for those who need specific times since classes fill up quickly, particularly evening classes,” said Tami. 

Featured instructors:

Manuel Barra

- Graduated from the Houston ballet academy,
- Danced with Sandra Organ Dance Co. and Hope Stone Inc.,
- Worked with Ben Stevenson and Dominic Walsh—principle dancer at Houston Ballet,
- Featured by the Houston Chronicle as one of Houston’s Hottest Dancers.

Kassi Richardson

- Possesses a unique hip-hop style
- Received Dance Olympus Young Choreographer award in 2005
- Choreographed the winning Teen Miss Headliner 2005 routine for Britany Gilman
- Choreographed the Dance Olympus overall high point soloist routine in 2005 for Cristal Guel
- Choreographs for several area high schools. Her routines helped: Dobie High School Lariaettes win first place in Nationals in hip hop, and also the Dobie Officer Jazz routine place first in regionals; Clearbrook Celebrities win first place in regionals in hip hop, and Jordyn Groover win first overall in the Star Systems nine-year-old jazz category and place third in junior solo headliners

DANCE PRODUCTIONS

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