

# nova dance studio



## **HANDBOOK and RECITAL GUIDE 2008-2009**

Contains studio policies, dress code, teacher biographies, important dates and information for the dance year **as well as** an outline for the Annual Recital

**Phone:** 1-866-303-6682 (Toll Free) / (902) 275-1476 (Chester area)  
**Email:** [novadancestudio@msn.com](mailto:novadancestudio@msn.com)  
**Website:** [www.novadancestudio.com](http://www.novadancestudio.com)  
**Mail:** P.O. Box 1047 Chester NS B0J 1J0

# Table of Contents

<b>Important Dates</b> .....	<b>P. 1</b>
<b>Welcome to Nova Dance Studio</b> .....	<b>P. 2</b>
<b>About Nova Dance Studio</b>	
History, Classes, About the CDTA, Levels & Progression, Attendance .....	<b>P. 3</b>
<b>Fees and Policies</b>	
Admissions, Class Capacity, Payment Options, Annual Fee Breakdown, Funding and Assistance .....	<b>P. 4</b>
Withdrawal/Refund Policies, Disciplinary Action, Drop off & Pick up, Weather Cancellation Policy, Make-up Days, Teacher Substitution .....	<b>P. 5</b>
<b>Winter 2009 Schedule and class names</b> .....	<b>P. 6</b>
<b>Studio Dress Code</b> .....	<b>P. 7,8</b>
<b>Class Descriptions</b> .....	<b>P. 9</b>
<b>NDS Staff</b> .....	<b>P. 10 – 14</b>
<b>RECITAL GUIDE (Spring Showcase 2009)</b>	
<b>Spring Showcase 2009'</b> .....	<b>P. 1A – 5A</b>
<b>Recital Information for Junior Students</b> .....	<b>P. 6A – 7A</b>



**IMPORTANT DATES – TERM 2**

**PLEASE MARK THESE DATES ON YOUR FAMILY CALENDAR.**

Monday, January 5 <sup>th</sup>	First Day of classes after Christmas Break (continuation of Term 1)
Mon., Jan 19 <sup>th</sup> – Sat., Jan. 24 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Observation Week (Storm Make-Up Dates the following week).
January 20 <sup>th</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup>	Registration for Term Two Classes
Monday, February 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Term 2 classes begin
Saturday, March 14 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day of classes before March Break
Mon., Mar. 16 <sup>th</sup> – Sat., Mar.21 <sup>st</sup>	NO CLASSES – March Break
Monday, March 23 <sup>rd</sup>	CLASSES RESUME
Friday, April 10 <sup>th</sup> – Monday, April 13 <sup>th</sup>	NO CLASSES – Easter Weekend
April/May	Photo Days during class time, TBA
Sat. May 16 <sup>th</sup> - Mon. May 18 <sup>th</sup>	Regular Classes <u>are</u> held on Victoria Day Weekend due to their close proximity to the Recital.
Thursday, May 21 <sup>st</sup>	Spring Showcase 2009 Dress Rehearsal – <b>St. Marg's Bay Studio</b> @ McInnes Room Theatre, Dalhousie SUB, Halifax
Friday, May 22 <sup>nd</sup> (6-8pm)	Spring Showcase 2009 – <b>St. Marg's Bay Studio</b> Performance @ McInnes Room Theatre, Dalhousie SUB, Halifax
Saturday, May 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Spring Showcase 2009 – <b>Bridgewater Studio's</b> Dress Rehearsal & Performance @ McInnes Room Theatre, Dalhousie SUB, Halifax
Sunday, May 24 <sup>th</sup>	Spring Showcase 2009 – <b>Chester Studio's</b> Dress Rehearsal & Performance @ McInnes Room Theatre, Dalhousie SUB, Halifax
<b>Mon, May 25<sup>th</sup>-Sat, May 30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Final Week of Classes</b>

# WELCOME TO NOVA DANCE STUDIO

*Providing Intensive and Recreational dance training in a positive and nurturing learning environment where the students' self esteem is of paramount importance.*

## **STUDENTS OF NOVA DANCE STUDIO BENEFIT FROM THE FOLLOWING:**

- All staff members are fully committed to providing a quality dance education for their students.
- Canadian Dance Teachers' Association (C.D.T.A.) syllabus and guidelines are followed in Ballet, Tap and Jazz classes.
- Parent Observation Week is held at the end of first term.
- Opportunities for eligible students to participate in dance festivals, competitions, demonstrations, and C.D.T.A. examinations.
- Pre-professional and Professional training.
- The entire dance year culminates in late May when students have the opportunity to showcase dances they have worked on throughout the year for an audience. This event is held at the Dalhousie McInnes Room Theatre, and gives students the unforgettable experience of performing in costume under stage lighting. If your child has a reason why he/she cannot participate in the Spring Showcase, please bring it to our attention immediately as changes made close to the production date are disruptive to the other students and the teacher.

## **ADDITIONAL FEATURES INCLUDE:**

- ✓ Periodic Handbook supplements, notices, call-outs, e-mails, and mail-outs containing information about upcoming events.
- ✓ Up-to-date website at [www.novadancestudio.com](http://www.novadancestudio.com) featuring photo albums, studio news, schedules, class descriptions, dress code, and links to some of our favourite sites.
- ✓ Opportunity to buy and sell second-hand shoes and dancewear through the Chester location (1-866-303-6682).
- ✓ Professional Photographs, and Recital Videos (& DVDs) available for purchase.
- ✓ Access to our toll-free line from anywhere in Canada at 1.866.303.NOVA (6682).
- ✓ E-mail and voicemail communication monitored daily during the dance year, and weekly during the summer.
- ✓ Nova Dance Studio is registered with the Healthy Living Tax Incentive.
- ✓ Fees for dance classes are now eligible as a tax credit up to \$500 per year.

# **ABOUT NOVA DANCE STUDIO**

## **HISTORY**

---

Nova Dance Studio (N.D.S.) opened its doors under the direction of Owner & Artistic Director Erin Kim Turnbull McCall in September 2001. There are currently locations in St. Margaret's Bay, Chester & Bridgewater.

Since its inception, N.D.S. has attracted an acclaimed professional staff of international background as well as having produced a number of accomplished teachers of its own. The Nova Dance staff offers quality instruction at multiple levels of Recreational and Pre-professional training.

## **CLASSES**

---

BALLET, TAP and JAZZ classes at N.D.S. follow the syllabus of the Canadian Dance Teachers' Association (C.D.T.A.) and where appropriate, students may have the opportunity to participate in examinations as well as local and regional competitions and festivals. Our youngest students begin their studies with CREATIVE MOVEMENT before moving on to more intensive training. Dancers ages 5 and up enjoy HIP-HOP classes while some of our students also study LYRICAL, MODERN, CONTEMPORARY, FLAMENCO & CHARACTER/NATIONAL as a part of their curriculum.

## **ABOUT THE C.D.T.A.**

---

Founded in 1946, the Canadian Dance Teachers' Association is an organization of teaching professionals, which was formed to promote excellence in teaching and to provide a graded syllabus for students as well as examinations for professional qualifications.

## **LEVELS AND PROGRESSION**

---

Students must be able to execute proper technique in each movement to the fullest extent for their level before progressing to the next level. Placement of students into classes is at the discretion of the Artistic Director in consultation with the teaching staff. Female Ballet students who wish to study 'Pointe work' must fulfill the necessary requirements of age and skill level before they will be considered for such training. Poor attendance will affect a student's progression.

## **ATTENDANCE**

---

If your child will be absent from class you are asked to call the head office of NDS at 1-866-303-6682 to leave a message notifying the Administrator. Three unexcused/unexplained absences in a term may result in reassessment of a student's placement in class. Attendance in the weeks prior to the annual recital is crucial, as a dancer's absence creates extra work for the teacher and the entire class, and can affect the quality of their final performance.

# **FEES & POLICIES**

## **ADMISSIONS**

---

In order for your child to be considered a registered student, dance tuition must be paid in full or by arranging post-dated payments. As well, a Registration Agreement (Waiver) must be signed and submitted to the head office. Students who have not been properly registered by their second week may not be permitted to participate in class.

## **CLASS CAPACITY**

---

All classes require a minimum of six students in order to run. In the case where a class does not have the minimum number of six registrants, it may be re-scheduled to a different day and time in order that the class can run. In the case where a class is cancelled due to low enrolment numbers, all remaining paid fees will be refunded or credited toward another appropriate class of your choice. The maximum number of students per class varies depending upon the average age of the group, the skill level and the dance discipline.

## **PAYMENT OPTIONS**

---

Option 1 – Pay tuition in full upon Registration

Option 2 – Divide tuition into 2 equal monthly payments (\$5 administration charge)

Option 3 – Divide tuition into 4 equal monthly payments (\$5 administration charge)

## **FORMS OF PAYMENT ACCEPTED**

Cash, Cheque, Money Order, Visa, MasterCard, or American Express

## **NSF PAYMENTS**

---

Cheques returned due to insufficient funds are subject to a \$25.00 administration fee. This charge also applies to credit cards that cannot be processed due to insufficient funds. After two NSF payments you will only be permitted to pay using cash or money order.

## **ANNUAL FEE BREAKDOWN**

---

### **TERM 1 (aprox. 4 months):**

Class Tuition (varies depending on length of class and number of classes taken)

### **TERM 2 (aprox. 4 months):**

Class tuition (varies depending on length of class and number of classes taken)

Recital Fee (\$25.00 per family)

## **FUNDING AND ASSISTANCE**

---

Some financial assistance is available to eligible candidates through the local Recreation Departments (PRO Kids, HRM Kids, Youth Assistance Policy) as well as through the Canadian Tire "Jump Start" Program. Please contact the office or your local Municipal Recreation Department for more information on these options.

## **WITHDRAWAL / REFUND POLICIES**

---

Students who withdraw after their first class of the term will be granted a full refund for the remaining classes, minus a \$10 Administration charge.

Unless a student has a valid medical reason (supported by a doctor's/therapist's note) as to why he/she cannot continue with dance classes, a refund will not be granted after the second class.

Where a valid medical excuse is provided, a refund of remaining fees may be issued.

## **DICIPLINARY ACTION**

---

Students may be dismissed from a class (or classes), as deemed necessary by the Artistic Director and Teacher, due to disruptive or dangerous behavior, or repeated failure by the parent/guardian to pay tuition and fees in a timely manner. In the case where a student is dismissed, the parent/guardian will be responsible for all tuition owed.

Anyone found defacing studio property or disrespecting other peoples' property will be immediately removed from the program and not be eligible for a refund. In the case of damages to the studio that require repair, you will be liable and charged for the repairs.

## **DROP OFF AND PICK UP**

---

It is not the responsibility of the Administrator or Teacher to supervise children prior to or following their scheduled class time. Students should not arrive any sooner than 15 minutes prior to their class and should be picked up within ten minutes of their class ending. Please make pick up arrangements with your child before you drop him or her off for class. The office telephone is for emergency use only. For safety reasons, students are not permitted to wait outside for their drive. If the Teacher is required to remain at the end of the day because you are late picking up your child (more than 10 minutes after the last class has ended) you may be billed for the Teacher's time.

## **WEATHER CANCELLATION POLICY**

Dance classes may be cancelled due to storms or severe storm warnings. Factors considered when deciding to cancel class include: weather and road conditions, weather forecasts, and above all, the safety of students, parents and teachers. A school closure does not necessarily indicate that dance classes will be cancelled. Weather conditions can vary greatly and change rapidly from one area to another so please use your own discretion when traveling to class this winter.

## **HOW WE CANCEL CLASSES**

When classes are cancelled this will be indicated on the outgoing message of the studio voicemail.

**It is your responsibility to call the main office one hour prior to your class time to find out if classes are running.**

**Call 1-866-303-6682 (Toll Free) or (902) 275-1476 (Chester Area)**

If the outgoing message does not indicate that classes are cancelled by one hour prior to your class time, it is safe to assume that classes are running as scheduled.

## **WHEN A STORM BEGINS AFTER CLASSES HAVE STARTED FOR THE DAY**

We will send students home when their parents arrive and then phone the students in the subsequent classes to let them know about the cancellation.

## **MAKE-UP DAYS**

---

Our scheduled terms include some time allotted to make up for classes cancelled due to inclement weather. Make up classes will be held on the same day and time as usual. We cannot compensate for storm cancellations beyond the allowed time per term.

## **TEACHER SUBSTITUTION**

---

In the case of instructor illness or other absence, whenever feasible, a qualified substitute will teach classes. When a substitute is not available, classes that have been cancelled for this reason will be made up later in the term.



## 2008-2009 SCHEDULE

### ST. MARGARET'S BAY

#### Monday

4:00-4:40	Beginner Dance	\$185
4:45-5:30	Level 1 Tap	\$210
5:30-6:15	Primary Badge Ballet	\$210
6:15-7:00	Level 1 Hip-Hop	\$210
7:00-8:00	Teen Beginner Hip-Hop	\$275

#### Tuesday

3:30-4:30	Gr. 2 Ballet	\$275
5:00-6:30	Sr. Ballet & Sr. Pointe	\$395
6:30-7:45	Sr. Jazz	\$345
7:45-9:00	Sr. Modern	\$345

#### Wednesday

4:00-5:00	Hip-Hop Level 2	\$275
5:00-6:00	Hip-Hop Level 3	\$275
6:00-7:00	Teen Hip-Hop Level 4	\$275
7:00-8:00	Teen Hip-Hop Level 5	\$275
8:00-9:00	Sr. Hip-Hop	\$275

#### Thursday

3:30-4:30	Gr. 1 Ballet	\$275
4:30-5:30	Level 3 Tap & Jazz	\$275
5:30-6:30	Teen Tap	\$275
6:30-7:30	Teen Ballet	\$275
7:30-8:30	Teen Jazz	\$275
8:30-9:00	Teen Contemporary Choreography	\$140

*\*Tn Ballet or Tn Jazz a pre-requisite*

### CHESTER

#### Monday

4:15-5:00	Hip-Hop Level 1 (5-7yrs)	\$210
5:00-6:00	Hip-Hop Level 2	\$275
6:00-7:00	Hip-Hop Level 3	\$275
7:00-8:00	Hip-Hop Level 4	\$275
8:00-9:00	Senior Hip-Hop	\$275

#### Wednesday

4:00-5:00	Gr. 3 Ballet	\$275
5:00-6:00	Level 2 Modern	\$275
6:00-7:30	Gr. 2 Tap & Jazz	\$395
7:30-9:00	Gr. 4 Ballet & Pointe/Lyrical	\$395

#### Thursday

4:00-4:45	Boys Hip-Hop	\$210
-----------	--------------	-------

#### Saturday

10:00 - 10:40	Beginner Ballet (3-4yr olds)	\$185
10:45-11:30	Preliminary 1 Ballet	\$210
11:30-12:10	Primary Tap	\$185
12:10-1:00	Primary Badge Ballet	\$230

### BRIDGEWATER

#### Monday

4:00-4:45	Preliminary Ballet A	\$210
4:45-5:15	Beginner Tap	\$140
5:15-6:00	Preliminary Ballet B	\$210
6:00-6:45	Jr. Hip-Hop (5-6 yrs)	\$210

#### Tuesday

4:00-5:00	Hip-Hop Level 1	\$275
5:00-6:00	Hip-Hop Level 2	\$275
6:00-7:00	Hip-Hop Level 3	\$275
7:00-8:00	Senior Hip-Hop	\$275
8:00-9:00	Teen Contemporary	\$275

#### Friday

4:10-4:55	Preliminary 2 Ballet	\$210
5:00-5:40	Primary Tap	\$185
5:45-6:30	Primary Ballet	\$210
6:30-7:30	Primary Badge Ballet	\$275
7:30-8:00	Level 3 Tap & Jazz	\$140

#### Saturday

10:30-11:10	Beginner Ballet	\$185
-------------	-----------------	-------

### JUNIOR COMPETITIVE TEAM

4:30-5:15pm	BALLET	\$160
5:15-6:00pm	JAZZ / HIP-HOP	\$160

### SENIOR COMPETITIVE TEAM

6:00-6:45pm	TAP / FLAMENCO	\$210
6:45-7:30pm	JAZZ/HIP-HOP	\$210
7:30-8:15pm	CONTEMPORARY	\$210
8:15-9:00pm	BALLET	\$210

## STUDIO DRESS CODE

- No jewelry will be permitted in any class with the exception of small earrings (studs) in newly pierced ears.
- No street shoes, gum, food, or drinks are allowed in the dance studio.
- Proper attire is important as it allows the teacher to view the students' body alignment and ensure that they are performing the exercises properly.
- Failure to wear proper attire for more than two classes in a term may result in the student being asked to sit out (observe the class) and a call will be placed to the parent or guardian.
- The brands and styles mentioned below are just examples and are meant to assist you in selecting your dancewear. No matter where you purchase your attire or what the brand is, please purchase the appropriate color and style as listed below.

### **BALLET (INCLUDING CREATIVE MOVEMENT)**

CLASS	SHOES	TIGHTS	LEOTARD (BODY SUIT)	HAIR
Creative Movement Beginner Ballet (A&B) Preliminary 1,2 &3	leather ballet shoes or Pink gymnastic slippers	Ballet Pink	Pink tank-style leotard	Secured neatly away from face & shoulders in bun. Shorter hairstyles should be pinned away from face
Primary Ballet Grades 1& 2, Ballet <i>Incl. Badge levels</i>	Pink leather, full sole ballet shoes	Ballet Pink ( <i>suggested brand - Mondor R.A.D.</i> )	Black cotton tank-style ( <i>suggested brand – Mondor</i> )	As above
Grade 3 – Senior <i>Incl. Enrichment levels</i>	Pink leather or canvas (leather preferred), full sole or split sole ballet shoes	Ballet Pink ( <i>suggested brand - Mondor R.A.D.</i> ) Grade 3+ should have convertible feet	Black cotton tank-style or camisole style ( <i>suggested brand – Mondor</i> )	As above
Boys	Black or white, leather or canvas shoes.	Men's black or white Ballet tights	Black or white plain t-shirt	Long hair secured in elastic

### **TAP**

CLASS	SHOES	TIGHTS	LEOTARD (BODY SUIT)	HAIR
Beginner Preliminary Primary Grades 1 & 2 <i>Incl. Tap &amp; Jazz combo</i>	Black patent leather or oxford style Tap shoes	Black dance pants <u>or</u> black or ballet pink footed or footless tights	Black cotton tank style leotard ( <i>suggested brand - Mondor</i> )	Secured neatly away from face & shoulders in bun. Shorter hairstyles should be pinned away from face
Grade 3 and up	Black leather Tap shoes	Black dance pants <u>or</u> black or ballet pink footed or footless tights	Black cotton tank or camisole style	As above
Boys	As above	Black dance pants	Black or white plain t-shirt	Long hair secured in elastic

...see over

## MODERN/LYRICAL/CONTEMPORARY

CLASS	SHOES	TIGHTS	LEOTARD (BODY SUIT)	HAIR
All Levels	None Ballet shoes may be worn in special cases	Footless black or pink ballet tights or black dance pants or capris	Black cotton tank or camisole style	Secured neatly away from face & shoulders. Shorter hairstyles should be pinned away from face
Boys	As above	Black dance pants	Black or white plain t-shirt	As above

## JAZZ

CLASS	SHOES	TIGHTS	LEOTARD (BODY SUIT)	HAIR
All Levels  <i>Tap/Jazz combo, see Tap</i>	Black leather jazz shoes (split sole preferred) or black jazz sneakers	Black dance pants <u>or</u> black footless tights	Black cotton tank or camisole style	Secured neatly away from face & shoulders in bun. Shorter hairstyles should be pinned away from face
Boys	As above	Black dance pants	Black or white plain t-shirt	Long hair secured in elastic

## HIP-HOP

CLASS	SHOES	PANTS	TOP	HAIR
All levels	Any style black jazz sneaker or clean indoor gym shoes (non marking soles).	Black dance pants or black sweatpants	Black cotton tank or camisole leotard preferred (black tank tops are accepted)	Secure long hair away from face
Boys	As above	As above	Black or white plain t-shirt	As above

## FLAMENCO

CLASS	SHOES	SKIRTS/PANTS	TOP	HAIR
All levels	Character or Flamenco shoes	Full skirt or Flamenco skirt	Black tank or camisole leotard	Secure long hair away from face
Boys	As above	Black trousers	White or black long sleeved shirt	As above

## WHERE TO BUY DANCE WEAR

- **NDS SECOND-HAND DANCEWEAR BUY & SELL**  
Located in the head office of NDS (Chester Shore Mall). Call or email to inquire about available styles & sizes.
- **PERFORMING ARTS DANCEWEAR:** 1-902-396-8300 or email performing\_arts\_dancewear@hotmail.com
- **ZELLERS, WAL-MART, SUPERSTORE, PAYLESS SHOES**
- **SEARS CATALOGUE**
- **THE RITE FIT** (MicMac Mall)
- **SECOND HAND SHOPS** (like Frenchy's, Double 'A', Gold River Clothing Mine, etc)
- **ONLINE** (eBay, www.justforkix.com, dancewear outlets...)
- **LIL FOLKS PLAY N MUSIC** (King Street, Bridgewater)

# CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

---

## CREATIVE MOVEMENT

A class designed to develop children's love of music and movement using characterizations and basic dance terminology. From Creative Movement, students have the basic skills to progress into Ballet or Tap.

---

## BALLET

Born of classical and court dances of the Baroque and Renaissance Periods, ballet elevates both dancer and audience to an ethereal plane. Long lines and flowing movements punctuated by controlled bursts of effort set ballet apart from all other dance forms in its demanding technique and artistry. Students develop strength and coordination while learning proper dance terminology before progressing into "barre" and "centre work", which are designed to build grace, posture and poise. With sufficient study of Ballet, and a strong body, female students may progress to pointe work (see 'Levels and Progression', page 3).

---

## TAP

One of the most rhythmic dance forms, Tap is an excellent way to develop a sense of rhythm, timing and percussive movement. Tap may be performed to many styles of music or 'a cappella' – without musical accompaniment. Shoes with metal 'taps' affixed to the sole are worn to create the 'tap' sound.

---

## JAZZ

Jazz has borrowed from all other dance forms to develop and create a technique all its own. This style of dance has the widest variety of musical accompaniment from acid jazz to contemporary pop. Its basis is in African dance and generally involves complex and stylized sequences of turns, jumps and isolations.

---

## LYRICAL

A contemporary dance form, which combines the techniques of Jazz, Ballet and Modern dance. The Lyrical dancer conveys the emotional and lyric content of the song to which he or she is performing.

---

## HIP-HOP

Hip-Hop is a form that evolved out of street and break dancing moves, many of which originate in African Dance, and is characterized by its vigorous athletics and bouncy style. Hip Hop is danced primarily to Hip Hop, Rap and R & B music. Hip Hop builds coordination, creativity, and musicality. Our teachers use only age appropriate music and movement sequences, especially with younger students.

---

## MODERN / CONTEMPORARY DANCE

The underlying physical training of Modern dance focuses on core body strength from which is derived the 'contraction' and 'release' of energy, and the concept of rise and fall. Choreography may be concerned only with pure movement or may have a theme of social or psychological significance. Modern Dance is usually performed in bare feet or light dance sandals.

---

## FLAMENCO

Considered by many to be the classical dance of Spain, Flamenco has been incorporated into the repertoire of many Ballet classes. The inspiration or 'duende' of the dance arises from the haunting music of flamenco guitar, singers and the castanets of the Spanish gypsy. The artistry of Flamenco is in the dancer rising above the basic technique bringing his or her heart and soul to the music and the dance.

## NDS STAFF

**KIM TURNBULL MCCALL** - B.A., A.C.D.T.A.

---

### **Owner / Artistic Director / Multi-Disciplinary Teacher**

Erin Kim Turnbull McCall, Owner and Artistic Director of N.D.S., opened her first studio in Head of St. Margaret's Bay in September 2001. She has gone on to open two more studios on the South Shore, in Chester and Bridgewater.

"Miss Kim" has studied and/or taught Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Modern, Hip-Hop, Lyrical, Step Dance, Flamenco, Belly Dance, Character National, African, Social Dance and Country and Western dance forms. Her training began 39 years ago, leading to her professional qualification through the Canadian Dance Teachers' Association (C.D.T.A.) in 1985.

"Miss Kim" has held the position of Artistic Director of several multidisciplinary competition schools throughout her career. She has taught on the staff of 7 major schools coast to coast and has acted as an adjudicator for several Atlantic dance competitions.

Drawing from her extensive performance background in live theatre, television and film, Miss Kim has choreographed and/or guest performed locally with several Maritime theatre companies including Chester Playhouse and Neptune Theatre. She regularly M.C.'s for dance events throughout the region.

Other credits to her name include having been acknowledged for her contribution to "The Tap Dance Dictionary", published by McFarland & Company, acting as Competition Coordinator for the first two C.D.T.A. Atlantic Ballet Festivals and having been a director on the Board of Dance Nova Scotia from 1996-2003.

"I am a dancer. I believe that we learn by practice. Whether it means to learn to dance by practicing dancing or to learn to live by practicing living.... In each it is the performance of a dedicated precise set of acts, physical or intellectual, from which comes shape of achievement, a sense of one's being, a satisfaction of spirit. One becomes in some area an athlete of God." ~Martha Graham, c.1953

Currently, "Miss Kim" is finishing her sixth year as the Atlantic Vice President of the C.D.T.A. and her eighth year as a satisfied studio owner. She resides in H.R.M. with her husband and two young dancing daughters.

### **ANGELA CRAIG-SWINIMER**

---

#### **Studio Administrator**

After graduating in 1995 with a bilingual diploma in French and English from Forest Heights Community School, Angela went on to study Consumer Relations and Tourism Development.

Angela began working at the Chester Playhouse in 1999 where she was promoted to Box Office Manager. In January of 2001 she took on the position of Administrative Assistant at the former Chester Dance Studio.

She came to work at Nova Dance Studio when it opened in August 2001 and has since been overseeing administrative operations for all locations. Her duties include that of Registrar, Public Relations Director and Co-Producer of the Annual Recitals.

Angela has been largely responsible for the renovation of the Chester Shore Mall location and was most recently instrumental in relocating the Bridgewater studio to its new permanent home on King Street in downtown Bridgewater.

"Miss Angela" resides on the South Shore with her son Riley. She spends time at the local elementary school as a volunteer tutor as well as continuing her studies with courses in the field of business administration.

## **AMY BURKE**

---

### **Hip-Hop Teacher**

Amy began the study of Jazz dance at an early age and became interested in Hip-Hop in her youth. Several choreographic opportunities gave her the impetus to begin teaching in 2001. Amy had previously also trained as a model with the Cassidy Group agency in Halifax.

Amy is an Affiliate member of the Canadian Dance Teachers' Association (C.D.T.A.), Stage Division. She is currently studying to complete her "Freestyle" Associate teaching qualification with the B.A.T.D. (British Association of Teachers of Dance).

In 2006 Amy joined the professional dance performance troupe "FUNKtion" of which she is now the Assistant Artistic Director. Her choreography has won High Gold in a number of professional dance competitions including the B.A.T.D. Festival and Eastern Canadian Dance Championships in New Brunswick.

In July 2008, Miss Amy performed with FUNKtion in the 2008 Nova Scotia International Tattoo at the Metro Centre. This past November, she participated in professional workshops with internationally renowned teachers and choreographers, as part of the C.D.T.A. Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

As the Hip-Hop Choreographer and Co-Director for the Nova Dance Studio Competition Team, Amy has led her group of students to achieve numerous bronze, silver and gold medal placements at the Millennium dance competition, B.A.T.D. Festival and the Cheer Expo Nationals Dance Division in Halifax. Miss Amy is currently preparing her Junior and Senior Troupe students for the upcoming 2009 competition season which will take them to Sydney, N.S., for the "InStep With Cape Breton" competition.

Amy works in the Public School system as a sign language interpreter who facilitates communication between deaf and hearing individuals. She is simultaneously working on her Bachelor of Arts.

"Miss Amy" has been a core staff member of Nova Dance Studio for 8 years and brings her dynamic teaching style and award winning choreography to all of her Junior, Intermediate and Senior students.

## **AMY GILLEN**

---

### **Multi-Disciplinary Teacher**

"Miss Amy" Gillen hails from Sydney, Cape Breton, where she began dancing at the age of 3 years at the renowned MacDonald Dance Academy under the direction of Doris MacDonald. During her years as a student, Amy progressed through the grades of the N.A.T.D. syllabus (National Association of Teachers of Dancing), and went on to achieve her Associate (teaching) level with the N.A.T.D. in 1993. At that time she began teaching her own classes on the staff of M.D.A.

In 2000, when Doris retired, Amy became a full time faculty member and has been very active in directing their competition team to victory at many dance competitions over the course of her illustrious career. She currently teaches Ballet, Pointe, Tap, Jazz, Lyrical and Contemporary and will be directing the newly formed Nova Dance Studio Competitive Team in 2008-2009.

Amy is dedicated to staying on the cutting edge of the dance scene and travels as far as L.A. to train with celebrity teachers such as Shane Sparks, Blake MacGrath and Mandy Moore. She has also observed firsthand the teaching methods of Master Ballet teacher Robert "Ballet Bob" McCallum from the National Ballet of Canada.

Other teaching experiences have included off-ice training for the skaters of the Cape Breton Figure Skating Association and choreography for numerous events throughout the region.

Dance is Miss Amy's passion and she extends this love of the art form to the training and guidance of all of her students. We welcome "Miss Amy" to the staff of Nova Dance and look forward to another successful dance year.

## **JO-ANNE LAMBERT**

---

### **Multi-Disciplinary Teacher**

Miss Jo-Anne is in her third season with the staff of Nova Dance Studio. Her early training took place at a number of well recognized dance institutions including Counterpoint Dance Academy in Calgary, Balletmet in Columbus Ohio, the Canadian School of Ballet in Kelowna BC. and Studio to Stage Dance Academy in Kingston NS.

Jo-Anne is a graduate of the illustrious Teacher Training program of the Maritime Conservatory of Performing Arts (M.C.P.A.) in Halifax. She has been a fully qualified Member of the Canadian Dance Teachers' Association (C.D.T.A.) since 2007, and is qualified to teach the most advanced levels of the C.D.T.A. pre-professional and professional syllabus.

Miss Jo-Anne also holds her Advanced 1 Certificate in the Royal Academy of Dance (R.A.D.) syllabus and the Cecchetti method, making her eligible to teach in both of those styles. She also holds a B.A. from St. Mary's University, Halifax.

Her prolific performance career has included membership in the renowned "Russian Souvenir Group" since 2004, and roles in various M.C.P.A. Ballet Ensemble productions such as the 'King' in 'Alice the Ballet' in 2007 and 2008, and the 'Fairy Godmother' in 'Cinderella' in 2006 as well as various guest performances between 2005 and 2007. During her years at S.S.D.A. in Kingston, she took part in performances of "The Nutcracker" as 'Snow' and 'Waltz of the Flowers'.

Over the past several years, Miss Jo-Anne has choreographed for the M.C.P.A. Junior Ballet Ensemble, and has taught children's summer dance camps there as well as substitute teaching for their full-time Artistic Staff.

Miss Jo-Anne again brings her strong technical background and gentle approach to teaching our Junior School for the '09 season.

## **REBEKAH STREETER**

---

### **Multidisciplinary Teacher**

"Miss Rebekah" began her training in dance at an early age and has studied and taught at several renowned schools around the metro area. After intensive training at the Maritime Conservatory of Performing Arts, (M.C.P.A.) she completed her Senior Dance Diploma and Teaching Diploma, as well as Advanced One R.A.D. (Royal Academy of Dance). Rebekah has achieved her Member Ballet and Associate Jazz with the C.D.T.A. (Canadian Dance Teachers' Association), as well as her Kindermusic License. She also holds a Diploma in Costume Studies from Dalhousie University.

She has spent many years focusing on ballet technique but is currently more involved in teaching and performing Hip Hop, Jazz and Contemporary. Rebekah has most recently been seen performing with the M.C.P.A. Ballet Ensemble and at the 2008 Royal N.S. International Tattoo.

Rebekah also compliments her teaching schedule by taking class around the city and competing with the professional dance group FUNKtion who placed first in the professional category of the Eastern Canadian Dance Championships last Spring.

Rebekah works full time at a private Arts based Elementary school teaching Music, Art and Dance, and is the Jazz Chair Person of the C.D.T.A. Atlantic Branch. For the last several years, Rebekah has sat on the Board of Directors of Dance Nova Scotia, a government funded umbrella organization for all dance forms in the Province.

Rebekah has worked on the Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo since 2001 as a Seamstress, Dresser, Choreographer, Performer and since 2007 has held the position of Festival Coordinator for the Tattoo.

"Miss Rebekah" is a professional Fine Arts Educator who brings a vast array of talents to her third year of teaching at Nova Dance Studio.

## **EMMA COCHRANE**

---

### **Multi-Disciplinary Teacher**

“Miss Emma” began her training with Nova Dance Studio in 1997. During her 12 years with us she has studied Ballet, Pointe, Tap, Jazz, Hip-Hop, Lyrical, Modern Contemporary and Flamenco. As a student, she completed numerous levels of the C.D.T.A. Ballet and Tap syllabus having achieved a high standing in each exam that she completed.

Before joining our teaching staff, Miss Emma had previously taught dance for the Bridgewater Recreation Department in 2005 and 2006. She filled the position of Assistant Teacher with N.D.S. under the direction of the Co-Artistic Director during the 2006-2007 season. She was simultaneously acting as a substitute teacher for the Junior School and assisted in our summer programs for several years before taking on her own roster of classes in Fall 2007. She is currently a licensed member of S.O.C.A.N. through Dance Nova Scotia.

In 2007 and 2008 Emma was involved in the N.D.S. Senior group that took home several Silver Medals from the B.A.T.D. Festival in the Open Tap and Ballet categories. She is currently preparing for the 2009 competition season as an active member of the newly formed N.D.S. Senior Competition Team.

She currently teaches Ballet, Tap, Jazz and Hip-Hop, while continuing her advanced training with Senior teachers at Nova Dance Studio. Miss Emma also excels academically and is Vice President of the Student Council and International Baccalaureate Program at her school. She is well loved by her students and peers alike and her professionalism and gentle manner make her a popular teacher.

## **ZOE DAVIDSON**

---

### **Junior School Teacher**

“Miss Zoe” began the study of dance with “Miss Kim” at the former Chester Dance Studio in 1997. During the course of her training, she has completed a series of C.D.T.A Ballet and Tap exams, achieving a high standing in every one. In the years to follow, Zoe added Jazz, Modern, Flamenco, Hip-Hop, Character National, and Contemporary classes to her repertoire.

In 2001, she competed in the C.D.T.A. Atlantic Branch Ballet Festival, and placed with a Silver medal in her solo category. In 2005, her class won a silver medal in the Millennium Dance Competition for a Modern piece entitled “Deep Forest”. Over the past decade, Zoe has often performed in public demonstrations and dance recitals/showcases representing Nova Dance Studio.

At Age 13, Zoe spent the summer at the Royal Winnipeg Ballet Recreational Summer Camp. In subsequent years, she has spent her summers at the Maritime Conservatory of Performing Arts, studying Ballet Repertoire, Pas De Deux, Bournonville Technique and Lamone under such illustrious International teachers as Mary Jago, Kennet Oberly, and Tarah Butler. She has never missed the opportunity to participate in workshops with George Brown University, the National Ballet of Canada and other prestigious institutions.

Zoe has been a member of the Nova Dance Studio Hip-Hop Performance Troupe for the last 2 seasons and with them has participated with great success in the Dance category of the Cheer Expo Nationals held in Halifax in 2007 and 2008. She has also placed numerous times with Silver and Gold standings in the B.A.T.D. Festival of Dance in 2007 and 2008.

This past summer, Zoe auditioned and was accepted to the cast of the Nova Scotia International Tattoo as a member of their dance troupe. She is currently a member of the Senior Troupe of the Nova Dance Studio Competition Team and is preparing for the 2009 season. After training as a teaching assistant and substitute teacher for the last several years, “Miss Zoe” now joins the teaching staff of Nova Dance Studio’s Junior School in Ballet, Tap and Jazz.

## **SAMANTHA ROMKEY**

---

### **Junior School Teacher**

“Miss Samantha” Romkey joined the staff of the Nova Dance Junior School this term, teaching beginner ballet and creative movement. Over the last 2 terms she has substituted for a variety of classes at all 3 locations and has trained under “Miss Rebekah” as the assistant teacher for Hip-Hop classes, ages 6-Teen.

During her 4 years with Nova Dance Studio, “Miss Samantha” has studied Hip-Hop, Jazz, Ballet and Contemporary. She currently attends Ballet Technique classes at the renowned Maritime Conservatory for Performing Arts where she will be taking the intensive Teacher Certification Program in the Fall.

Samantha is a certified Fitness Instructor for students ages 4-18 years and has been active herself in Majorettes, Figure Skating, Gymnastics and Cheerleading, having choreographed routines for the Cheerleading team at her Senior High School.

Samantha has been a member of the N.D.S. Competition Team for the past 3 years, and will compete this year with the Senior division in the areas of Jazz, Hip-Hop, Contemporary, and Ballet in several Provincial and Regional events.

An avid student of dance, Samantha has participated in workshop classes with such prestigious teachers as Cedric, Hok and Dominic from “So You Think You Can Dance” and the faculty of George Brown University’s dance program, as well as having studied Hip-Hop and stunting at the ‘Cheer Expo Nationals’ held in Halifax.

She currently directs the Dance Club at Park View Education Centre where she is Coach and Teacher for Hip-Hop and Contemporary classes. In 2007, Samantha choreographed an award winning musical theatre performance for the Lunenburg Music Festival.

Always eager to promote dance in her community, Samantha has taught workshop classes in several local Elementary, Junior and Senior High Schools and participated in demonstrations at the Bridgewater Mall as well as local parades.

We welcome “Miss Samantha” to the teaching staff, knowing that she brings her love of dance and her skill with children to her popular classes.

## **ALEXANDER BARKHOUSE**

---

### **Boys Hip-Hop Teacher**

Alex joined the staff of Nova Dance this Fall when he took on the position of Boys’ Hip-Hop teacher. Alex has been a student of Nova Dance since 2007 but came to us already a seasoned performer and self taught dancer.

Alex can often be found spinning off Top 40’s at the local school dances as a popular D.J. He has a knack for getting the audience and/or crowd involved in his performance.

Among his many other talents is his love of poetry writing and he has a unique way of looking at life and having life look back at him. He is also an accomplished and acclaimed photographer with an impressive portfolio more suggestive of someone twice his age.

“I love photography...to capture moments and record them in history. I'm always equipped with some sort of digital device.”

This year as well as teaching the boys of Nova Dance Studio to find their own voice in movement, Alex is once again performing with the Senior Hip-Hop class under the direction of “Miss Amy” Burke. Alex brings a variety of gifts to his teaching and we welcome him to the staff of N.D.S. for the 2008-2009 season.