Boston University Part-Time Dance Faculty

Ann Brown Allen, Part-time Instructor of Pilates. Simmons College, BA Education and Psychology. For the past two decades, Ann has performed with all of Boston’s major modern and jazz dance companies, including Peter DiMuro and Associates, Back Porch Dancers, and Dance Collective of Boston, and has toured New England, New York, and Europe. She has also been a guest artist with several ballet companies.

Molly Baechtold, Part-time Instructor of Aerial Dance. University of New Hampshire. BA Studio Art with minors in dance and philosophy. In college, Molly studied static trapeze and silks intensively and performed with the UNH dance company for four years. Since graduating, she has performed professionally in musicals at several regional theatres, trained with Cirque Du Soleil’s Ivo Georgiev in New York City, and danced in Times Square for Cirque Du Soleil’s 25th anniversary celebration. She currently shares her love for aerial arts by performing at corporate events, galas, and special events with her trapeze partner, Erin Sullivan, in Airly Acrobatics. Molly is currently teaching circus arts at Trapeze School New York, and several other schools in the area.

Kate Bresee, Part-time Instructor of Children’s Pre-Ballet. Bennington College. Kate brings a wealth of experience from around the world. After graduating from Bennington College, she lived and worked in Europe for 20 years, as a professional modern dancer, choreographer and educator based in Oslo, Norway. Kate’s class encourages both structured group and individualized work, as well as creative projects for each student to explore and develop their own musicality, coordination and love of movement. She is also on the staff at Tony Williams Dance Center and deCordova Museum.

Jossie Coleman, Part-time Instructor of Cardio-Jazz Funk and Hip-Hop Dance. Coursework in Dance, Boston Conservatory of the Arts. She teaches children and adults in the Greater Boston area and has an annual performance in Roxbury. She is the Director of the Dance Program at the Creative Arts at Park, a summer program for children.

Eileen Herman-Haase, Part-time Instructor of Ballroom and Swing. MA Teachers College, Columbia University in Dance Education. Eileen is known for her gift as a gentle and patient teacher who can break down even the most complex concepts into simple and doable steps. As Co-Owner of Dance Caliente for more than 18 years she continues to bring Social Ballroom and Latin Dance to people of all ages through classes, workshops, performances and choreography. She is the recipient of numerous Massachusetts Cultural Council Grants for her work as a performer and choreographer, most notably ‘Dancing through the Decades with Dance Caliente’ (an interactive Ballroom show designed for senior audiences) and Dance Caliente’s Children’s Dance Workshop (teaching social Latin Dances to elementary school children through animal imagery). She has been lead teacher for Boston Celebrity Series, ‘Let’s Dance Boston’ on the Rose Kennedy Greenway, collaborates with the Boston Center for the Arts for themed Social Dance Parties, choreographed for Company one and presently Arlington Friends of the Drama, taught as Adjunct Prof. at Northeastern U., was the Artistic Director of Dance at the Dalton School in New York City, taught for many renowned studios in NYC as well as owned her own Dance Business called ‘One Step at a Time’ in NYC.

Paul T. Jackson, Part-time Instructor of Aerial Dance. University of Massachusetts, Amherst, BA Philosophy and Classics; Boston University, BS Biology with concentration in Biochemistry. Paul has taught aerial dance and circus arts for Simply Circus and at Boston University, Gravity Alternative Movement, Esh Circus Arts and C3. He’s currently enrolled in the Ongoing Training Professional Preparatory Program at Esh with a focus in Trapeze, Partner Acrobatics, and Juggling. He has performed Partner Acro and more recently trapeze at various venues in the Greater Boston area. He also has training in pole fitness.
Leclerc Jean-Louis, Part-time Instructor of Ballroom Dance. California Lutheran University, BS Business Management and Marketing, Boston University graduate student Arts Administration. Leclerc was a Ballroom Dance Adjunct Faculty at University of Utah in Salt Lake City, Utah. He is proficient at teaching many styles of Ballroom Dance including Latin Ballroom, American Smooth and Rhythm Ballroom, and Salsa. He taught Ballroom Dance at the Arthur Murray Dances in Los Angeles, studios in Miami, Florida and Salt Lake City, Utah for several years.

Judith Koeckhoven, Part-time Instructor of Ballet. Niagara University, BSN. Judith trained at The American Academy of Ballet, Buffalo, NY and The School of American Ballet, official school of the New York City Ballet. Judith was a recipient of a Ford Foundation Scholarship during her years of training with SAB. Judith founded and directed her school, Academy of Ballet Arts in Chelmsford, MA for over 20 years. She continues her legacy with teaching, consulting and coaching throughout New England. In addition to her successful Ballet career, Judith is an alumna of Niagara University with a BSN. She is currently a registered nurse at Buckingham Browne and Nichols in Cambridge, MA.

Lindsey Leduc, Part-time Instructor of Lyrical/Jazz and Modern Dance. Hofstra University, BA Dance and Community Health. Lindsey Leduc attended Chicago's Giordano Dance School and performed with Giordano Dance Chicago for seven years. She has performed works by renowned choreographers and taught master classes both nationally and internationally. While in Chicago, Lindsey taught for the Jazz Dance in Science and Health program in underserved Chicago Public Schools. She also served on master faculty for Jazz Dance World Congress and faculty at the Joffrey Academy of Dance. Lindsey tours with and offers a seminar called Nurturing Artistry which explores individual development of style, persona, confidence, and transcending performance through guided and improvised exercises. She also implements elements and philosophies from her own Yoga practice to her teaching approach and style. She teaches for Mass Motion and was recently guest choreographer for BoSoma Dance, a Boston-based contemporary company.

Olga Marchenko, Part-time instructor of Ballet. BA in Choreographic Art, Saratov, Russia; BA in History, Friends University in Wichita, KS; MS in International Affairs, Northeastern University. Olga is originally from Russia where she began her dancing education at the age of nine. After graduating from Saratov Ballet Academy at the top of her class, she joined her hometown ballet theater. Three years later, Olga moved to Moscow to join the Moscow City Ballet of Smirnov-Golovanov with which she toured the world for four years, performing as a corps-de-ballet and soloist dancer. Once in Boston, she continued dancing professionally and began her teaching career in 2008. Working with children and adults, Olga has been involved with staging and choreographing recitals during the past 10 years at different studios and in public school setting throughout the greater Boston area.

Jennifer Markham, Part-time Instructor of Ballet. BA in History and Political Science, Emmanuel College; M.S. in Arts Administration, Boston University. Jennifer trained in Western Massachusetts where she danced and toured with the Albany Berkshire Ballet. Since moving to the Boston area, Jennifer has performed with several companies including Boston Liturgical Dance Ensemble, Creation Dance, DanceVisions, Inc., and Dreamscape Collaborative. She is currently on faculty at Boston Ballet School, Deborah Mason Performing Arts Center, and MetroWest Ballet. Jennifer is an American Ballet Theatre Certified Teacher, who has successfully completed the ABT® Teacher Training Intensive in Pre-Primary through Level 7 & Partnering of the ABT® National Training Curriculum.

Christine McDowell, Part-time Instructor of Ballet. BA in History from Boston University; Master's of Fine Arts in Performance and Choreography from New York University. During her time at BU, Christine choreographed and performed with the student-run organization, Dance Theater Group, performed with Tony Williams and Margot Parsons, and worked for a season with Boston Ballet School. Immediately following her undergraduate
years, Christine attended Tisch School of the Arts where she studied with Deborah Jowitt, Phyllis Lamhut, Sean Curran, and Cherylyn Lavagnino. She performed choreography by Mark Morris and Alex Ketley and served as the Dance History graduate assistant under the guidance of Patricia Beaman. After graduating, Christine was delighted return to her childhood studio, The Mill Ballet School, to teach ballet, contemporary, and pointe, and choreograph for the trainee level students. Before returning to Boston, Christine took a detour to work in commercial real estate as an analyst for CBRE in New Jersey.

Raul Nieves, Part-time Instructor of Social Ballroom Dance. BS, University of Connecticut School of Engineering. With over 30 years of professional dance experience, Raul possesses a contagious energy and a profound ability to invent new and unique strategies to help students understand dance movement concepts. He developed his playful Oonka Ah! dance teaching method, and is well known in the Boston area for his unique style of dancing and teaching. Raul's formal dance background dates back to the 1980's when he competed as a professional ballroom dancer in American Latin Ballroom and Theater Arts. Raul studied Jazz and Balllet in Boston, Creative Dance, Brain Compatible Dance Education and Bartenief Technique in Seattle, WA. Raul taught Salsa dance at the venue called Temporada Latina at Ryles Jazz Club in Cambridge MA, for 14 and half years, which was then longest continuous Salsa Night Latin dance venue in Boston. In Argentine Tango, he was among one of the first members of the Boston Tango Dance Society, studying with visiting Tango masters and performing. As business and dance partner of Dance Caliente, he's conducted classes with Eileen Herman-Haase, dance and business partner, in Argentine tango, Salsa, Swing, and Ballroom for over 20 years. They've created and organized programs such as “Dancing through the Decades with Dance Caliente” for senior population, and “Dance Caliente's Latin Dance Workshops” for children in grades K to 3. Raul teaches Zumba, Mat and Standing Pilates as part time staff at the Boston Sports Club. Raul retired after 32 Years of Federal Service, as a computer and financial specialist.

Marin Orlosky-Randow, Part-time instructor of Aerial Silks and Pilates-Based Conditioning. Harvard University, BA in English and a Secondary Field in Dramatic Arts. Marin's dance training includes the Joffrey Ballet School, The Ailey School, Trapeze School New York, and New York Circus Arts Academy. At Harvard, she performed with and choreographed for the OFA Dance Program, student dance companies, and numerous dance-theater productions. She has performed, choreographed, and taught aerial silks, partner acrobatics, and contortion since 2006. She has taught for Cambridge Rindge & Latin School, the Beethezer Group (Nairobi, Kenya), Berklee College of Music, American College Dance Festival (ACDFA), and Harvard University. She currently teaches aerial silks and Pilates at Boston University and modern dance at the A.R.T./MXAT Institute for Advanced Theater Training, and is an aerial dance consultant for Yale University's Theater Department. She has performed with DanceVisions since 2011.

Maite Paillet, Part-time instructor of Pilates Apparatus, Intermediate. Northeastern University, BSBA. Suffolk University, Performing Arts. In addition to holding a Balanced Body University Certification, Maite holds the PMA Pilates Teacher Certification, the highest level of Pilates certification available in the US. Her interest in cognitive integration and functioning of our mental, emotional, and behavioral abilities led her to completing a certification in CBT at BU and the Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction teacher training at UMass Medical School Center for Mindfulness to become a fully qualified MBSR Teacher. She teaches Pilates on the mat and all apparatus, Barre, and Mindfulness to people from all walks of life in private and workshop settings for individuals and corporations.

Margot Parsons, Part-time Instructor of Ballet. BS in Dance, University of Wisconsin, Madison; MA with honors in Dance, University of Utah. Margot trained in Chicago and New York City, was invited to dance with Ballet Theater, Agnes de Mille, and Pearl Lang, and performed in New York with the Ballet Ensemble of New York, Yuriko, in the City Center Production of “The King and I,” and in Boston with Ken Pierce Baroque Dance Company and the Boston Liturgical Dance Ensemble. She teaches ballet at Boston University, Boston College, The Dance Complex, taught for thirteen years at Harvard University, and is a substitute teacher in many schools including Boston Ballet, Ballet Theatre of Boston, and New England Movement Arts. In addition to choreographing for her own company,
Anne Marie Paul, Part-time Instructor of Ballroom Dance, owner and Co-Director of DanceSport Boston in Weymouth, MA. Anne Marie was the Founding Coach of the BU Ballroom Dance Club. Education: Earned a BFA in Fashion Design from Massachusetts College of Art. Additional Study: Paris American Academy (Paris), Vesper George School of Art (Boston).

DeAnna Pellecchia, Part-time Instructor of Jazz, Modern, and Aerial Dance. BA in Dance/Performance with a dual minor in Business Management & Latin from Roger Williams University, 1999. DeAnna is a professional dancer, choreographer, aerialist and arts educator who works collaboratively with visual artists, musicians, composers, and costume and set designers to create emotionally powerful performance experiences that take audience and performers on a visceral journey. Over the past 15 years, she has established herself as one of the Commonwealth's most prominent dance-makers, creating and performing over a hundred critically acclaimed dance works which have toured locally, nationally and internationally. DeAnna has collaborated with Grammy-nominated musician Dave Eggar, NYC music-icon, composer Johnny Reinhard, award-winning choreographer Ann Carlson, legendary choreographer Elaine Summers, and internationally acclaimed visual artist Shinique Smith. As Co-Artistic Director of KAIROS Dance Theater, her work has been presented by Charles Playhouse / Broadway Across America, The Institute of Contemporary Art Boston, Boston Convention & Exhibition Center and The Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy, among others. She has been part of the dance faculty at Boston University since 2002 and teaches at Boston Ballet.

Rachel Prabhakar, Part-time Instructor of Pilates. BA in Government and Near Eastern Studies, Cornell University, MA in History, University of Chicago. Rachel discovered Pilates while struggling with a repetitive stress injury developed during hours spent hunched over the computer, working as a software engineer. She quickly found Pilates to be beneficial in helping her recover from her injury, and loved the way that she floated out of class, feeling two inches taller. Rachel trained in Australia, receiving her Pilates certification through the Australian Pilates Method Association (APMA), and then undertaking a further 6 months of advanced instructor training at the renowned Melbourne studio Balance & Control. Rachel is also a certified teacher of the Alexander Technique, graduating in 2013 from the 3 year teacher training program at the Alexander Technique Training Center at Cambridge.

Kelly Redmond, Part-time Instructor of Aerial Dance. BS in Dietetics focusing in Microbiology and Health Sciences, University of Cincinnati; MS in Health Promotion and Education focusing in Infectious Diseases and Oncology, University of Cincinnati. Kelly is an Aerial Instructor at Commonwealth Circus Center and Clinical Oncology Researcher at ECOG-ACRIN. Her background is in cheerleading/gymnastics, track/marathon training, aerial dance and fitness. She has performed and instructed aerial silks, lyra hoop, static trapeze and fitness for people of all ages, backgrounds, and fitness levels including at Cincinnati Circus Company. She moved to Boston in April 2017 for a position in clinical oncology research and continues to instruct aerial dance and fitness in the city of Boston.

Ann Roe, Part-time Instructor of Ballet. University of Pennsylvania, B.A. English Literature. Marshall-Wythe School of Law, College of William and Mary, J. D. Performed with the Washington Ballet. Her early training was with the School of American Ballet and the Finis Jhung Ballet in New York. She returned to ballet after years as a lawyer and now teaches at the Cambridge School of Weston and Boston Sports Club.

Liz Roncka, Part-time Instructor of Movement Improvisation and Pole Dance Circuit. Boston University, BS Health Sciences and MS Physical Therapy. Liz teaches improvisation at Green Street Studios and has been a guest teacher at Bridgewater State College, Boston College, Boston University and Canaldanse in Paris. She has performed original work at venues including the Dance Theatre Workshop, Center for Performance Research, Five Myles, and Spoke the
Hub in New York City, Canaldanse and Galerie G in Paris, the Ludwig Museum and MU Szinhaz in Budapest, and the Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston University, the Boston Center for the Arts, and the New England Conservatory in Boston. Liz has been teaching Pilates in the Brookline area since 2003. She is certified to teach Mat, Reformer, Cadillac, Chair and Barrel. Liz has had the opportunity to teach Pilates in a variety of settings from private studios to universities to physical therapy clinics. In 2007, Liz opened her own studio Axis Pilates, LLC.

Shaina Schwartz, Part-time instructor of Tap. Shaina Schwartz has been performing and teaching throughout New England for over 10 years. An attendee of the Boston Youth Moves program at Jeannette Neill Dance Studio, she went on to study music and theater at the Hartt School of Music in Hartford, CT. A former resident artist at the award-winning children's theater, The Peacock Players, and dance captain/co-choreographer with the Boston Tap Company, and tap instructor at several Greater Boston area studios. She is the Artistic Director of the New England based educational dance company, Touche Taps, which focuses on comprehensive music, dance and composition training, working with dancers, ages 7 to 65+.

Ronnie Terrell Thomas, Instructor of Aerial Dance. Ronnie is the Founder /Artistic Director / and Choreographer of Mystique Illusions Dance Theatre. He was a student at the Boston Arts Academy and by age 18 had performed with such companies as Jose Mateo Ballet Theater, The Hybrid Movement Company, Quixotic Fusion Performance Ensemble, and Anna Myer & Dancers. As an aerialist Ronnie has performed with the Hybrid Movement Company, Vance Garrett Productions and Rudy Benda Productions. He also has performed breakdance with the NYC Tranzformerz Breakdance Crew and has choreographed and collaborated on dance, aerial and body2body works with the Hybrid Movement Company since 2009. After 5 years of working in the United States, he was invited to work in Europe with Teatrul De Balet Sibiu, Romania. In 2015, Ronnie returned to the United States and formed his own contemporary dance company, Mystique Illusions DanceTheatre.

Brian Washburn, Part-time Instructor of Hip-hop and Afro-Fusion. Brian is a former Reach apprentice and college intern, and he has been dancing since the age of seven. He graduated from Northwest School of the Arts in 2011 where he studied ballet, modern, and jazz to broaden his dance repertoire. He now teaches dance throughout Boston at multiple studios, such as Tony Williams Dance Center and Urbanity Dance. He has also been an active member in dance companies such as Boston Urban Ballet, UrManity, and Jo-Me’ Dance. Brian continues to dance while pursuing a career in entrepreneurship.

Jon Wells, Instructor of Aerial Dance. BA in Theater, University of New Hampshire. Jon is founder, co-owner and head coach for Revolution Flying Trapeze School. He began studying aerial circus arts in 2002 at University of New Hampshire; by 2003 he was helping structure the program and teaching underclassmen. After graduating with a BA in theater in 2006 he moved to Vermont where he discovered flying trapeze and began training as a catcher and flying instructor. Jon has taught flying trapeze at the New England Center for Circus Arts, Trapeze School of New York and I.Fly Trapeze.