Boston University Part-Time Dance Faculty



Ann Brown Allen, Part-time Instructor of Pilates. Simmons College, BA Education and Psychology. For the past four decades, Ann has performed with all of Boston's major modern and jazz dance companies, including Peter Di Muro's Public Displays of Motion, 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.



Jossie Coleman, Part-time instructor of cardio jazz funk, hip hop, Afro-fusion, and Heels Dance. Course work at Boston Conservatory and the Alvin Ailey Summer Intensive Program. Jossie has been teaching at BU since 1998. Her love for dance, music and theater began at age 6 while attending the Elma Lewis School of Performing Arts. In 1992, Jossie founded and developed a dance program for children at the St. Joseph's School of Roxbury where she taught tap, ballet, jazz, Afro Caribbean and hip hop. She volunteers at her church teaching Liturgical Dance to the youth in the dance ministry program. She was a performing member in companies

such as Roots Up Rising Modern Dance Company, 4 Women and Friends Modern Dance Company, ANU Hip Hop Dance Team, Rhythm Reggae Dance Company, Ebony Inspiration and The Patric LaCroix Folklore Dance Company. Jossie has danced and choreographed for various recording artists including Warner Brothers and worked with several Hip Hop and Pop artists including MC Lyte, Queen Latifah, Marky Mark and New Kids on The Block; she has choreographed for jazz and hip hop music videos and film including the Movie Turntable. Jossie has taught at many schools and universities including Harvard University and Mount Holyoke College. Passionate about fitness, she is a former certified AAFA aerobic & Fitness trainer. For 27 years, Jossie was the Dance Department Head and teacher at Creative Arts at Park in Brookline. Her Motto is "The Feet May Learn The Steps, But Only the Spirit Can Dance."



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.



Sybil Huggins, Part-time instructor of Tap. *B.S. in Interdisciplinary Studies from Boston University.* Sybil is a Roxbury native, and an accomplished tap dancer with extensive experience in the greater Boston area having trained at the Leon Collins' studio, Jacob's Pillow Tap Program, and Jeannette Neill Dance Studio. She continues her study with the legendary dame of tap, Diane Walker. Sybil has worked with BalletRox since 2006 as performer, teacher, administrator, coach, and mentor. She brings her many years of teaching experience into her role as School Programs Liaison where she provides direct support to students and their families, as well as interacting with classroom teachers, school faculty, and staff. She has been a tap instructor at The School of Classical Ballet since 2016. She has performed with

Boston Tap Company, was part of a tap duo with Jai Underhill, and been a guest performer with the Cambridge Community Chorus.



Melodie Jeffery-Cassell is on faculty at Boston University's School of Theatre, School of Music (Opera), and Dance Department, as well as the Boston Ballet School. Former faculty member at Walnut Hill School for the Arts, Concord Academy Summer Stages, Mark Morris Dance Center, Peridance International Dance Center, The Brearley School, 92nd Street Y, and guest teacher at Boston College. In her continued efforts to make movement practice accessible to all, Melodie also teaches underserved youth at BalletRox as well as adults with Down Syndrome for Jewish Big Brothers Big Sisters & Boston Ballet School's Adaptive Dance Program. Melodie performed and trained extensively in New York City, the San Francisco Bay Area, as well as internationally at the Edinburgh International Fringe Festival. *Training*: (NYC) Dance New Amsterdam/Dance Space Center, Merce Cunningham Studio, The Taylor

School, Steps on Broadway, Broadway Dance Center. (SF) Oberlin Dance Collective, Shawl-Anderson Dance Center. *Performance:* Dandelion Dance Theater, Nina Haft and Dancers, Randee Paufve, Pascal Rekoert, Bernier Dance, YC Movement Theater, BalletRox/Tony Williams' Urban Nutcracker, and in the Off-Broadway original production *Moonlight Interior*. Melodie served as rehearsal director and assistant choreographer for YC Movement Theater, Commonwealth Shakespeare Company, and the Nantucket Dreamland Theater. Melodie is a former member of the National Dance Education Organization and is an annual presenter at Boston Ballet's Adaptive Dance Teacher Training Program. She has a minor in Women's Studies and has specified interest in the pioneers of Modern dance and site-specific work.



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, CreationDance, DanceVisions, Inc., and Dreamscape Collaborative. She is currently on faculty at Boston Ballet School, Deborah Mason Performing Arts Center, and the Community Dance Academy at Walnut HIII School for the Arts. 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 undergraduate years in Boston, Christine choreographed and performed with BU's Dance Theater Group, performed with Tony Williams and Margot Parsons, and worked for a season with Boston Ballet School. While at Tisch, Christine studied under Deborah Jowitt, Phyllis Lamhut, and worked with Patricia Beaman as the Dance History graduate assistant. She choreographed group and solo pieces and performed in works by Mark Morris and Alex Ketley. She was also an instructor with the dance education outreach program, Dancers and DanceMakers and after graduation, returned to the Mill Ballet School to teach ballet and pointe and to choreograph for the trainee students. Currently, Christine manages

global corporate events for an application development software company headquartered in Boston.



Erin McNulty Part-time Instructor of Modern/Contemporary. B.S., Magna Cum Laude, Boston University; and Postgraduate Diploma, with Distinction, in Community Dance from Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music & Dance in London. Erin is a contemporary dance artist and educator, working with text-based and improvisational processes. She currently dances with Natalie Johnson Dance and is a former principal with Kairos Dance Theater; and has performed in projects with Eliza Malecki Dance, Rachel Linsky, Zoe Dance Company, Kelley Donovan & Dancers, and Paula Josa Jones. Erin has choreographed and directed her own

research-driven creations for stage and film, including solo works and collaborations with dance artist Suzannah Dessau, rock band HOWL!, musician Josh Knowles, and filmmaker/photographer Christopher Di Nunzio. Her most recent dance film *Floodstream* (2020) has been screened by Cross Move Lab (NY), Smush Gallery (NJ), Shawna Shea Film Festival (MA), Prague International Monthly Film Festival (Czech Rep.), and Artists for Hope Dance Film Festival (TX). Recent training includes the Gaga Summer Intensive at Mark Morris Dance Center, as well as workshops and courses through Dance Education Lab and National Dance Education Organization. Erin is currently a Lead Teaching Artist & Instructional Coach with Boston Ballet's Education & Community Initiatives, dance faculty at Wilmington Dance Academy, and guest teacher with Artistree Community Arts in Vermont.)



<u>Wendy O'Byrne</u>, *Instructor of Jazz*. Wendy began her training with the Robertson's School of Classical Ballet (Seacoast Ballet Company) under the direction of Colleen and Larry Robertson. After ten years of exclusively studying ballet, Wendy's interests shifted to musical theatre. She worked for Seacoast Repertory Theatre, the Palace Theatre, Ogunquit Playhouse, North Shore Music Theatre and several other regional theatre companies. In 2007, Wendy moved to Boston to continue her dance training when she became a member of MAVI Dance and Unyted Stylz. Wendy was also the former Assistant Director to former

hip hop company, StreetHYpE. In 2010, Wendy founded Contemporarily Out of Order (COOco), a contemporary company aimed to create performance opportunities for children and adults under a professional setting. Wendy is currently the director at Rise Dance Studio, a faculty member at the Greater Boston School of Dance and Mass Motion Dance. In addition to her studio commitments, Wendy is an instructor at Boston University's Summer REACH program.



Margot Parsons, Part-time Instructor of Ballet. BS in Dance, University of Wisconsin, Madison; MA with honors in Dance, University of Utah. Artistic Director of DanceVisions, Inc. Margot trained in Chicago and New York City, where she was invited to dance with Agnes de Mille and Pearl Lang. She performed in New York with the Ballet Ensemble of New York under the direction of Maggie Black, with Yuriko, and in the City Center Production of "The King and I." She has set her choreography on Boston Ballet II, BalletNY, Across the Ages Dance, Harvard Ballet Company, and BU students. She teaches ballet at Boston University, Boston College, taught at The Dance Complex for 27 years and at Harvard University for 13 years, and is a substitute teacher at Boston

Ballet and at Jose Mateo Ballet Theatre. In 2018 she was honored as a Living Legacy at The Dance Complex in Cambridge, in 2020 she received the Boston Dance Alliance's Dr. Michael Shannon Dance Champion Award, and in 2021 was honored by BU Dance Theatre Group. www.dancevisions.net



Anne Marie Paul, Part-time Instructor of Ballroom Dance. BFA in Fashion Design - Massachusetts College of Art; Paris American Academy (Paris); Vesper George School of Art (Boston). Anne Marie is the owner and Co-Director of DanceSport Boston in Weymouth, MA. She has been teaching Ballroom Dance since 1984. Starting out as a dance student while studying art and fashion, she was presented the "Outstanding Creative Achievement Award" for her dance-inspired fashion collection shown at the Museum of Fine Arts. Turning professional, she competed for seven years in the American Style Smooth and Rhythm Divisions. She has been a Pro-Am partner and choreographer for her students in showcases and competitions. She has choreographed for TV commercials such as The Boston Flower Show, taught

celebrities to dance, and performed at numerous fundraisers on the South Shore. She managed dance studios in both the Fred Astaire and Arthur Murray Franchises. She was the Arthur Murray Franchises' top producing executive/teacher in the world (26 countries) for three consecutive years. As the founding Coach of the BU Ballroom Dance Club, she coached the club for seven years, also judging many collegiate level competitions. She has been a guest instructor at Harvard Medical School, MIT, Boston College and Boston Conservatory. Anne Marie continues to enjoy helping people to transform their lives through dance.



DeAnna Pellecchia, Part-time Instructor of Jazz, Modern, and Aerial Dance. BA in Dance/Performance with dual minor in Business Management & Latin from Roger Williams University. DeAnna is an artist, dancer, choreographer, aerialist, mentor, and educator. Over the past 20 years she has taught and toured throughout India, Russia, France, and the US; danced with horses, in trees, on stilts, underwater and through air; and been featured in operas, plays, fashion shows, dance films, rodeos, books, movies, magazines, and music videos. As Executive Artistic Director of KAIROS Dance Theater, DeAnna collaborates with visual artists, musicians, composers, and fashion and set designers to craft immersive, multi-sensory

performances. Her work has been funded by the New England Foundation for the Arts, Boston Dance Alliance, Boston Foundation, Boston Center for the Arts, Boston Cultural Council, Somerville Arts Council; received a "Critic's Pick" 18 times by The Boston Globe; and presented at venues including Charles Playhouse / Broadway Across America, Institute of Contemporary Art Boston, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Jazz at Lincoln Center (NYC), Compass Theater (Moscow), Busan Biennale (Korea), ZOU Arts Festival (France), among others. DeAnna has performed with Paula Josa-Jones/Performance Works, Kinodance Company, Bennett Dance Company, Nicola Hawkins Dance Company, Anna Myer & Dancers, and Anikaya Dance Theater. She has taught at Boston Conservatory, Massachusetts College of Art, Dean College, Salem State University, Mount Holyoke College, and Boston Ballet. www.deannapellecchia.com | www.kairosdancetheater.org



Amane Takaishi, Part-time Instructor of Pilates. BA with Honors in Professional Dance and Performance Studies, Kent University, UK. Amane is a professional ballet dancer with City Ballet of Boston and a Pilates instructor of Boston Body Pilates. She started Pilates as a part of her ballet training: Elmhurst School of Dance in association with Birmingham Royal Ballet and Central School of Ballet in U.K.. Amane continued Pilates training while she danced with professional companies: Eugene Ballet in Oregon, Ballet Tucson in Arizona, A&A ballet in Chicago. In Boston area, she has worked with many choreographers such as Margot Parsons and Gianni Di Marco. In 2016, Amane enrolled in the instructor-training program offered by Balanced Body. She is comprehensively certified to teach Mat, Reformer, Cadillac, Chair, Barrel and Barre.



Mcebisi Xotyeni of Cape Town, South Africa, is a professional dancer, teacher, and choreographer. He began dancing with the outreach program Dance For All, where he trained extensively in ballet, African, contemporary, and hip hop. He was awarded a full scholarship with Dance For All and eventually began working for the professional dance company iKapa Dance Theatre. He has also worked with leading companies in South Africa such as Cape Town City Ballet, Suede Productions, and Sibonelo Dance Project. He has performed for numerous festivals and has collaborated with international artists for performances and outreach projects. In addition to JAE, Mcebisi co-owns Izizwe Dance Studio in Lawrence Massachusetts with his wife where he teaches, choreographs, and performs. Mcebisi shares his extensive knowledge of African Dance, Modern, Contemporary, and Hip Hop as a teacher for Boston University and The Community Music Center of Boston as an outreach teacher for Boston Public Schools.