

DMP Judges and Teachers



Kathy Meyer spent 17 years as a professional dancer, performing in New York City, across the U.S., and in Europe. A proud member of Actor's Equity and SSDC, she appeared in notable productions such as West Side Story, 42nd Street, and Me and My Gal. Now based in Cincinnati, Ohio, Kathy has spent the last 17 years teaching alongside her sister, Dawn Meyer Slemons, at Just Off Broadway. Together, they have guided many students to professional dance careers, including current Rockettes and a former Billy Elliot on Broadway. Over the past 14 years, Kathy and Dawn's students have won numerous national titles. Kathy is excited to continue sharing her passion and helping shape the next generation of dancers.



Joe Nickel has been a dedicated professional in the entertainment and dance industry since 2005, working as a dancer, educator, and choreographer. His performance career includes work with renowned companies such as Paramount's Kings Island, Nickelodeon, Busch Gardens, Norwegian Cruise Lines, CD Entertainment in Shanghai, Disney, ABC Family (in Lovestruck: The Musical), and Netflix (in Archive 81). Joe has also choreographed for a wide range of organizations, including Norwegian Cruise Lines, American Eagle Outfitters, UPMC, Nemacolin Woodlands Resort, and Value City Furniture.

As an educator, Joe is privileged to work with dancers of all ages at various studios and dance programs across the country. He serves as an Adjunct Professor at Seton Hill University, where he helped launch and co-direct the "Commercial Dance Experience," the university's summer dance intensive. Beyond his teaching, Joe is the co-host of Joe and Michelle's Dance Podcast and the Founder & Creative Director of Thrive Dance Experience. He is passionate about mentoring young performers, encouraging them to use dance as a powerful tool for self-expression and purpose.



Elizabeth Lemberger Elizabeth Lemberger has been immersed in the dance world for over 30 years, starting her training at Alyce Porter Dancers and continuing at South Bay Dance Center under Kit Ashleigh-Dean. Specializing in tap, Elizabeth's experience spans performing, directing, choreographing, costume and graphic design, music and video editing, and stage managing. A member of Dance Masters of California, Chapter 13, Elizabeth serves on their board as Secretary and DMA Delegate. She holds DMA certifications in tap, ballet, jazz, and acrobatics, and is also Module One certified with Acrobatic Arts. Elizabeth has coached students to top honors, including 1st runners-up in Dance of America competitions. She currently teaches at Bay Area Dance School in Los Altos, CA, and designs custom dance costumes for local studios.