

2026 INVITATIONAL JUDGES

(Additional bio's will be posted as they are confirmed)



MIRANDA CALHOUN has been the Spirit Coordinator and Head Dance Team Coach at Mount St. Joseph University for 4 years. She graduated from West Virginia University in 2020 with a Masters of Science Degree in Sports Management. Miranda is also a 2015 graduate from the University of Missouri with a Masters of Education, School, and Counseling, Sports Psychology degree along with a Bachelors of Science Degree in Dance Education from 2012. She was the Head Dance Team Coach at Bowling Green State University from 2012-2022. Miranda comes to the Mount with a decade of high level experience in dance leadership, spirit program management, and collegiate athletics. She is also going into her 14th year being a certified judge for Universal Dance Association (UDA).

Miranda is currently working on her Doctor of Educational Leadership Degree from Youngstown State University and is the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference (HCAC) DEI Representative for Mount St Joseph University.



ANNA HILTY is a choreographer and dance educator known for her creativity, electric energy, and deep passion for the dance team world. Originally from Eastern Washington, Anna grew up training in ballet and all-star dance, performing with Mid-Columbia Ballet and Eastern Washington Elite. From a young age, she trained under industry legends like Karl Mundt and Tabitha & Napoleon D'umo, and spent her summers training in LA at Millennium Dance Complex.

She went on to dance for the University of Cincinnati from 2009–2013, where she was a part of representing Team USA three times on the international stage. During her time in college, she dove headfirst into choreography and has spent the last 20+ years working with dancers at every level, from high school to collegiate to all-star and pro.

Her choreography and consulting has been featured on some of the most elite dance team stages in the country, with programs like the University of Minnesota Pom, Boise State University TEAM USA, Team Austria, The Ohio State University, Washington State University, LSU and Rutgers. She also works with powerhouse high school and all-star programs like Seton, Highland, Linn-Mar, Chartiers Valley, The Academy of Holy Angels, AZ Aces and Dance Dynamics All Stars.

Whether she's crafting sharp visuals, developing team identity, or building powerful musical moments, Anna brings a signature mix of style, intention, and heart to everything she touches. Her choreography is known for being bold, and meaningful, and her goal is always to help dancers feel confident, inspired, and proud of the work they put on the floor.

She is currently the Assistant Dance Team Coach at Boise State University. When she's not coaching, choreographing, consulting, or traveling, Anna is most proud to be a wife and mom to her husband Hayden and their two boys, Asher and Haze. At home, you'll usually find her teaching, in the kitchen cooking with music turned all the way up, or trying to keep up with the never-ending task of cleaning up after little feet.



HEATHER HOLLIDAY is a resident of London, KY. She began her dance career at 8 years old and started teaching and doing choreography at age 14. Heather has trained in all areas of dance including classical ballet, lyrical, jazz, modern, tap, hip hop and contemporary.

Heather began her training at the Gail Fredrick School of Dance in Corbin KY. She spent the summer of 1988 at the Enid Knapp Botsford School of Dance where she got to train under the supervision of Mikhail Baryshnikov. Heather competed in the regional and national Stars of Tomorrow competition where she placed 2nd in the nation at age 14 in ballet solo. Heather joined the London School of Dance in 1990 where she trained under amazing instructors including Jan Hurst, Jennique Wolfe and Linda Miller Hathaway. At age 16 she was recruited by a talent scout and invited to Dance at the 1994 Opening Ceremonies of the Goodwill Games held in St. Petersburg, Russia. One of Heather's favorite accolades was in 1992 when she was 1 of 16 dancers selected out of the state of Kentucky to attend The Kentucky Governor's School for the Arts in the form of dance. Heather began to travel all over the country to study

with instructors such as Gus Giordano and Luigi. In 1995-96, Heather played the roles in traveling productions of Fame and Grease. Heather began dancing with the Lexington Ballet in 1996-1998.

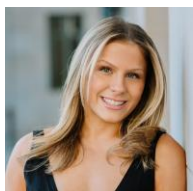
In 1999 Heather began teaching and choreographing full time. She retired from her studio in 2019 with 14 National Titles, 3 World Titles, and 1 Summit World Title. She is a credentialed judge for the Universal Dance Association, National Dance Association, Varsity All Star, and is honored to be a veteran judge for The National and World Competitions for UDA.



MELISSA KIDD is the owner of Dance Technician - a private strength training facility for dancers rooted in Pilates. With a global reach, she trains dancers both in person and virtually across 10+ countries, focusing on technique, strength, flexibility and injury prevention.

A former competitive studio owner of 10 years, she brings deep expertise in educating dancers from early childhood through high school. Certified in Pilates, aerial yoga, early childhood dance education, and injury prevention; Melissa blends artistry, education and movement science.

She is a seasoned adjudicator and national dance team consultant having worked with over 50 high school and collegiate teams nationwide. She has served as a USASF legality official and judge for over 7 years and has judged events such as NDA/UDA High School Nationals, College Nationals, many regional all-star and school dance events across the country, and has been nominated and been a part of The Dance Worlds as a Legality Official and on the Contemporary/Lyrical panel since 2016.



TARYN PFEIFENBERGER grew up in Shelby Township, Michigan, where she danced both competitively and as an All-Star dancer. She achieved nine world championships at the USASF World Championship, along with multiple national titles. In high school, Taryn was a four-year member of the Eisenhower Varsity Dance Team and served as captain her senior year. During her tenure, the team secured six national championships, and in 2018, she represented the U.S. National Team in both Jazz and Hip Hop.

Recently, Taryn completed her fourth season with the University of Minnesota Dance Team, earning four national championships in D1A Pom and Jazz. This year, she again represented the U.S. National Team in both Pom and Jazz, winning gold for Pom and silver for Jazz.

She also choreographs for teams nationwide, with her work earning top placements at the national level. Dedicated to inspiring the next generation of dancers, Taryn travels nationwide to coach, choreograph, and share her passion for the sport.

LAUREN BYRD SALGADO – Bio coming soon!



BRANDI TUCKER grew up in Central IL dancing with Art In Motion Dance Studio on the competitive team. She spent her weekends traveling to conventions and workshops all across the Midwest. Once she graduated high school, she went to Louisiana State University where she was a member of the LSU Tiger Girls Dance Team.

After graduating from LSU with a degree in Physical Therapy, she started traveling across the world teaching and choreographing for studios and dance teams. She has since formed her own choreography company called BTUCK Choreography, LLC where she and a team of choreographers work with studios, high school, college and all-star dance teams.

Since the beginning of her choreography career, she has taken home 23 National Championship titles, 5 NDA Innovative Choreography Awards, and 2 DTU Battle Cups. Her choreography has won numerous overalls and special awards throughout the years. She has a passion for teaching and loves nothing more than sharing that love for dance with the next generation.