

Lori Struss Weatherly

Dance Educator, Fitness Instructor, & Teacher

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- ✓ Dynamic dance & fitness instructor with over 30 years' experience
 - ✓ Specializes in dance choreography, education, & teaching
 - ✓ Teaches all ages & experience levels: preschool to HS, CTE, & college
 - ✓ Dance, yoga, aerobics/cardio, Zumba, Pilates, phys. ed., & math
 - ✓ Director of 50+ performances, both musical theatre & dance
- Education & Instruction
 - Talent Development & Management
 - Staging, Choreography, & Direction
 - Collaborator & Team Leader
 - Dance Educators of America (DEA) Certified: Ballet, Jazz, Tap, Modern, Musical Theatre, & more

TEACHING & LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER – multiple subjects & all ages | [Fairfax Public Schools, Fairfax, VA](#) | 2021 – present

DANCE INSTRUCTOR – Advanced Ballet, Pointe, Modern | [District Dance Company, Gaithersburg, MD](#) | 2021 – present

DANCE INSTRUCTOR – Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Modern | [Divine Dance Institute, Upper Marlboro, MD](#) | 2021 – present

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER – Dance (all styles) & Continuing Technical Education/CTE (home economics) | [Mt. Vernon High School, Alexandria, VA](#) | 2021 – present

DANCE INSTRUCTOR – Multiple disciplines | [Tiny Dancers, Fairfax & Alexandria, VA, & online](#) | 2020 – present

FOUNDER, DIRECTOR, & INSTRUCTOR | [Genesis Arts, Columbia, MD](#) | 1995 – 2021

Founded, scaled, and led highly successful private dance studio delivering dance education in a variety of styles to wide range of learners, from beginner to pre-professional. Created curriculum across all dance styles, then prepared schedules ensuring instruction delivery according to best practices. Recruited and supervised dance teachers delivering multiple classes per week. Brought in world-renowned guest lecturers and performers. Led all marketing and advertising initiatives.

- Balanced priorities to lead 5 children's dance companies and teach 40+ hours of class weekly, from 2-year-olds to pre-professionals and adults (ballet, pointe, jazz, tap, modern, musical theatre, acrobatics, and hip hop).
- Delivered world-class instruction that led to students being selected for prestigious opportunities, including the Los Angeles tour of *The Lion King*, the Baltimore School for the Arts, Rockettes Summer Intensives, and many others.
- Managed team of up to 30 instructors, technical staff, and desk/office staff at any given time. Handled recruiting, hiring, professional development, and payroll; also evaluated, onboarded, and monitored third-party vendors.
- Choreographed 2 studio shows per year (June, December) to display student progress and skills. Designed programs (incl. props, costumes, music, brochures/ads), led stage management, and oversaw technical staff.
- During Covid-19, re-designed 35+ class offerings and retrained 2 staff to deliver classes via Zoom and Facebook Live. Successfully continued holding classes in adult fitness and dance for 110+ clients.
- Invited many world-renowned guests to instruct students, including – but not limited to – Rhodie Jorgenson (ABT), Vadim Pisarev (Artistic Director of the Donetsk Ballet), Liz Walton and Rachel Berman (Paul Taylor Company), Tony award-winner Andy Blankenbuehler (*Hamilton, In The Heights*) and dozens more.

OTHER FITNESS INSTRUCTOR POSITIONS (1987 – present, in-person & remote) for Woodlawn Senior Center, Healthways, Normandy Health and Fitness, Sinai Fitness, Donor Egg Bank, and more.

OTHER DANCE INSTRUCTOR & GUEST ARTIST POSITIONS (1992 – 2021) for Principal/Conservatory Ballet, JMD Studio, The Studio of Dance, Bethesda Conservatory of Dance, International Dance School – Annandale, Creative Nomads, Maryland Council for Dance, HeART in Motion, Rainbow Christian Learning Center, LKW Dance Center, University of Maryland, Howard High School, Glenelg Country School, Ballet Royale Academy, Aesthetics Dance Studio, Kinetics Dance Theatre, and more.

OTHER ONE-TIME ENGAGEMENTS (1992 – 2020) for Preston Center Dance, Fox Family News, The Donetsk Ballet of the Ukraine (Ballet Mistress), Maryland Council for Dance, Dance Dynamics (now MidAtlantic Performing Arts Center), and more.

DANCE, PERFORMANCE, & CHOREOGRAPHY EXPERIENCE

TALENT MANAGEMENT:

- Coordinate and lead 3+ teams (backstage, front-of-house, technical) per performance, as well as all cast and dancers.
- Provide direction for crews, actors, dancers, singers, and oftentimes volunteers. Manage up to 50 people per show.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT:

- Create and oversee realistic timelines and goals, ensuring stage is prepared and crew are all trained.
- Manage all project budgets and handle purchasing of costumes, props, programs, and more.
- Strategize and handle all social media, promotion, and multi-channel advertising for each show. Coordinate schedules with site, produce insurance binder for performers/venue, and design programs, tickets, and other collateral materials.

CREATIVE MANAGEMENT:

- Build each show from conceptualization (including script writing) through final delivery of successful performance. Select and edit music, choreograph dances, and teach new skills to dancers and staff as needed.
- For fashion shows, also choreograph songs, coordinate dancers (onstage and off), and assist clothing designer.

TAP CHOREOGRAPHER | [The Heritage Players](#), staging *Gentleman Prefer Blondes* | 2019 – 2020

CHOREOGRAPHER & DANCER | [Turf Valley Country Club](#) (Ellicott City, MD), multiple private events | 2007 – 2019

CHOREOGRAPHER | [Silhouette Stages/Shadowblock Theatre Company](#), multiple shows (*A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Pippin*, *Sugar*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, and *Chicago*) | 2009 – 2011

CHOREOGRAPHER | [Howard Community College](#), staging *Pippin* | 2008

CHOREOGRAPHER | [September Song](#), staging *Bye Bye Birdie* and *Damn Yankees* | 1999, 2001

DANCER | [Kinetics Dance Theatre](#), under direction of Alvin Mayes and Dottie Fried | 1987 – 1990

DANCER | [Phoenix Repertory](#), under director of Liz Walton | 1985 – 1987

ASSISTANCE TO RESIDENT ARTISTS & GUEST ARTISTS

CREATIVE DIRECTION & CREATIVE SUPPORT:

- Provide choreography, staging, artistic direction for backing performers, and other support for major names in dance.
- To date, have assisted Frank Hatchett at Broadway Dance Center, Gus Giordano at Maryland Council for Dance, Jo Rowan at Dance Olympus Nationals, Ms. Vee at Genesis Arts, and 2 hip-hop teams at Excel Garner, among others.

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS IN DANCE

Continuing education in dance & dance instruction through national & global institutions | 2001 – present

- *Including:* DEA Nationals, Dance Olympus, American Tap Dance Institute Teacher Training, Jazz Dance World Congress, Big Apple Tap, Broadway Dance Center's Teacher Workshop, and more

Certifications 1–3 in Ballet, Tap, Modern, Acrobatics, Contemporary, Jazz, and Musical Theatre (DEA) | 2012

Teacher Certifications in Preliminary Levels of Vagonava | 1993 & Preliminary Levels of Cecchetti | 1992

Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Dance, University of Baltimore | 1989

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS IN FITNESS

Pilates Reformer 1 & Pilates Reformer II – Balanced Body | 2021

Instructor Certification in Pure Barre | 2021

Instructor Certifications in Zumba Gold, Zumba Basics 2, Zumba Toning | 2012 & Zumba Basic | 2009

AFAA Fitness Training Certification | 2011