

Leisha Knight

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Performing Arts is a tremendous passion of mine. I love working with artists, developing training plans, setting goals, challenging limits, and being a part of a fantastic team. Being a part of creating, sustaining, and spreading the incredible magic of modern circus to the world is an incredible gift.

Skills

- I am dedicated and hardworking
- I am project oriented and work hard to complete tasks
- I am self-motivated
- I love working in culturally diverse environments
- I can quickly adjust to the needs of a situation
- I have good computer skills
- I am positive, energetic, and generally happy
- I am a team player

Experience

8/2018 - 12/2018

Aerial Choreographer/Peter Pan at Vilar Performing Arts Center/Vail, Co

Choreographed Aerial acts and cues for Peter Pan on Aerial silks and Hammock

10/2018

Aerial Instructor/ACE/AYCO Conference/Atlanta, GA

Taught 2 silk workshops, Fabric Puzzles and Performing Fabric at the 2018 ACE/AYCO conference

8/2018 - 12/2018

West Coast Aerial Arts Festival/Ruby Karen Project/Costa Mesa, CA

Taught Fabric Puzzles to festival participants and competitors

12/2018 - Present

Dance Teacher/Vail Valley Academy of Dance/Vail, CO

Teach Acrodance, Aerial, Contemporary, Hip Hop, Ballet, and Tap to students age 7-18

5/2018 - Present

Gymnastics Coach/Mountain Recreation/Vail, Co

Coach Team Gymnastics, Aerial Acrobatics, Trampoline, Tumbling, and Rock Climbing

10/2017 - 11/2018

Yoga Supervisor / Aria Fitness Club/ Vail, CO

Manage a team of 20 Yoga Instructors as a part of the Aria Fitness Team; Create interesting yoga offerings, instruct classes, act as liaison between the Yoga Team and Aria Executive Management

6/2017 - PRESENT

Program Developer and Instructor / PLAY/ Minturn, CO

Develop and instruct aerial, acrobatic, and circus programs for adults and kids. Train instructors to teach the programs.

8/2013 - PRESENT

Freelance Artist, Coach, and Director/ Global Positions

Direct Shows, Develop artists, Create and Perform Aerial and Acrobatic Acts; 2018 Vail Library Circus Day, 2018 First Friday Minturn, CO, 2015 - 2018 Library Summer Kick Off Show, 2017 Maccabi Games, 2017 Elements Fashion Show, 2016 Galleria Holiday Lighting Ceremony, 2016 Ross Bridge Holiday Lighting Ceremony, 2015-2016 Uncorked on the Green, 2015 -2016 The Happening, 2015 - 2016 TrimTab Aerial Mondays, 2016 Atlanta Aerial Arts Festival, Esh Aerial Arts Instructor, Simply Circus Aerial Instructor, Sky Gym Instructor, The Muse NYC Instructor, Panama City Aerial Dance Instructor

8/2014 - 6/2015

Circus Kathmandu / Kathmandu, Nepal

Lead Trainer and Artistic Director of Circus Kathmandu. Created Training plans, developed Acts and Shows, managed artistic troupe of 12, liaison between Kathmandu and the UK team, organized social outreach, managed public relations, managed the budget, handled payroll, and worked with artists to create long term sustainable life goals.

8/2013 - 3/2014

Cirque Borsberg / Normandy, France

Aerialist, Acrobat, Magician's Assistant, and Aerial Coach.

12/2005 - 7/2013

Cirque du Soleil "Love" / Las Vegas, NV

House Troupe Artist, Yoga Teacher, Safety Committee, First Response Team, Acrobatic Captain

A Choreographer's Showcase Dancer and Choreographer 2010 - 2012

9/2001 - 12/2005

Jackie O'Neal School of Dance / Birmingham, AL

Acrobatics Instructor, Dance Teacher, Miss Alabama Performer 2002 - 2005

9/2001 - 6/2004

ACE All-Stars/ Birmingham, AL

Coached Tumbling, Trampoline, Stunts, and Cheer Teams.

9/2001 - 6/2003

American Gymnastics Academy/ Birmingham, AL

Coached the Compulsory and Optional Gymnastics Team.

9/2000 - 6/2001

UAA Gymnastics Coach/ Anchorage, AK

Coached the University of Alaska Anchorage's Gymnastics Team. Choreographed floor and beam routines, developed training plans, led conditioning, and spotted gymnasts.

10/1996 - 8/2001

Anchorage Gymnastics Association / Anchorage, AK

Coached Compulsory, Optional Team, and Rec classes.

Education

2000

B.A. English Literature/ UAA, Anchorage, Alaska

NCAA Woman of the Year, Academic All-American, 3.8 GPA, Minor in Addictive Studies and

Psychology 2010 - 2015

RYT 500 / Samudra School of Yoga Certification Program

Activities

I currently have a Registered Yoga School to train Yoga Teachers. I love taking Aerial and Acrobatic classes to continue to develop my skills. I also listen to webinars and take online classes on developing teachers and management skills. I spend a great deal of time working on the computer, building websites, managing social media, and working with artists and teacher trainees via the virtual world. I regularly volunteer for organizations that work with at risk, vulnerable, and abused people groups such as Circus Kathmandu, Snowshoe for Peru, LoveLadies, and SafeNest. I also organize fundraisers for these people groups.

References

Dan Niehaus: (702) 205-1277

Melanie Lalande: (702) 497-7116

Tracy Long: (970) 977-0317

Emily Dornan: (970) 779-7457