

## 2022-2023 FACULTY



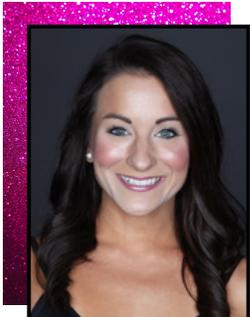
**ERIKA  
TOMLINSON**

Erika is a professional dancer, choreographer & instructor. She currently resides in Las Vegas, Nevada where she was performing in the award-winning show "Le Reve - The Dream," at Wynn Resorts. Featured in the show as the lead female character "The Dreamer," Erika also performed as one of the ballroom dancers, and was the show's dance captain. Having the prominent title of dance captain allowed her to be a part of the creative process working side by side with brilliant choreographers like Maksim Chmerkovskiy from DWTS & Emmy winning choreographer Marguerite Derrick's. This past holiday season you might have seen Erika in the music video "Christmas Show" with Straight No Chaser. Not only did she (& her cute pups Neptune) get to dance in the video, but she was also the associate choreographer on the project. Other choreography credits included being a guest choreographer for the San Francisco 49ers Gold Rush Dancers, Stiletto Entertainment on behalf of Holland America Cruise Lines & many studios & dance teams around the US. Before Le Reve some of Erika's favorite credits include dancing in the Broadway National Tour of "Peter Pan" starring Cathy Rigby. Numerous music videos & films for Nickelodeon, NBC & Stars Encore as well as industrials for Playstation, Honda & Apple. Dancing for Universal Studios Hollywood and shows aboard Holland America Cruise Lines has allowed her to dance around the world. Currently an Event Manager & Show Director for Spotlight Dance Cup which keeps her busy traveling all over the United States. She is honored to judge & master teach for Stage 8 Brands working alongside some of the best in the industry!



**MELISSA  
MCGHEE**

A native of Toledo, Ohio, Melissa McGhee is a graduate of The Ohio State University where she obtained a B.S. in Business Administration. She is the current Head Coach of The Ohio State University Dance Team. Under her direction, the team has consistently placed in the top five in Jazz and Pom at the UDA Collegiate National Championship. The team won the program's first ever National Championship in 2018 and has nine total to date claiming the 2022 UDA National Championships in DIA Pom, Jazz and Gameday. After sixteen years of studio training, she now choreographs and consults for dance studios and teams nationally and judges for numerous dance competitions including NDA, UDA, AmeriDance, Showcase America, Stage 8, OASSA, and USASF Dance Worlds. Melissa has been a speaker at the Varsity Dance Coaches Conference, National Dance Coaches Association Conference and provided coaches education classes for CLI Studios. She was also named National Dance Coaches Association (NDCA) College Coach of the Year in 2020 and currently serves as the NDCA College President.



**MARITERESE  
ALTOSINO**

Mariterese Altosino, a Chicagoland native, earned her Bachelor of Arts in Dance as well as Business and Entrepreneurship from Columbia College Chicago. Post graduation, Mariterese danced professionally with Giordano Dance Chicago for four years, during this time she worked with world-renowned choreographers such as Ray Leeper, Peter Chu, and Marinda Davis and performed works by Ray Mercer, Christopher Huggins, Randy Duncan, Jon Lehrer and Gus Giordano. Mariterese has performed professionally in Dance for Life Chicago, Harvest Contemporary Dance Festival, Move Dance Festival, and has made TV appearances on Windy City Live and ABC 7 News. Altosino continued her professional career with the South Chicago Dance Theatre, Banks Performance Project, Water Street Dance Milwaukee, and participated in a choreographic residency with Choomna Dance Company of Seoul, South Korea. Mariterese is a veteran instructor with Universal Dance Association (UDA) and has been instructing summer camps at the high school and collegiate level for over ten years. Altosino has also been a summer curriculum choreographer with UDA for 5 years. Through UDA, she has taken her passion for dance internationally to teach, judge, and choreograph in Ecuador, Germany, Norway, Slovenia, Austria, London, and China. Her choreography has been performed at the Youth American Grand Prix finals, USASF Dance Worlds, UDA College and High School National Championship, and the IHSA State Finals. Altosino has presented coaching seminars both internationally and nationally at the Aussie Gold (Australia) Coaches Conference and the Varsity Coaches Conference. Mariterese continues to choreograph and teach for various studios and schools around the Chicagoland area, and is currently the head coach of the Downers Grove South Junior Varsity Dance Team, coach of the Studio 22 Youth All Stars, and the Assistant Director of Studio 22 High Tek.



**MICHELLE  
VAUGHN-BAILEY**

For over seventeen years, Michelle Vaughn-Bailey has not only worked within the commercial dance world in Los Angeles but also has been leaving an imprint in the Sports Entertainment World. Her resume includes performing & choreographing for artists, movies, and live shows such as Lil Uzi Vert, Nicki Minaj, Flo Rida, Becky G, J Balvin, La Banda, Latin Grammys, Oscars, and a TV series on Nickelodeon "Fresh Beat Band". Michelle is a faculty member for the top sports entertainment convention that caters to colleges and professional sports teams across the country called Pro Action. She has worked with numerous NBA and NFL teams such as Golden State Warriors, Washington Wizards, Tampa Bay Buccaneers, Boston Celtics, Utah Jazz, Miami Dolphins, and many more. Michelle is a nationally ranked choreographer for numerous high schools, collegiate, and all-star programs across the world. Awards including innovative choreography, best in show, and top 5 at USASF Worlds are a few of her accomplishments in this realm.



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**ERIN HAROLD ALVARADO**

Erin Harold Alvarado is beginning her 11th year as the Pom Squad Coach at Texas Tech University. In 2017, she led the Texas Tech Pom Squad to their first national championship in DIA Jazz at NDA. Her team has won National Titles in DIA Jazz in 2017, 2018, & 2021, and DIA Pom in 2018, 2019, & 2021. The Pom Squad was selected to represent the USA at the ICU World Championships in 2022 as the U.S. National Jazz Team and brought home the Gold Medal. While at Texas Tech, her teams have performed in China, alongside the Dallas Cowboy Cheerleaders and across the United States. Many of her former dancers have continued their careers as members of NFL cheerleading teams, NBA dance teams, National performance tours and Norwegian Cruise Lines. Erin is a graduate of West Virginia University with a bachelor's degree in exercise physiology, and a minor in dance. She was a member of the WVU Dance Team, and then coached for three years where the team won two consecutive NDA Collegiate National Championships in 2010 & 2011. She is an adjudicator for NDA, UDA, USA, USASF, PrimeTime Dance and Showbiz Talent and internationally in Japan and Australia. In addition to coaching the Pom Squad, Erin currently serves as an Adjunct Dance Faculty member at Texas Tech in jazz, contemporary, anatomy, pedagogy and tap. Additionally, she has been a guest speaker at Varsity, National Dance Coaches Association (NDCA), Crowd Pleasers and USASF Conferences, is a member of the NDCA, is the Category Director for the Contemporary/Lyrical division at The Dance Worlds and assists with NDA Judges Training. She has also contributed content for CLI Studios. In 2019, Erin was voted the National Collegiate Dance Coach of the Year by the National Dance Coaches Association.



**LIZ RIFINO**

Liz Rifino studied on scholarship at Broadway Dance Centre in New York City where she trained extensively in ballet, jazz, lyrical, tap, hip hop and theatre dance. After several seasons with the NJ Dance Theatre Guild Ballet Company she attended Rutgers University. As a captain, choreographer and eventually the coach of the Rutgers University Dance Team she began teaching, choreographing and performing for Universal Dance Association. Her performance and choreography credits include The Jerry Lewis Telethon, Disney's Christmas Parade, the Citrus Bowl Halftime Show and the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. Former Director of Choreography for UDA's HS and College summer programs and Director for Varsity's International Dance Division she now currently holds the position of Curriculum Director for Performance Cheer (Dance Team) for the ICU (International Cheer Union) the world governing body for cheerleading. As the developer and certifier of the ICU Performance Cheer Judges and Coaches Training Courses she has worked with many outstanding international programs and has judged for numerous championships throughout the world. She continues to teach and grow the sport world wide.



**PAYTON IBOS**

Payton Ibos is a Louisiana native, born and raised in Covington, LA. She received her dance training starting at the age of two at Northshore Academy of Dance, traveling across the globe to compete as a member of NAD's pro team and assist industry choreographers. Payton was a member of Mandeville High School's dance team, the MHS Spinnakers, and she went on to become a four-year member of the LSU Tiger Girls Dance Team, where she was a two-year captain of the program. After graduating from LSU, Payton began her career as a Tribe 99 professional choreographer, as well as the Assistant Coach for the LSU Tiger Girls. She continued coaching with LSU through 2022 and ultimately assisted in the team win for the 2022 DIA Hip Hop National Championship. Following the championship, Payton was hired as the Washington State University Spirit Director & Head Dance Coach, where she hopes to continue to connect with college athletes and become a stronger advocate for the dance industry within athletics. She continues to travel around the world to choreograph and consult for dance team styles such as pom, jazz, hip hop, team performance, and game-day.

## HOUSTON, TX

February 25-26, 2023

The Berry Center

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