

2025 COLLEGE NATIONALS

# DANCE JUDGES



## JESSIKA LEONARD

Jessika Leonard has 30+ years of dance experience, including: training, instructing, coaching, and judging. Her training includes ballet, jazz, tap, baton, gymnastics, kick and extensive training in pom. As a dancer, she studied in NYC and the Minnesota Conservatory of Arts. Jessika performed and choreographed for the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, Disney World, College Bowl Games, and NFL shows. Later, she chose to coach high school and all-star teams, consistently capturing top honors. Jessika speaks at conventions and conducts choreography and workshops with teams. Judging experience includes: state, national, and international competitions, including over 10 years with The Dance Worlds.



## ANDREA ONEY

Andrea Oney has been a coach, instructor, judge, and choreographer for 35 years. Her background includes training in ballet, tap, jazz, gymnastics, and she has extensive training in her areas of expertise, which are hip hop and pom. Andrea was formerly the Assistant Coach of the University of Kentucky Dance Team. She also danced for the University of Kentucky herself, where she was a part of the 1995 NDA National Dance Champion squad. Andrea has been a UDA Instructor and NDA College Instructor. Andrea judges for both National and International events, as well as the USASF Dance Worlds Championship.



## RACHEL DOMANGUE

Rachel Domangue, originally from New Orleans, is the former Director of the National Dance Alliance. A Ragin' Jazz co-captain, Rachel's BFA in Dance from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette has allowed her to network with all facets of the dance industry. She's been honored to judge for JCDA in Tokyo, NDA, UDA, USA, Varsity All Star, The Dance Summit and the USASF Dance Worlds as both a Legality Official and Panel Judge. Rachel is the Director of Business Operations and Development at Glass Staircase, a marketing and branding creative agency focused on empowering women and small businesses.

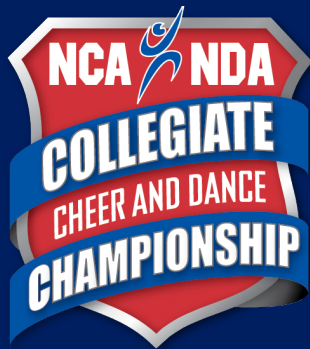


## SHELLY MAHAFFEY WARREN

Shelly Warren is the current Golden Girl Spirit Squad Director at The Villages High School in Middleton, Florida and Quality Control Director for the judging panels at The USASF/IASF Dance Worlds. In addition, Shelly is a veteran national and international judge and works as a choreographer and competition consultant for high school, college, studio, and all star programs across the USA. She is the rehearsal coordinator for the halftime and pregame performances for the Citrus Bowl held annually in Orlando, Florida, and has served as the rehearsal director for pregame at the ACC Championship Game.

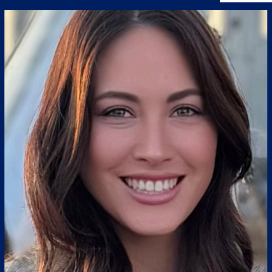


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## CASSANDRA NICHOLE HUDSON

Nichole is a former competitive studio dancer and school cheerleader; starting her dance training at two years old. She is a member of the USASF Dance Rules Committee and has been a certified USASF/IASF Dance Legality Official and Cheer Deductions Judge for thirteen years. This has allowed her the opportunity to work for numerous event producers, both nationally and internationally. She has had the privilege of serving on the judging panel for several prestigious post season events like The Summit, The D2 Summit, The ICU World Championship, and has served as a legality official at The Dance Worlds since 2016.



## MAGGIE ALLAIN WHITE

Maggie Allain White graduated from Louisiana State University receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in Sports Administration and Business. She has been judging dance competitions since 2012, notably including the Dance Worlds, Dance Summit, JAMfest Japan, JAMfest Dance Super Nationals, UDA National Dance Team Championship, UDA Louisiana State, NDA College Nationals and NDA High School Nationals in person and virtual events. Maggie's dance accolades include being a member of the NFL New Orleans Saints Professional Cheerleading Team, Dance Team Consultant for teams across the U.S. Outside of judging competitions, Maggie enjoys spending time with her husband and being a mom.



## CHERYL PAQUETTE

Cheryl is the Adjudication Director at The Dance Worlds and USASF Communications Coordinator. She has been involved in the dance industry for over 30 years. A graduate of the University of Missouri, she earned an NDA National Championship title with the Mizzou Golden Girls and was inducted into the Missouri State Hall of Fame in 2023 for her contributions to the team. Cheryl is a former NFL St. Louis Rams Cheerleader and NBA Dallas Mavericks Dancer. In 2017, she was awarded the NCA/NDA Herkie Legacy Award for her commitment to the industry. Cheryl resides in St. Louis, MO.

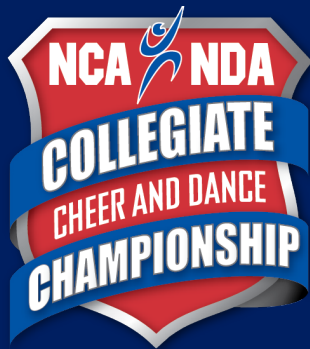


## MICHELLE ALLISON

Michelle Allison, Artistic Director-Curtain Call Dance Center, Indianapolis, IN, B.S. Dance Performance-Ball State University. Michelle directs the Performing Companies, The Nutcracker & Dance Against Cancer at Curtain Call, teaches, choreographs & develops curriculum, continuing education. Currently also choreographs musicals, show choir, marching band, winter guard, is Panel Director for USASF Jazz & Kick. Colts NFL Cheerleader auditions and shows 11 years. Judge/master instructor JCDA Tokyo, JPN since 1994. Taught NDA camps 13 years, choreographed/field produced bowl games, parades; judged NDA Regionals, All-Star, School & College Nationals since 1992. Frequent Varsity All Star & recent Varsity Japan Adjudicator.



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## WANDA BROWN WEIR

Wanda is a former three year Director/Choreographer of the NBA Washington Wizards Dance Team. Prior to joining the Wizards Dance Team as a dancer Wanda was a cheerleader for the NFL Washington Commanders for two seasons. Her instructional and choreography career spans over 25 years and includes numerous high school, all-star and collegiate teams. Since 1999, Wanda has adjudicated for numerous local, state, national and international competitions. Currently, Wanda is Owner/Creative Director for Premier Dance DC and a sought after dance fitness consultant, motivational coach & commercial actress appearing in numerous local and national ad campaigns along with her family, The Wonder Weirs.



## ANTHONY DAVIS LEFLORE

Anthony Davis (LeFlore) is from Houston, Texas and holds a Bachelor's of Fine Arts in Dance from Sam Houston State University! During his time in undergrad, he trained & studied at the American Dance Festival, and been on scholarships through the Gus Giordano Dance School in Chicago, as well as the Ailey School in NYC. As a performing artist, he has danced on stages such as American College Dance Association, Association of Performing Arts Professionals (APAP), the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C., Jacob's Pillow in Massachusetts and the Lincoln Center in NYC. Anthony is currently a 9th Year Staff Member, and 6th Year Head Instructor with UDA, and has been working high school, and college camps since 2017. Previously, he was on the coaching staff for the World Renowned All-Star program Dancin' Bluebonnets where his teams won numerous National and International titles through, Encore Grand Nationals, The Groove Nationals, NDA All-Star Nationals, jamFest Super Nationals, and The Dance Summit.



## MELISSA KIDD

Melissa Kidd is the owner of Cincinnati based Dance Technician; a Pilates based strength training facility for dancers. Melissa has over 20 years' experience as an instructor, studio owner, and choreographer with a specialty in strength training and injury prevention. For over a decade Ms. Kidd has traveled the US judging in both the studio and all-star circuit and served as a consultant for high school/college dance teams. She also runs a consulting program that prepares dancers and their families to enter the recruitment/audition phase of collegiate dance.

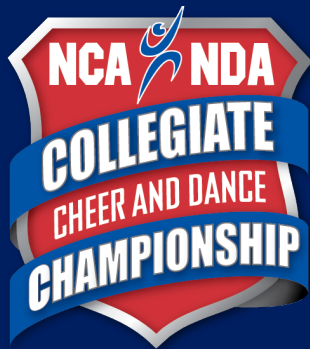


## KRISTIN BEST KINSCHERFF

Kristin Best Kinscherff is the Chair of the Department of Theater and Dance at SIUE, where she is also an Associate Professor, Head of Dance, and Co-Director of the University Dance Company. A seasoned choreographer, her work has been featured in prominent SIUE theater productions and regional dance companies. Kristin is a respected adjudicator for the Universal Dance Association (UDA), National Dance Alliance (NDA), United States All-Star Federation (USASF), International All-Star Federation (IASF), The Dance Worlds, and Missouri/Illinois State circuits. Her dedication to inclusive dance education includes certification in Autism Movement Therapy, enhancing access to dance for all abilities.



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## STACY GARRASTAZU

With over 30 years of dance experience, Stacy Garrastazu brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise in the dance industry. Garrastazu has coached and choreographed for numerous studios, schools, colleges, professional sports teams and dance teams throughout her career. Traveling all over the country to competitions, conventions, and workshops, she stays at the forefront of what is new and cutting-edge in this industry. Garrastazu currently teaches for select organizations while sitting on numerous judging panels including the USASF Dance World's from 2014 through 2024. Her extended background has made her an asset to many studios, school, collegiate and all-star organizations.



## MORGAN SCHULTE

Morgan Schulte has over 25 years of experience in the dance industry. She danced professionally for the NBA Memphis Grizzlies for 6 seasons, and was a 7-year head instructor for high school and college UDA camps. Morgan judges many competitions for various brands, including The USASF Dance Worlds. She attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where she earned degrees in Exercise Science and Dietetics, and has a Master's degree in Nutrition from Saint Louis University. She is an Orangetheory Fitness coach, and a dietitian, fitness coach, and wellness speaker through her own business, Motivate.



## CAROLINE KOCH

Caroline was crowned MissDanceDrillTeam before teaching dance team summer camp around the country. While on the Hip Hop Coalition at ASU, Caroline was cast in HighSchoolMusical for Disney. She has been featured in shows like Lion King to Disney's Christmas Day Parade, taking the stage with the likes of Selena Gomez and Justin Bieber. After completing her apprenticeship from The Jabbawockeez on the Monsters of Hip Hop tour she danced across the globe with Seabourn. Caroline's career in entertainment continues as both talent and producer, working with some of today's biggest acts from music festivals to red carpet events.

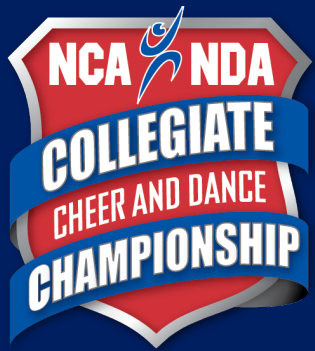


## CHRISTIAN ALEMAN

A Miami, FL native, Christian has been involved in the Dance industry for 20+ years. Alongside her All-Star and HS dance companies she achieved national team/solo titles. She became a coach/choreographer and ADA staff member. In 2007 Christian relocated to Atlanta and became a company director for Powerhouse Dance. Christian now resides in Chattanooga, TN where she was the owner/director of First Step Dance Studio. She dedicates her weekends to judging National/World Bid events around the world. Christian has developed/taught multilingual courses for the ICU and serves as the head of ICU Performance Cheer Rules.



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## JENNY DURBIN SMITH

Jenny Durbin Smith is a nationally recognized and award-winning choreographer. She is a former member of the UNC-Chapel Hill cheer and dance teams and a former captain for the NBA Dallas Mavericks Dancers. Jenny has been a principal for many national projects and her choreography has been featured on major network TV shows, national commercials, films, NFL fields and NBA courts. In addition to being the proud Director of the Dallas Cowboys Rhythm and Blue, she is the Director of The Officials, and travels the country choreographing and master instructing for numerous dance organizations, professional teams and studios.



## BRIAN CAO

Brian Cao has been involved in the spirit industry for 30 years on many levels. His dance resume includes performing with several professional companies in Oregon, and three seasons with the NBA Portland Trailblazers Jam Squad. He currently works as a consultant to teams of all levels, and was the choreographer for Team England Freestyle Pom in 2018 and 2025. He travels the world speaking at conferences, judging for major cheer and dance events, is a 7-time judge for The USASF Dance Worlds, and in his second year as the USASF Pom Panel Director.



## SARAH MILLER

Sarah Miller Bate is the Director of Dance for the U.S. All Star Federation and has nearly 40 years of dance experience including a dual BA in Dance and Education from Old Dominion University. A 4x NDA High School All-American and 3x NDA Collegiate All-American, she also won Top Gun Leaps & Turns and the NDA Leadership Award. Sarah danced with Norfolk-based modern companies, performing in international dance festivals. After an injury, she became a third-generation Classical Pilates instructor, working with Olympic athletes and Washington Ballet dancers. A national and international adjudicator, she also chairs the USASF Dance Rules Committee.

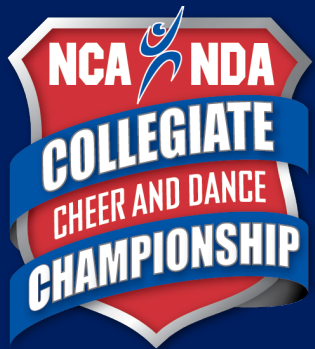


## TARA YANTIS

Tara Yantis, based in Kansas City, brings 25 years of experience in dance education as a coach, choreographer, consultant, arena football cheerleader and industry advocate. Her teams are decorated regional and national titles with numerous alumni dancing in college and professionally. She co-founded the Kansas State Dance Team Coaches Association and has been named the NFHS Kansas Dance Coach of the Year. As an NDA Head Instructor and NDCA representative, Tara has earned multiple industry awards and influences state and national dance initiatives. She inspires coaches and student-athletes nationwide as a sought-after conference speaker and professional development program author.



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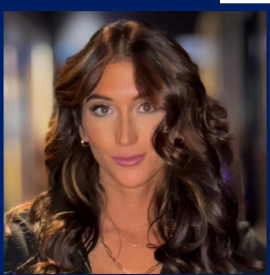
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## HEATHER LANGHAM

Heather Langham is a retired 13 year veteran of The Radio City Rockettes. She attributes her expert knowledge in precision dance to years with this prestigious dance company. But, her experience on a dance team didn't begin there. She is a graduate of Arizona State University and was co-captain of the first competitive and nationally ranked ASU Dance Team. Heather has worked for NDA for over 25 years and has over 22 years of experience as an adjudicator for, The Dance Worlds, NDA HSN, NDA ASN, NDA College Nationals, COP Brands, USA ASN and various state competitions.



## NICHOLE JOSEY

Nichole Josey has an extensive background in performance and dance. Starting at a young age 2 she began taking studio dance and continued through high school. During this time she was apart of several competition teams, performance groups, and her high school dance team. In 2013 Nichole began her first season as an NBA Dancer. She completed 6 seasons as an NBA dancer, 5 seasons with the Pistons and 1 season with the Cavaliers. She has performed with artists such as Kelly Clarkson, Silento, Run DMC, Kid Rock, CeeLo Green, Flo Rida, Gloria Gaynor, B.o.B, and several others. Nichole has been working with NDA for 10+ years and as a judge for 8+. Beyond dance, Nichole works as a Digital Marketing Manager and is currently pursuing her Doctoral in Organizational Leadership.

