



2020 NDA ALL-STAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP JUDGES



PATTY ADAMS

Head Judge

Patty Adams has enjoyed a career in dance for over 30 years, allowing her to experience a wide field of creative arenas. From dance performance ensembles and musical theater to education and curriculum development, her knowledge base is extensive. Patty's primary focus has been in the area of hip hop choreography and team preparation for competitive dance events. She has consistently led teams to top ten placements, as well as numerous championships and innovative choreography awards. Having coached at the High School, College and All-Star levels, Adams has a clear understanding of the type and quality of educational feedback that competitive programs value. She currently serves as a Head Judge for NDA, UDA, and The Groove Experience. Adams has been fortunate enough to have been a member of the Hip Hop judging panel at the USASF Worlds since 2013 and is currently the Hip Hop Director for the event. In addition to being a member of the USASF Judges Education Committee, she serves as a Keynote Speaker, Dance Library author and Mentor for USASF Dance.



CHRISTIAN ALEMAN

Legality Official

Originally from Miami, FL, Christian Aleman has been heavily involved in the dance and cheer industry for over 20 years. Alongside her All-Star and High School dance companies, she achieved countless national team and solo titles. Christian continued on to become a coach and choreographer for many area schools, as well as around the country. She also served as an ADA staff member and later entered the Judging circuit. In 2007 Christian relocated to Atlanta, GA and became a company director for Powerhouse Dance Productions. Christian now resides in Chattanooga, TN where she is the owner and creative director of First Step Dance Studio. Christian dedicates her weekends to judging countless National and World Bid events around the country, including The USASF Dance Worlds.



MICHELLE ALLISON

Head Judge

Michelle Allison is the Artistic Director of Curtain Call Dance Center, Indianapolis, IN. Received a B.S. in Dance Performance from Ball State University. Michelle directs both the Sr. Performing Company and the annual production of The Nutcracker at Curtain Call where she develops curriculum and continuing education. She has judged The USASF Dance Worlds since the inaugural year and is currently the Category Director for the Jazz Panel and Director of Dance Curriculum for the USASF. Since 2010, Michelle has been choreographer for the Colts NFL Cheerleader auditions and halftime shows. She has been a guest judge/master instructor with JCDA Tokyo, Japan for nine years and is a veteran judge of CheerSport, Spirit of Hope, MA Dance, The Groove Experience, UDA College Dance Nationals, NFL Colts and BenGals. She spent 13 years teaching for the National Dance Alliance, choreographed and field produced numerous bowl games and nationally televised parades and has judged NDA Regionals, All-Star and College Nationals since 1992.



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BEA ARNOLD

Bea Arnold resides in San Diego, CA has over 20 years of collective experience as a professional dancer, nationally ranked choreographer and judge. Bea has trained in and taught ballet, jazz, lyrical, modern and hip-hop. Previously she was a full scholarship recipient for the Gus Giordano Jazz Dance Center in Chicago IL, danced with a San Diego based Modern Dance Company, and was a former professional dancer with the NFL San Diego Charger Girls, as well as former Jazz Dance Program Director for the United Spirit Association. She has directed dance teams at the Collegiate and High School levels, as well as worked extensively as a collegiate, high school, junior high and elementary dance judge on the national and international circuit including United Spirit Association, Universal Dance Association, JAMZ, and the USASF Dance World's judging panels. Bea holds a California Teaching Credential in multiple subjects, as well as a K-12 Authorization in Dance Education.



SARAH MILLER BATE

Legality Official

Sarah Miller Bate has studied dance for over 25 years and received a dual BA degree in Dance and Education from Old Dominion University. She was a 4-time NDA High School All-American and a 3-time NDA Collegiate All-American. Throughout college she worked as a Head Instructor for NDA and after college danced with Norfolk based modern dance companies. She also performed for various International Dance Festivals in NC, KY, Hampton Roads, and NYC. Sarah's choreographic experience includes working with dancers for the Orange Bowl halftime show and serving as the Assistant Show Director for the halftime show at the Hula Bowl in Maui. She has been judging at the national level for over a decade and has been USASF Safety Certified since the inception of the program. After serving as the Associate Director of Rules and Safety for USASF Dance, Sarah recently accepted a position as the Associate Director of Dance & Communications for the USASF. A 3rd Generation Classical Pilates teacher and developer of Barre Body, Sarah has worked with Olympic athletes and dancers from the Washington Ballet, building proper movement pathways and aiding in injury recovery.



BRIAN CAO

Brian Cao has been involved in the spirit industry for over 20 years on the school, all-star, collegiate and professional levels. He has been affiliated with NCA/NDA for the last 23 years and has contributed to both NCA and NDA's summer curriculum as a choreographer and consultant. In 2007 & 2008, Brian served as a Co-Show Director for the Thanksgiving in Paradise Halftime Show in Hawaii, and his choreography opportunities have taken him all around the world, including to England, Finland and Japan. In 2010, Brian received the coveted Herkie Legacy Award for his contributions to NCA/NDA, The Work is Worth It Award in 2016, and most recently, the 2019 NCA Heart & Soul Award. Brian's dance resume includes performing with several companies in Oregon, including three seasons with the NBA Portland Trailblazers Jam Squad. He currently works as a choreographer and consultant to cheer and dance teams of all levels and was the choreographer for Team England Freestyle Pom in 2018. In his limited free time away from training, he travels the world speaking at conferences, judging for major cheer and dance events, and is a 4-time judge for The USASF Dance Worlds.



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BETHANY CHRISTIANSEN

Bethany Christiansen is a native of Denver, CO and is a current Crossfit coach. Bethany received a Merchandise Development Degree from the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising School in Los Angeles, CA. Her dance training began at a young age and over the past couple decades she has danced competitively at the college level at Arizona State University and professionally including the Arizona Cardinals and Denver based dance company Dream Project. Her choreography has won accolades throughout the Colorado area. Bethany also sits on a local non-profit council called Walk With Me supporting bereaved parents and families. Above all, Bethany's passion is her children, family and dance.



JESSIKA LEONARD

Jessika Leonard has over 30 years of dance training, judging, and instructing experience, including her role as the Director of Judging at numerous dance competitions. As a dancer, she studied alongside world-renowned dancers in NYC and received numerous accolades including her acceptance to the Minnesota Conservatory of Art. Jessika has performed and choreographed for the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, Walt Disney World, College Bowl Games, and several NFL half-time shows. As an accomplished dancer, she later chose to share her passion for dance by coaching high school and all-star teams, whom consistently made appearances in the state finals and captured national top honors. Jessika now focuses her efforts speaking at conventions and also conducts private workshops with teams and coaches. Jessika's has extensive experience judging state, national, and international competitions, including multiple years with The USASF Dance Worlds.



ANDREA MASTERS

Head Judge

Andrea Masters has been a coach, instructor, judge, and choreographer for 30 years. Her background includes training in ballet, pointe, modern, jazz, tap, gymnastics, and has extensive training in her areas of expertise, which are hip hop and pom. As the former Assistant Coach of the University of Kentucky Dance Team, Andrea helped them rise to become a top 3 team in the nation in Hip Hop at UDA. 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, as well as an NDA College Instructor. She has choreographed for several national award-winning programs in the country. Andrea judges for both National and International events, and this was her 6th season judging the USASF Dance Worlds Championship.



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SARAH MCALLISTER

Head Judge

Sarah McAllister is an adjudicator for the National Dance Alliance, Universal Dance Association, United Spirit Association, USASF Dance World Championship and the Japan Cheer and Dance Association. She is trained in a variety of styles and was a multiple award-winning high school dance team coach from 2006-2012. During that time, Sarah lead her team to two NDA national titles, consecutive top three finishes, and has been recognized for her innovative choreography in Pom. Other achievements include choreography for Legoland Entertainment, teaching in Japan and coaching at San Diego State University. Sarah is currently a choreographer for competitive high school and collegiate teams.



CHERYL PAQUETTE

Head Judge

Cheryl Paquette has been involved in the dance industry for over 30 years. She is trained in ballet, tap, jazz and pointe and spent 6 years as a company member with Gateway Ballet Co. in St. Louis, MO. As a graduate of the University of Missouri, she earned an NDA National Championship title with the Mizzou Golden Girls dance team. She is a former NFL St. Louis Rams Cheerleader and NBA Dallas Mavericks Dancer, was choreographer and head instructor for the National Dance Alliance; spent 7 years as an NDA Event Director and Curriculum Director and received the Herkie Legacy Award in 2017. In addition, Cheryl has choreographed and field produced numerous special event half time shows during her tenure. Currently, Cheryl is the NDA Judging Coordinator and USASF Dance Adjudication Director and Pom Panel Director at The USASF Dance Worlds. Cheryl enjoys judging for many national and international Event Producers.



BONITA SALDANA

Bonita Saldana's influence is recognized from the streets to the stage. Hailing from Phoenix, AZ, her professional career originated as a member of the Phoenix Mercury Hip-Hop Squad and the Phoenix Suns Dance Team. Known globally as, "Bgirl Bonita", she has performed with artists such as: Jason Derulo, P. Diddy, Black Eyed Peas, Sean Kingston, Fergie, Jamiroquai and is a member of three of the most legendary, world-famous and credible names in Hip-Hop dance: The Rock Steady Crew, The Groovaloos and The Beat Freaks. She has also been featured on Disney, Nickelodeon, American Idol, Dancing with the Stars and MTV's Made. Bonita has been teaching, adjudicating, lecturing, and choreographing professionally for over 17 years. She is beyond grateful for the launch of her dance studio in Phoenix, AZ, The Studance LAB, where her students bridge street dance and classical foundations, birthing a diverse generation of performers.



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CAROLINE SMITH

Scoring Official

Caroline Smith has been the Safety and Scoring Official for the National Dance Alliance for 14 seasons. Prior to that she was an NCA/NDA Instructor and Head Instructor for 10 years, and an NCA/NDA Event Director for three years. She is a proud recipient of the Herkie Legacy Award for her time with NCA/NDA. Caroline served as Show Director and Choreographer for the Orange Bowl Pre-Game Show for five years, as well served on the production staff for the Hula Bowl Halftime Show. She currently works as a Assistant Director for the County of San Diego and enjoys spending time at the beach with her Labrador and equally wild 4-year old son.



CHELSEI STAPLES

Chelsie Staples has acquired a wide range of experience within the dance industry as a dancer, coach, and choreographer for over 20 years. A Kentucky girl born and raised, Chelsie attended Western Kentucky University where she had a very successful collegiate dance career, serving as captain for 2 years and winning her first NDA national title. Chelsie then returned to her hometown and has been coaching both school and all-star teams since 2006. She put a small-town KY team on the map by winning two NDA national titles, multiple top 3 finishes in pom, hip hop, and game day divisions, and countless regional and state titles. Her choreography has made appearances at both local and national competitions, receiving several Best Choreography awards over the years. She currently owns Fierce Dance Studio and looks forward to sharing her years of all-star coaching experience on the judges' panel.



MICHELLE VAUGHN

Michelle Vaughn is a professional dancer/choreographer based out of Los Angeles, CA. Working in the commercial dance industry, she has had the opportunity to dance and work with artists and companies such as Nicki Minaj, Flo Rida, Becky G, Oscars, Latin Grammys, Google, and Nickelodeon. Michelle is an alumni of the Monsters of Hip Hop cast as well as faculty for the convention. Her choreography can be seen on many NBA and NFL teams across the Pro Dance world and also on Pro Action convention. Michelle is a nationally ranked choreographer for numerous high school and college dance teams across the country. Her experience as a dancer and choreographer allows her to bring a level of expertise from both worlds into her work.



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MEREDITH WALKER

Legality Official

Meredith Walker is the Director of Rules and Safety for USASF Dance and serves as the Chair of the USASF Dance Rules Committee and Head Rules Official at The USASF Dance Worlds. Originally from Lexington, KY she danced at the University of Kentucky and worked as an NDA high school and collegiate camp instructor and choreographer for many years. After college, Meredith continued to work in the industry coaching and choreographing for nationally recognized all-star, high school and collegiate programs. Today, Meredith travels the world extensively providing education and training for judges and coaches as well as adjudicating competitions.



JARRIN WARREN

Jarrin Rolle Warren has been in the dance industry for over 30 years. She is a recognized dance coach/director, instructor, and choreographer with works ranging from mini to collegiate and professional. She has judged for numerous dance companies and competitions nationally and internationally and has received choreography awards in hip hop, pom and jazz. Some of Jarrin's accomplishments include Dance Performance Assistant of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, Half Time Performance Coordinator/Choreographer for the New Jersey Nets, Dance Camp Instructor/Choreographer Japan, Dance Assistant for the Aloha Bowl Hawaii, Production Assistant for Thanksgiving in Paris France, and is a veteran judge at The USASF Dance Worlds, Varsity Summit Judge and CopBrand Mexico.



WANDA BROWN WEIR

Wanda Brown Weir is the former 3-year Director/Choreographer of the NBA Washington Wizards Dance Team. Prior to joining the Wizards Dance Team as a dancer in 2003, Wanda was a member of the Washington Redskins Cheerleaders for two years. Wanda worked as an instructor and head instructor for Universal Dance Association for seven years while also working as a territory manager for UDA and sales representative with Varsity Spirit Fashion. Wanda is also the former captain/choreographer of the multi-time national championed Towson University Dance Team and former coach of the George Washington University "First Ladies" Dance Team. For over twenty years, Wanda has judged for many local, state and national competitions including The Dance Worlds (10 year veteran judge), UDA and NDA high school, all-star and collegiate championships & nationals. Currently, Wanda is Owner/Creative Director for Premier Dance DC, Head Dance Team Coach for Catholic University and a sought-after dance fitness consultant, speaker and motivational coach.