

Fairport Dance Academy Instructor Bios:

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Rick Bocchieri: Rick has been teaching at the Fairport Dance Academy for almost 30 years. He studied locally with the Cleveland Ballet and Dance Masters, as well as NYC at studios such as Alvin Ailey, Steps and HB Studios. Locally he performed in LCDC, a modern dance company under the direction of Jan O'Janpa. Rick also performed at the Palace with a touring company, The Steppin Out Dancers. He has performed numerous lead roles in musical theater and choreographs in the Cleveland area. Rick is a Realtor with Howard Hanna and also works for Applause Dance Competition throughout the year.

Juliannah Childs: Annah has been dancing since the age of 2, and joined Fairport Dance Academy as a student in 2005. After graduating, she continued dancing in college, and began assisting classes when she moved back to Lake County. She began her training with Dance Masters of America in 2019, and is excited to continue her education! She currently works as the Accounts Receivable Coordinator at Wojcik Builders, Inc., as well as finishing up her first year as an instructor at Fairport Dance Academy. She has two sons that she hopes will grow to share her passion of dancing. Annah has found her first year as an instructor extremely rewarding, and is so glad that her childhood dream of having a career in dance is coming true!

Kelsey Daubert: Kelsey Daubert has been working at the Fairport Dance Academy since 2010, although her time at the Fairport Dance Academy began in 1993 as a student. She graduated from Ashland University in 2010 with a BS in Early Childhood Education. Kelsey has also completed her first year at Dance Masters of America Teachers Training and looks forward to continuing with her second year in the near future.

Nicole DeBiase: Nicole is member of Dance Masters of America and Ohio Dance Masters and was tested and certified in Ballet, Tap and Jazz. She has been a part of the Fairport Dance Academy since birth, as Cheryl's daughter. She has a BA in English from the Ohio State University. During college, she studied tap, modern and belly dance and she has been teaching belly dance and performing professionally since 2000. Throughout the country, she has studied with some of the world's top belly dancers and was a regular performer at Moun of Tunis in Hollywood, CA. Nicole is always continuing her dance education through weekly dance classes and she attends dance workshops and conventions several times a year. She is very happy to be at the Fairport Dance Academy, working with her mom, sister and the wonderful students and staff.

Cheryl Hill: Cheryl co-founded the Fairport Dance Academy in 1971 with her mother, Julia Lintala. She attended Kent State University, where she actively performed with the dance and drama departments. After college, she became a member of Dance Masters of America and was tested and certified through their Teachers Training and Post Grad programs. As a dance educator, Cheryl has been able to share her love of dance, not only with students at Fairport Dance Academy, but also with students in private and public schools, local colleges, and community theatres in the Lake County area. She is thrilled to be in a partnership with her daughters, Nicole DeBiase and Erin Hill, and is anxiously awaiting to see what the future will bring to the dance and wellness worlds.

Erin Hill: Erin Hill has been a part of the Fairport Dance Academy since birth, never missing a recital. She has been an official assistant/instructor at the studio since 2006, but has been assisting dance classes nearly her whole life. She has a BA in Natural Resources with a specialization in Wildlife Management and Wildlife Biology from The Ohio State University. She studied belly dance for six years in Columbus, Ohio, teaching and dancing professionally for three. She is certified by the Yoga Alliance to teach Yoga at the 200-hour level and has been pursuing her 500 hr certification at Kripalu in Stockbridge, Massachusetts. She is also a certified Reiki Master, practitioner and teacher. She continues the dance certification process through Dance Masters of America, and has also continued to further her dance education by attending the Dance Teacher Conference in New York City 2005, 2007 and 2012.

Robin Hribar: Robin has been a part of the Fairport Dance Academy from its beginning as one of Cheryl's first students. Certified by Dance Masters of America in both ballet and tap, Robin has been teaching dance for the past 41 years. By attending workshops in Cleveland, Kent, Buffalo, Arizona, and New York City she continues to further her dance education. Robin has also been a Registered Nurse for the past 40 years, working in Critical Care and Post Anesthesia Care. Robin lives in Fairport with her husband Lee and has three children that were all students of the FDA: Adam (2006 graduate of Kenyon College), Alexandra (2009 graduate of the College of Wooster), and Abraham (2013 graduate of the United States Naval Academy).

Lauren LeBoeuf: Lauren brings along an extensive background to be within 23 years of life. From her Classical ballet upbringing with the Official Youth Company of West Virginia, The River City Youth Ballet Ensemble, to the years pursued at West Virginia University as a dual computer science and dance major. She hopes to bring artistry to match those of the staff of the Fairport Dance Academy, and is beyond thankful to work with such amazing people. While training in her life she has been instructed by Donald Laney artistic director of West Virginia Dance Company, the late David Howard whom directed those at Royal Ballet, and ABT, and the late Peter Frame previous artist with the School of American Ballet. Performing with other artists she has taken the stage with the Moscow Ballet of Russia. As a dancer she performed statewide in varying style, from modern, to classical ballet, to ballroom, and even musical theater. She was awarded by the American Musical and Dramatic Academy a scholarship to attend their College, and was also awarded a dance scholarship to the Governor's School for the Arts, WV. Lauren hopes to become a member of the Dance Masters of America, and to grow with FDA.

Kelly Rice: Kelly has been involved with the Fairport Dance Academy for the past 30 years as an instructor, assistant and costume assistant. She was a principal dancer with the Lakeland Civic Dance Company for 10 years under the direction of Jan O'Janpa. Kelly has studied under many master teachers through Dance Cleveland and has attended 4 summers of dance at the Dance Teachers Conference in New York City and Atlantic City. She has taken classes with company members from Alwin Nikolai Company and Alvin Ailey. She studied dance under Bill Crotty, who was the Artistic Director of the Jose Limon Company. She has also studied under Douglas Neilson. Kelly was an instructor at Willoughby Fine Arts for 7 years. She has attended Dance Masters of America and has also received a degree in Creative Movement and ECE. Kelly has recently been certified as a Reiki Master practitioner and hopes to continue her education to include teaching yoga to children. Kelly teaches all ages at FDA, but admits her passion is with the young ones! Kelly is very happy to be working, teaching and learning with such great instructors and assistants at a place she calls "home".

Natalie Ruggiero: Natalie has danced since she was 2 years old and graduated from the Fairport Dance Academy in 2013. Then she went off to West Virginia University to receive her BS in Business Administration with an emphasis in Human Resources Management and Minor in Dance. Now she works as a Jr. Human Resources Generalist at Trimble Transportation, a software company in Mayfield Heights and teaches and assists at FDA. She is so happy to be able to continue her passion for dance by teaching the students all of what she has learned and continues to learn today. She finds it especially rewarding to watch her students grow and pursue their passion for dance.

Brianna Wolfe: Brianna was welcomed into the Fairport Dance Academy family in 2007, and is thrilled to be a part of the teaching staff again this year! She is a 2019 graduate of DeVry University where she received her BS in Business Administration with a concentration in Hospitality Management. When she is not dancing, she works as a wedding coordinator.

Desiree Wood: Desiree has taught at Fairport Dance Academy for seventeen years and was also a student at the dance school for thirteen years. She graduated from John Carroll University in 2005 with a BA in Early Childhood Education. In 2007, Desiree became a certified dance instructor through Dance Masters of America in ballet, tap and jazz. She has put her teaching career on hold to spend time at home with her four children.