

URBAN BEAT DANCE STAFF

SHANNON MURRAY (Owner/Program Director) Shannon has her BA in Dance Administration and Teaching and has worked in arts management for the last 10 years. She has been teaching dance for the last 15 years in Chicago as well as in Los Angeles. Her experience as a performer includes various music videos, Culture Shock Chicago, Fivestar Boogie Productions, Joel Hall Performance Workshop, Carnival @ Key Club in Hollywood and Americas Top Model Closing Party to name a few. Her extensive background in Hip-hop, Jazz, Contemporary and her experience as a director have made her a leader in the industry. Between her experience in LA and Chicago she can offer students a well rounded training environment for dance. Many of her students have gone on to be professionals in the dance industry. Today she is grateful to have Urban Beat Dance to share her vision of dance with our community.

BRIDGETTE BATTAGLIA (Studio Manager) With over 12 years of managerial experience in the Arts, Real Estate and Medical fields Bridgette Battaglia brings the gift of extreme organization and superior customer service to UBD. Her 4 years working in the Evanston Camps as Site Director give her the special skill of working with children and their parents. Having grown up and currently residing in the North Shore area she has worked with numerous local organizations ensuring they not only run smoothly, but efficiently. Bridgette's fresh outlook and pleasant demeanor positions her as a powerful resource to staff, parents, and students alike.

AUDREY LEUNG WOJTONIK, grew up in the North West suburbs of Chicago. She moved to downtown Chicago to attend the Chicago Academy for the Arts High School as a Dance Major under the direction of the late Anna Paskevka. Audrey attended college at the Fordham University Alvin Ailey BFA Dance program in New York City. She later continued her education at Columbia College Chicago where she graduated with a BA in Marketing Communications. Audrey has performed with numerous choreographers in New York and Chicago and was formally a member of Elements Contemporary Ballet, she has also appeared in various Ballet and Pointe training videos and in the feature film *Save the Last Dance*. Currently Audrey is the co-founder of an arts collaborative, Syndicate Black. Audrey has over 6 years of teaching experience, in the Chicago land and surrounding suburbs as well as New York City and New Jersey. She has taught children from 3 years old to Professional in Ballet, Tap, Jazz, Hip Hop, Modern, Partnering, Pointe, and Creative Movement.

JESSICA LYNN, with her versatility and style, was one of the most sought after Dancers in Los Angeles. Jessica graduated from a Performing Arts High School and after a short stint performing nationally in regional theatre, she moved to Los Angeles. There she danced for the artists Blu Cantrell, Nelly Furtado, Beyonce, toured overseas with the reggeaton artist Adassa, and also Fantasia Barrino. Over her career Jessica appeared in Film, Industrials, Television, Music Videos and on Stage with credits ranging from *Alias* and the hit sketch show *MadTV*, to the feature films *Grind*, *Wes Craven's Zombie Prom*, and the *Bette Midler Workshop in Las Vegas*. Jessica worked with and alongside many great choreographers including Wade Robson, Toni Basil, Jamal Sims, Rosero Mccoy, Frank Gatson, Brian Friedman, and Matt Cady to name a few. She was also a member of Winifred R. Harris modern dance company "Between Lines". In addition, Jessica Lynn was featured in the book, (BOOK ME!) *How to become a successful working dancer in Hollywood* by Sandra Colton. An established teacher and choreographer in her own right, Jessica has taught classes throughout the United States, Italy, and Guam for over 12 years. She was on faculty at the famed Musician's Institute in Hollywood CA for seven years and has also taught at the Millennium Dance Complex and other studio's throughout the Los Angeles area. Jessica's choreography credits include the FOX pilot *Hype That Track*, a promo tour for Jon.B, a Century 21 commercial, and numerous videos and stage performances for many artists. In addition to her commercial choreography, Jessica has also choreographed & directed numerous musicals at the Crown Uptown Theatre.

SUSAN SKRYZMOWSKI is currently a student at Columbia College Chicago as a dance major, training in ballet and modern dance. Susan has trained in gymnastics, hip-hop, jazz funk, house, isolations, and contemporary. Born and raised in Illinois Susan has studied and trained intensely with Nick Gonzalez and Trae Turner. She is a member of the BoomCrack Dance Company where she has collaborated many pieces with founder and director Trae Turner. Susan has also taught workshops around the suburbs to help spread her unique style, and love for dance with the world. Recent credits include; Boomcrack Company Class, "Rockstar" Video Shoot, Monster of Hip Hop Show, Urban Night Chicago and Back-Up Dancer for Beyoncé on Oprah Show.

ELMO is Chicago resident that started dancing in the early 90's. He has been trained in styles such as hip hop and African and was a pioneer in Southside dance style called footwork. He was a member of the professional hip hop company Chicago Onyx Dance Alliance (C.O.D.A) and has traveled across the U.S. competing as well as showcasing. His recent credits include lead teacher for Black Eyed Peas concert for the 2009 Oprah Block Party, Kiss FM Fantabuloso Concert. Elmo has been teaching for over five years, ages 7-adults, in a variety of hip hop styles and is a current company teacher for UBD hip hop company.

TONY SUHADOLNIK grew up in Seattle where he started dancing at a neighborhood studio at the age of ten. He furthered his training at the Arc School of Ballet in Seattle and, while in high school, was nominated for several 5th Avenue Musical Theater Awards. In 2007, Tony moved to San Francisco to train for two years at Alonzo King's LINES Ballet School's Training Program. While there, Tony worked with Robert Moses, Alonzo King, Yannis Adoniou and several other Bay Area choreographers. After graduating, he then guested with Moving People Dance Theater in Santa Fe, New Mexico before moving to Chicago. Tony is now dancing with Inaside Chicago Dance, and has been working with many Chicago base choreographers.

THANH TRAN has been dancing since summer of 2005. He specializes in the art of breakdance and choreography. In 2007, he started teaching classes at the Chicago Park District, where he helped kids get involved in afterschool activities. He volunteered his time to teach breakdancing, so kids can stay active. Also, Thanh has done many workshops at different schools such as, Niles North High School, Von Steuben High School, Amundsen High School, and Mather High School. In addition, He taught classes at Vovinam Martial Art Studio to help fundraise for the Vietnamese Association of Illinois. In 2008, Thanh became a breakdance instructor at Urban Beat Dance. He teaches the fundamentals, advance, and professional levels of breaking for all ages. He believes from prior knowledge and experiences he can teach others to open their minds to the real world of Bboying.

ANALY GAMMINO was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois. She fell in love with dance at a young age, but began her dance journey at the age of 15 at Curie Metro High School majoring in dance. She is currently a dance major at Columbia College Chicago with a concentration in dance performance. Analy has trained in ballet, modern, contemporary, jazz funk, hip-hop, and has a background in Latin dance. She has been training intensely under the direction of Trae Turner since 2009 and is a member of BoomCrack Dance Company founded and directed by Trae Turner. Analy continues to train and hopes to share her love for dance and performance with everyone around her. Recent credits include Back-Up Dancer for Beyoncé on Oprah Show.

KRYSTA MICHORCZYK has been dancing for more than 20 years and is technically trained in jazz, hip hop, contemporary, ballet and modern. She has studied at the Donna Brum School of Dance, Queen of Peace High School, Michigan State University and currently, the Lou Conte Dance Center in Chicago. She is an award-winning choreographer and a passionate and innovative teacher. She has more than eight years of teaching experience in contemporary, hip hop, modern, jazz, musical theatre and ballet with students of all ages. In addition to teaching at UBD, Krysta also works as the Program Assistant for the Dance Department at Northwestern University and with Elements Contemporary Ballet.