

# Meet our Faculty

*Dee Buchanan* has owned and operated the Dee Buchanan Studio of Dance for 18 years, and has directed her own dance company since its inception 12 years ago. She is a graduate of Hood College, and is a member of Dance Masters of America, the Cecchetti Council of America, and the Maryland Council for Dance. Dee holds her Intermediate Professional Certificate through the CCA, and is a teacher and a coach in the Cecchetti Method. She is certified both regionally and nationally through the Dance Masters of America Teachers Training School to teach tap, ballet and jazz. In 2006, Dee was the Dance Masters of America recipient of the Janet Bachna teaching award, a national recognition awarded through the Teachers Training School program. She is also a Nationally Certified Examiner for Dance Masters of America, and a judge at both the regional and national level. Dee is the current President of Mid-Atlantic Chapter 17 of Dance Masters of America, as well as a National Director of DMA and the Chairperson of the National Petite & Master Title Competition. In addition to teaching at her studio, Dee directs two worship dance troupes—the liturgical dancers at her home church, Zion Lutheran in Middletown, and the Inter-faith Liturgical dancers, which is comprised of dancers of all ages and faiths at her studio. Additionally, Dee (a Middletown grad herself) works year-round at Middletown High School in a variety of capacities. She directs the dance line of the Marching Knights, she is the coach of the MHS Dance Team, and she choreographs the MHS musical each year. Her choreography credits include “The Wiz”, “Lil’ Abner”, “Bye Bye Birdie”, “Oklahoma”, “Into the Woods”, “The Scarlet Pimpernel”, “Fiddler on the Roof”, “Chicago”, “Guys and Dolls”, “Footloose”, “George M!” , “Beauty and the Beast”, “Oliver!” and “Grease!”

*Tauri Munger* is in her 9th year of teaching at The Dee Buchanan Studio of Dance. She teaches jazz, modern, ballet, pointe, and lyrical classes. She is a Towson University Graduate. Tauri is also a member of Dance Masters of America, having passed her teachers' certification exams in tap, ballet and jazz. She has also taught master jazz dance classes at regional DMA conventions. She won the Tom Ralabate Scholarship in 2003, Dance Masters of America—Chapter 17—Miss Dance of 2004 and a DMA Choreography Award in 2005 for her self-choreographed rendition of “Haunted”. Tauri also won the Maryland Distinguished Scholar—Honorable Mention in 2002. She was a member of the Towson University Dance Company from 2002—2004, and performed at the Kennedy Center in 2005. She finished in the Miss Maryland pageant with the Newcomer Talent title in 2006. While attending college at Towson University, Miss Tauri also held the title of Miss Frederick 2006. Most recently, Tauri won two choreography awards for her modern composition “Stampede”. As a student Tauri was invited into Frederick Arts Council scholarships and won various awards: Junior Jazz—1998, Senior Jazz —2000, Senior Modern —2001 and Senior Tap 2002.

*Annie Brockey* has been with the Dee Buchanan Studio of Dance since its opening season (1992-1993). She started first as a dancer, but has been teaching for the past 15 years. Miss Annie is the “Director of Programs for Young Dancers”, but teaches classes for dancers ranging from ages 4 to adult. Annie is a graduate of Middletown High School and Hood College (B.A. in Early Childhood Education). She is also a member of Dance Masters of America and the Cecchetti Council of America. She is certified regionally through Dance Masters of America to teach ballet, tap, and jazz. Annie has also passed 11 Cecchetti Exams – through Intermediate Professional as a student and Elementary Professional as a teacher! She has attended Dance Masters Teachers Training School, Cecchetti International Summer School, the Maryland Council for Dance Festival, Manhattan Dance Project, and regional Cecchetti and Dance Masters workshops, and has had the privilege of studying in New York City at Steps On Broadway several times.

*Jaimie Hoover* has been dancing for 20 years, 15 of which were at The Dee Buchanan Studio of Dance. She has studied the Cecchetti Method passing grades I-IV, elementary & intermediate professional grades V and VI, as well as her Teacher's Exam Grades I-III. Jaimie will be a May graduate of Towson University majoring in Physical Education, and in conjunction with her major she has earned her Spotting Certification. She has attended the Cecchetti International summer school, held in Michigan, on scholarship, and has attended four Dance Masters of America National Conventions, held in various locations across the nation. She has also trained at STEPS on Broadway in New York City. She attended Dance Masters' Teachers Training School in 2009 on scholarship. She has been involved in DMA since 2000 and has received numerous awards. Jaimie was honored to represent Chapter 17 of the Mid-Atlantic as their Miss Dance 2007. She has performed with Dee many times. In 2005, Jaimie was fortunate enough to perform at the Kennedy Center Gala! Outside of dance, Jaimie loves theatre. In 2006, Jaimie held the role of “Louise/Gypsy Rose Lee” in Fredericktown Players production of “Gypsy”. Jaimie taught for Dee from 2001-2005, and returned in 2009 while finishing up her degree. Jaimie is also the 2010-2011 Assistant Director for the studio's Dance Company.

*Denise Hoover* has been a teacher at The Dee Buchanan Studio of Dance for 7 years. She currently teaches Toddler Time and Preschool 1 & 2—and manages our Boutique. She graduated from Frostburg University and has attended year one of Dance Masters of America Teacher Training in Buffalo, NY. In addition to teaching at the studio, she has been a part of adult classes for 10 years as well as a member of the desk duty squad. She is a member of the Frederick Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, Fredericktown Players and Lambda Phi Delta Sorority Alumni Association. Active in theatre while attending Walkersville High School, she was glad to return to the stage in a production of “Gypsy” in the role of Tessie Tura.

*Dana Doggett* is a senior at Middletown High School and a second year teacher at our studio. She is currently studying the Cecchetti Advanced Professional Syllabus, having passed all four student exams and two Professional exams! In November of 2005, Dana won 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-up Over-all in the Junior Auditions at the annual Mid-Atlantic Chapter 17 Dance Masters of America Scholarship auditions. Dana has been a member of the Middletown Marching Knights dance line for four seasons, and Captain for the past two. She also danced in the MHS musicals, "George M!", "Beauty and the Beast" and "Oliver!". During the summer of 2006, Dana attended the DMA Student Honors Intensive Program in Buffalo, New York, and she will be attending again this summer. In 2004 and again in 2007, she studied in New York City as part of the Dance Masters of America National Convention, and this winter she took classes at STEPS on Broadway in NYC. This spring, she had the opportunity to study and perform in Disney World. Dana is also an accomplished musician and a member of the award-winning MHS Jazz Ensemble.

*Jordan DuMars* is a senior at Middletown High School and a second year teacher at our studio. She has passed her Intermediate Professional (Grade VI) exam and is preparing for Advanced Professional (Grade VII) exam this season. Jordan has studied Child Development at MHS, and is currently aiding at the Primary School. She also choreographs for the MES productions each spring. This spring, Jordan was the DMA Miss Dance Tap Audition Scholarship Winner and Most Talented Non-Finalist, and last year she won the Jazz Scholarship. During the summer of 2006, Jordan attended the DMA Student Honors Intensive Program in Buffalo, New York. During the summer of 2007, she studied in New York City as part of the Dance Masters of America National Convention. In 2008 Jordan attended both the Dance Masters of America Nationals Convention in Orlando and the Student Honors Intensive Program in Buffalo, and she plans to return to both training opportunities this summer. This winter she took classes at STEPS on Broadway in NYC. This spring, she had the opportunity to study and perform in Disney World. In 2003 Jordan was awarded the Kathleen Brown Honorary Scholarship here at our studio. Jordan is a member of the MHS Marching Knights and the MHS Dance Team, as well as a dancer in the spring musicals.

*Emily Gallagher* is a Junior at Middletown High School. She has been an assistant teacher for dancers of a variety of ages, and this season is teaching Hip-Hop. She is a member of the MHS Marching Knights Dance Line and the MHS Dance Team, and she performs in the MHS spring musicals. She is currently preparing for her second professional Cecchetti exam, having passed all four student exams and the Elementary Professional Exam. This spring, Emily was awarded the Jazz Scholarship in the Teen Miss Dance Scholarship Competition of Dance Masters of America. She attended DMA's Student Honors Intensive Program in 2008 and is returning this summer. She also studied at the DMA National Conventions in 2007 and 2008, and looks forward to returning this year. This winter she took classes at STEPS on Broadway in NYC. This spring, she had the opportunity to study and perform in Disney World.

*Bethany Lemasters* is a Junior at Brunswick High School, and is teaching Young Hip-Hop and Young Musical Theatre. Bethany has studied in New York City as part of the Dance Masters of America National Convention, as well as at STEPS on Broadway in New York City this winter.

*Marissa Mashak* is a senior at Middletown High School and a second year teacher at our studio, teaching young dancers and pointe work. Marissa is the 2007 recipient of the Kathleen Brown Honorary Scholarship. She is also a Junior Member of Dance Masters of America. She is preparing for her Intermediate Professional Cecchetti Exam, having completed all four student exams and her Elementary Professional Exam. Marissa is also a member of the MHS Varsity Dance Team. Additionally, in 2007 she studied in New York City as part of the Dance Masters of America National Convention. Last summer, Marissa attended the Dance Masters of America Student Honors Intensive Program in Buffalo, NY. Marissa has also studied Child Development at MHS. This spring, she had the opportunity to study and perform in Disney World.

*Kelsey Moore* is a Senior at Middletown High School and a second year teacher at our studio. Kelsey has also been a member of the Middletown Marching Knights Dance Line for three years, and a member of the Varsity Dance Team. She was a dancer in the MHS Spring 2008 production, "Beauty and the Beast". Kelsey is preparing for her Intermediate Professional Cecchetti exam, having passed all four student exams and her Elementary Professional Exam. She has also studied Child Development at MHS, and has completed her 9 Hour certification in Early Childhood Education. This spring, she had the opportunity to study and perform in Disney World.

*Hillary Pierce* is a Senior at Middletown High School and a second year teacher at our studio, where she has primarily worked with young dancers and acro students. Hillary is a member of the Varsity Dance Team at MHS. She is currently preparing for her second professional Cecchetti exam, having passed all four student exams and the Elementary Professional Exam. Hillary also studied in New York City as part of the Dance Masters of America National Convention. She has two years' experience in Child Development at MHS. This spring, she had the opportunity to study and perform in Disney World.

*Brooke Ritter* is a Senior at Middletown High School and a second year teacher at our dance studio. She is currently preparing for her Intermediate Professional Cecchetti Exam, having passed all four student exams and her first professional exam. Brooke performs as a member of the MHS Varsity Dance Team. She also studied in New York City as part of the Dance Masters of America National Convention. Last summer, Brooke attended the Dance Masters of America Student Honors Intensive Program in Buffalo, NY. This spring, she had the opportunity to study and perform in Disney World. Additionally, she has studied Child Development at MHS, and she is a volunteer with Big Brothers/Big Sisters.

*Kelsey Swann* is a Senior at Middletown High School. She teaches Musical Theatre. In addition to many hours of dancing and participation in the MHS Dance Line and MHS spring musicals, Kelsey also takes vocal lessons. She has attended Dance Masters of America's Student Honors Intensive two times, and this summer she was accepted into the renowned Broadway Theatre Project, and she is therefore spending three weeks at this exclusive intensive in Florida. Additionally, she attended DMA Nationals in 2007. Kelsey is studying Child Development and she is also doing an internship at the Lucy School. This spring, she had the opportunity to study and perform in Disney World.