

INNOVATIVE Intensive

Ovation Dance Academy
5325 Johnson Drive
Mission, KS 66205

Saturday, September 27th

1:00-3:00pm - Minis

11:00am-3:00pm - Juniors/Pre-Teens/Teens/Seniors

Faculty

Gloria Castillo

Gloria Castillo is a versatile dance educator, coach, and choreographer with extensive experience at the high school, collegiate, and all-star levels. Skilled in pom, jazz, contemporary, and hip-hop, she is known for her ability to combine clean choreography with expressive performance artistry. Gloria is passionate about empowering dancers, building confidence, and creating meaningful experiences through movement.

Currently, she serves as Assistant Spirit Squad Coach and Pom Specialist at Independence Community College in Kansas, where she collaborates on halftime and competition choreography while mentoring athletes in technique and performance quality. Previously, she was the Head Varsity Pom Coach at Bartlesville High School, leading the team to first-place finishes at regional competitions, and an Assistant Coach with CSM All Stars, where her dancers earned multiple state and national titles. Gloria has also worked with collegiate and high school programs, in Oklahoma, refining routines and preparing teams for high-level performances.

Her choreography and coaching have contributed to numerous accolades, including top finishes at NDA Nationals, DTU Regionals, and OSDTDA State. She has coached dancers who have advanced to collegiate dance teams and continues to be recognized for her emphasis on team synchronization, musicality, and performance presence.

In addition to coaching, Gloria has served as a guest teacher across multiple studios, and a dance judge at events all over the U.S. She also contributed to the film *Killers of the Flower Moon* directed by Martin Scorsese, assisting with cultural dance observation and supporting choreography for authentic movement representation. In 2025, she was featured as a campaign model for Milani Cosmetics, representing the brand across digital and print platforms.

Gloria is a member of the National Dance Coaches Association, and a former collegiate dancer with the Kansas State University Classy Cats, who continues to dedicate her career to shaping dancers who excel both on and off the stage.



Jaymes Dickinson

Jaymes Dickinson grew up dancing competitively at Priscilla and Dana's school of dance. Under the direction of Priscilla Brogato and Dana McGuire, he trained in several styles while also traveling and learning from many master teachers from across the country. In college, Jaymes was a part of Mo State Movement, a student ran dance team on campus. During his 4 years on the team, he was Vice President for 2 years and choreographed many routines. Jaymes is currently in his fifth year coaching the Blue Valley Southwest Dance Team. Along with coaching, he is also a Head Instructor for the National Dance Alliance and teaches at Priscilla and Dana's School of Dance. Jaymes loves sharing his passion for dance, and is honored to get to share that passion in so many different ways.



Bethany Long Gordon

Bethany Long grew up in Overland Park, Kansas where she began dancing at the age of three. She trained both competitively at Starbright Dance Studio and with a pre-professional ballet company, American Dance Center. She was also a member of the Blue Valley Northwest Dazzler Dance Team.

After high school she took her dance training to the next level by attending the University of Arizona as a dance major and studied under some of the top dance educators in the US. In December 2012 she graduated magna cum laude from the UofA with a BFA in Dance Performance and a minor in Physiology. Over the last 10 years Bethany has taught and choreographed at numerous studios in Arizona, Kansas, and Missouri. She also coached the Blue Valley North North Star Dance Team for three years and currently works with the national dance competition Hall of Fame.

Outside of dance, Bethany holds a Doctorate in Chiropractic and owns her own practice, Thrive KC- Chiropractic & Wellness in Overland Park, KS. Her extensive dance background and knowledge of the body has led to her being a sought after dance chiropractor assisting in injury prevention and care. She is honored to work with so many talented dancers while sharing her knowledge and experience.



Julie Pentz

Julie's contributions to the dance field have traveled in the international dance community and her credits include guest teaching and performance appearances at the Teatro Libero in Rome, Italy, Taiwan, Chinese Cultural University, National Taiwan University of the Arts, Tsoying Performing Arts, Koahsiung Performing Arts, the Interdansa in Banyoles-Girona, Spain and the National Theatre of Ghana, the Dagra Music Center in Ghana Africa and several locations in Kuwait City, Kuwait. Julie has been teaching at Kansas State University for 18 years. Julie is a full professor of dance in the School of Music, Theatre, and Dance, teaching jazz and tap dance, the K-State Tap Dance Ensemble, dance appreciation, teaching methods, and for the K-State First program. She is active in the National Dance Educators Organization serving on the advisory board directing students from 2017 – 2020 and as Recording Secretary 2020-2023. Currently Julie is serving in the role of President-Elect and will step into the President role 2025-2026.

In 2019 Julie accepted a position as a Global Goodwill Ambassador and Human Peace Ambassador, representing the United States of America. Julie serves as a national judge for dance competitions and is a trained HealthRhythms facilitator. Prior to Julie's return to graduate study she performed with The National Tap Ensemble out of Washington, DC and worked with master tap teachers that include Gregory Hines, Savion Glover, and Brenda Bufalino.

Julie's current research is examining and enhancing family relationships, measuring physical movement, and looking at Parent perceptions/enjoyment/and parent-child connectedness and how they relate to physical activity. She uses her program Tap To Togetherness Across Populations to foster this research. Tap To Togetherness Across Populations holds close partnerships with Parents as Teachers, K-12, senior populations, and the homeschool networks. The Tap To Togetherness Across Populations program is one of 15 community engagement partnerships for Kansas State University's Carnegie Foundation Community engagement Reclassification.

The program has two published children's' books Tap Tap Tap Your Toe and Tap Tap Tap Like a Rhinoceros. Pentz has multiple articles published with the Journal of Dance Education, Dance Education In Practice, Arts Education Policy Review, The Ambassador, UCED, Childhood Education, Journal of Extension, E-Source for College Transitions, Association of College and University Education, and the Ambassador. In 2021 Pentz released her textbook Dance Appreciation, published with Human Kinetics Publishing, out of Chicago, IL. In 2021 Pentz became a Cambridge Scholars author and contributed to a new book, Diverse Learning in 2020 and



Beyond. In 2025 her newest books will come out. *Metacognition: New ways to Think and Learn* by Cambridge Publishing *Metacognition in Motion: Enhancing Physical Literacy Through Tap Dance* and a Dance Research Handbook.

Most recently she is continuing her work and research in Parkinson's Disease and the Director and CEO of her non-profit Tap To Togetherness Across Populations. More information can be found at www.taptotogetherness.org.

Macy Talkington

Macy has been dancing since the age of 2. She was a competitive dancer for 13 years at Le Dance Studio. She was also on her high school dance team for 4 years and was captain for 2. She has been trained in all styles of dance from jazz, hip hop, ballet, lyrical, modern, to tap. Macy started out as an assistant for Innovative Choreography and is now starting her seventh year as a staff member. She graduated from the University of Kansas with an elementary education degree and currently teaches first grade!

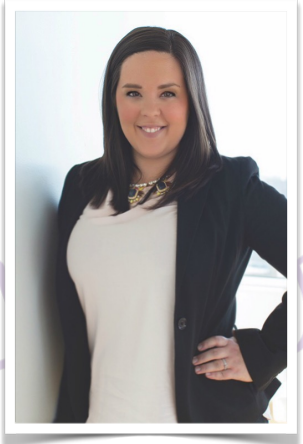


Tara Yantis

Tara Yantis is a coach, teacher, choreographer and adjudicator based in Kansas City. Tara trained at some of the top studios in Kansas City and was afforded a rich performance career taking her across the country and abroad, performing on numerous stages from her first promotional gig for Home Depot all the way to a featured guest performance for the President of the United States. She graduated from Washburn University where she was captain of both the game day dance team and the nationals competition team. She was also an arena football cheerleader for 4 years, serving as captain and choreographer for the team.

Tara is in her 9th season as the Head Coach and Creative Director of the 3-Time National Champion Saint Thomas Aquinas Spirits Dance Program in Overland Park, Kansas. The "Spirits" have been decorated with numerous awards over the years including Judges Choice in Hip Hop, Kick, Jazz, Prop and Lyrical in Kansas competitions and 1st place finishes in Missouri competitions. Tara's competitive high school choreography has been recognized by the National Dance Alliance as well as ADTS.

Tara is an 11th-year Head Instructor and adjudicator for the National Dance Alliance, traveling the country throughout the year to teach, inspire and mentor. She was been named the NDA Excellence in Leadership recipient, recognizing the top Head Instructor in the nation in the area of leadership, demonstrated by staff and customer surveys. She was also the inaugural recipient of the The Work is Worth It™ award, voted on by NCA/NDA corporate staff nationwide, recognizing the top Head Instructor demonstrating contributions to both the cheer and dance worlds, and superior dedication throughout years of services to various entities of NCA/NDA, consistently going above and beyond for customers and staff. Tara was also the 2016 national delegate to London for NDA, facilitating performances for the London New Year's Day Parade seen by 300million+ viewers worldwide.



Directors

Anne Kastelic

Anne grew up in the Kansas City area and began dancing and baton twirling competitively in 1997. Anne is a former Advanced Miss Majorette of Kansas (NBTA). She also trained in colorguard and competed at World Championships in Dayton, Ohio. Anne went to Kansas State University and was a member of the Classy Cats Dance Team. She served as an assistant section leader, and her choreography was featured at numerous football games, basketball games, the Pinstripe Bowl, NCAA tournament, and community events. She also helped lead the team to a Top 5 NDA Nationals placement.

Anne's choreography experience began at Beller Dance Studio at age 16. Her routines received choreography awards at both high school and studio competitions. Throughout her time as a high school dance team coach, she grew dance team programs to compete at the national level. She has taught camps across the United States where she shares her energetic and encouraging instruction with dancers and coaches. Anne also choreographs for middle school, high school, and college teams across the United States. She served as a judge for the NAIA Collegiate Regionals, high school and middle school dance team competitions, and numerous auditions for studios, high school, and collegiate teams.



Outside of dance, Anne serves as a high school assistant principal. She recently completed her doctoral degree in PK-12 Educational Leadership.

Lauren Wilson

Kansas City native, Lauren Wilson, has been a dancer from age three through her college career. As a collegiate, she competed with a first-place NDA All-Star college division team then went on to compete at Worlds. Lauren brings music to life through movement. As a competitive dancer herself since 1998, Lauren has trained in pom, jazz, hip hop, ballet, lyrical, contemporary, and twirling. Lauren has been teaching various forms of dance in the Kansas City area since 2005. Lauren's teaching career progressed from teaching to being the director of a competitive team for 5 years. Lauren is not only passionate about her students' success and progress but also about the art of dance. As an accomplished and award-winning choreographer, Lauren effortlessly inspires her students to express themselves creatively, artistically, and gracefully. Lauren has extensive experience and background in developing choreography for competitive high school and college dance teams. With more than ten years of coaching at various high schools in the Kansas City area, Lauren has fine-tuned and expanded her skills and abilities to choreograph unique dances that highlight the talent of a soloist and the strengths of a group. By combining her choreography skills and expert coaching abilities, Lauren creates works of art tailored to the individual and team. Lauren is currently the head dance team coach at Ottawa University.



Innovative Choreography

Intensive Details

Ovation Dance Academy is located at 5325 Johnson Drive, Mission, KS 66205. All groups will dance in the Johnson studio. Please wear comfortable dance clothing. You are welcome to bring shoes and extra clothes for hip hop classes. You are welcome to bring a snack, but only water will be allowed in the dance rooms. You may store your belongings in the hallways.

If you need to contact us leading up to or the day of the Intensive, feel free to use the following modes of communication:

innovativechoreography@gmail.com

Anne: 816-686-4843

Lauren: 913-991-7139

Schedule

	Minis/Petites	Junior Purple	Junior Teal	Pre-Teens	Teens	Seniors
10:45am				Registration @ Johnson		
11:00-11:50am		Lyrical <i>Macy</i>	Leaps & Turns <i>Bethany</i>	Leaps & Turns <i>Tara</i>	Tap <i>Julie</i>	Lyrical <i>Jaymes</i>
12:00-12:50pm	12:45pm Registration @ Johnson	Leaps & Turns <i>Bethany</i>	Tap <i>Tara</i>	Tap <i>Julie</i>	Lyrical <i>Jaymes</i>	Hip Hop <i>Macy</i>
1:00-1:50pm	Tap <i>Julie</i>	Tap <i>Tara</i>	Hip Hop <i>Gloria</i>	Lyrical <i>Jaymes</i>	Hip Hop <i>Macy</i>	Leaps & Turns <i>Bethany</i>
2:00-2:50pm	Lyrical <i>Tara</i>	Hip Hop <i>Gloria</i>	Lyrical <i>Jaymes</i>	Hip Hop <i>Macy</i>	Leaps & Turns <i>Bethany</i>	Tap <i>Julie</i>
3:00pm			End of Intensive - Scholarships - @ Johnson			

Pricing Options: \$105 Total due to Innovative Choreography, LLC
Pay by Venmo or Credit Card (Juniors/Pre-Teens/Teens/Seniors)

\$65 Total due to Innovative Choreography, LLC
Pay by Venmo or Credit Card (Petites/Minis)

Please register [HERE](#), submit online waiver [HERE](#), and Innovative Choreography will email you an invoice to pay with a credit card or request funds via Venmo.

Registration, payment, and waiver must be received by Friday, September 27th to avoid the walk-in fee (\$5)! Once your registration, waiver, and payment has been received, we will send you a confirmation email.

Walk-Ins are WELCOME: An additional \$5 will be charged to each walk in registrant.