

ADA IN CLASS FACULTY BIOS

DANVERS, MA

Julie La Mancuso

is the National Tour Director of American Dance Awards, and the Director of ADA in Class. After growing up competing on the ADA stage, Julie transitioned into a regular adjudicator, teacher and choreographer for the company, both at the Regional and National level. Julie is also a sought-after choreographer and teacher based out of Buffalo, NY. Known for her high energy classes and award-winning choreography, Julie has been on faculty and taught as a guest artist at many of Western New York's premier dance schools.

Julie obtained her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University at Buffalo in Dance in 2012. Julie's work has represented the University at Buffalo's Department of Dance at the American College Dance Festival at Penn State University. She served as the Assistant to the Director for both of the university's resident dance companies, Zodiacque Dance Ensemble and Zodiacque Dance Company, which gave her invaluable experience in arts management and theatrical production. Julie is a past recipient of the Amanda Occhino Endowment Scholarship of the Arts, given annually to the dance major who shows the most dedication to the program of Theatre & Dance. In the summer of 2011, Julie was named America's Young Choreographer of the Year at the American Dance Awards National Championship in Boston, MA. In the Spring of 2012 she joined the American Dance Awards team as a judge and faculty member, and the rest is history.

In addition to her work with ADA and ADA in Class, she currently guest teaches and choreographs across the US and Canada. Julie's favorite part of her work is that it gives her the opportunity to help students come to realize their full potential as dancers, artists, and people. Participating in American Dance Awards since 1998 as a competitor, teacher, judge, faculty member, and now a Director has given her a great appreciation for and first hand experience of the pillars on which this company is built – integrity, education & inspiration. Julie is honored to help lead ADA into its next 40 seasons of family friendly, education based dance competitions and events.

Christina Ketzopoulos

is originally from Toronto, Ontario. Starting from a very young age, she had the privilege of working with many prestigious choreographers in both the commercial and concert dance settings. Christina's film and television credits include programs such as Pop IT! (TVO Kids), Lego Girls (Family

Channel), The Next Star (YTV), Backstage (Disney), The Boys (Amazon Prime). Christina was titled America's Senior Dancer of the Year in 2014. She then moved to New York City to study at SUNY Purchase College Conservatory for Dance and graduated with her Bachelor of Fine Arts with Honours in May 2018. She had the chance to perform a solo excerpt from Kidd Pivot's repertoire choreographed by Crystal Pite, set by Cindy Salgado. Christina was chosen to study abroad in Amsterdam, Netherlands for a semester at Academie Voor Theater en Dans in the Modern Theater Dance department.

Soon after graduation Christina joined Broadway Dance Lab, directed by Josh Prince, working with many different choreographers on a selected process. Her performance credits include BC/EF Broadway Backwards choreographed by Karla Garcia, NORMA choreographed by Al Blackstone, Capezio Dance Awards, Acrobatic Arts choreographed by Derek Piquette.

She is currently a freelancing artist based in New York City. She was the lead in a music video for Billie Joe Armstrong directed and filmed by the Kuperman Brothers, and many different commercials including the Genesis Car Reveal, directed by Andrew Winghart and Xtend Barre on the Open Fit App by Andrea Rogers. She most recently performed in Dallas, Texas for a brand called Galderma, choreographed by Betty Weinberger. Additionally, Christina teaches and adjudicates dance all over North America!

Matthew Mancuso is originally from East Haven, CT. He began his training at the age of 8 at Gloria Jean's Studio of Dance under the the direction of Stacy Eastman. In 2018, Matthew and his teammates traveled to Riesa, Germany for the World Tap Championships where they were awarded Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals. He was also awarded America's Male Dancer of the Year in 2021 at American Dance Awards, where he was the first male in ADA history to win all four national titles - Young, Junior, Teen and Senior! Matthew then moved to NYC and just recently graduated from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts where he earned a BFA in Dance and a Minor in Entertainment Business.

While at school, Matthew got to learn and perform repertoire from Sidra Bell and Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company. He also was chosen to study abroad in Prague, Czech Republic at The National Theatre. Matthew most recently performed at the Carnival Choreographer's Ball, New York Fashion Week, Battery Park Dance Festival, and for the Steps Beyond Foundation. He loves teaching and choreographing, as well as passing his love for dance onto the next generation.

Chloe Lafleur

, originally from San Diego, CA, trained at Danceology Performing Arts Campus under the direction of Niki Lucia. She graduated from Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles with a B.A. in Dance and went on to further her training at Broadway Dance Center's Professional Semester in New York City. Some of her credits include Scranton Shakespeare Festival, Busch Gardens Williamsburg, Associate Choreography for Off Broadway Musicals, Dancebreak, Dance Lab NY, TV Commercials and more.

She has worked as an Associate Choreographer to Brooke Wendle for her work seen on the segment for *Bachelor Live (Good Morning America)*, (Dance Lab NY), *Santa Claus a New Musical* and *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson (Casa Manana)*. While in New York, she has had the pleasure of training under and assisting incredible mentors such as Al Blackstone, Marc Kimelman, Billy Griffin and Kellen Stancil, all who have shaped her as a dancer and choreographer.

Now residing in New York, Chloe continues to teach and choreograph in the city and across the country. She is currently a Show Supervisor for Step One Dance Company at RWS Entertainment and teaches on faculty at Steps On Broadway, New Canaan Dance Academy, Downtown Dance Factory and Bold Dance Project. She loves sharing her passion for dance through powerful classes based in musicality, dynamics and most importantly an environment rooted in community.

Channing Cooke

, known for her outgoing personality and knowledge beyond her years, is a very hard working and successful entertainer. Having grown up as a studio kid she has a very strong background of technique and training in all styles of dance that range from Ballet and Modern to Jazz, Hip-Hop, and even Acrobatics. Born and raised in Haverhill, Massachusetts, Channing not only met the high demands of the competitive dance world but was also a nationally ranked Cheerleader as well as an extreme athlete.

She debuted on Fox's "So You Think You Can Dance" as a top twenty contestant and then went on to perform alongside Neil Patrick Harris at the "42nd Annual Academy Awards". Other TV credits include "American Idol" where she performed with Rihanna, "The X Factor" with Jessie J, "So You Think You Can Dance" with Jennifer Lopez, the American Music Awards, "All The Right Moves", "Shake It Up", "Austin & Ally", "Two and A Half Men", and Movement One a dance documentary. She currently teaches throughout North America and is a company member of Shaping Sound.