

# ADA IN CLASS FACULTY BIOS

## PROVIDENCE, RI

*Hannah Zin*, a New York City based dancer, received her early training at the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre School as well as many summer programs across the country. She graduated *summa cum laude* with a BFA in Dance and Art History from Fordham University and The Ailey School.

Amongst other professional credits, she has been most proud of her work dancing in opera. Over the past six seasons, Hannah has had the pleasure of performing with The Metropolitan Opera in productions of *Guillaume Tell*, *Rusalka*, *Parsifal*, *Don Giovanni*, and *Macbeth*, with Opera Saratoga in *Zemire et Azor*, with the Lyric Opera of Chicago in *Florencia en el Amazonas*, and with the Washington National Opera, originating roles in new productions of *La Traviata*, *Carmen*, *Elektra*, and *Samson et Delilah*, for which she also served as the dance captain. Most recently she had the pleasure of traveling to Italy to join the cast of Francesca Zambello's production of *West Side Story* at Teatro Lirico di Cagliari.

As a teacher, Hannah loves to bring aspects of her Pilates and functional anatomy training into the dance studio, knowing that it has helped her recover from injuries and has prevented many more! She is thrilled to be both an Adjudicator and the National Title Program Coordinator for American Dance Awards and cannot wait to see what these talented dancers bring to class!

*Julie LaMancuso* 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, Zodiaque Dance Ensemble and Zodiaque 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.

*Tommy Sutter* hails from upstate NY and graduated from The Ailey School in 2012. Before graduating high school, Thomas won the gold medal at the World Tap Dance Championships in Germany.

Regional highlights: Samson et Delilah (Kennedy Center); White Christmas (Westchester Broadway Theatre); State Fair (The Rev Theater Co.); Hot Shoe Shuffle (The Wick); Swing!, On The Town (Gateway Playhouse); West Side Story, Mamma Mia, Guys and Dolls, Man of La Mancha (Weston Playhouse); Music City Christmas (Nashville Symphony).

Film & TV: Marvelous Mrs. Maisel (Amazon), Broadway's Brightest Lights (PBS), Lady in the Lake (Apple TV), BTS, So You Think You Can Dance. @tommysutter