# MERICAN DANCE WARDS

#### TEWKSBURY, MA #1



Jennifer Rienert

Jennifer Rienert has owned and directed the NH School of Ballet dance studio for the past 35 years - which has been in her family for over 60 years. As a student with her own school, she studied with her Aunt Suzanne Taylor and performed throughout New England with the NH Ballet Ensemble Dance Co. Growing up she was involved as a contestant with the Miss NH/ Miss America Pageant program as well as becoming Miss NH choreographer for several years and coaching students. She is an accomplished teacher and choreographer whose students have won many regional and national titles as well as over-all high score awards, title competitions, auditions and college scholarships.

Many of her students have obtained professional careers as dancers with Busch Gardens, Royal Caribbean and Disney Cruise ships, Tokyo Disney, Ghaspard and Dancers, Parsons Dance Company, Beauty and Beast National Tour, Radio City Rockettes, New York City lead "Billy" in the Broadway hit show "Billy Elliot", national Tour of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, National Tour of Flashdance and Finding Neverland and many others. Many of her students currently have careers in Jazz, Musical Theater, Contemporary and Ballet companies.

Jennifer has been a certified teacher with DMA since 1991 and has served on the board of directors for Chapter 5 New England for over 15 years - currently serving as Immediate Past President of Chapter 5 NE. She continues to open the door for her students by directing and choreographing several productions of Nutcracker each year, teaches master classes throughout New England and has adjudicated dance competitions throughout the U.S and Canada both regionally and nationally for American Dance Awards, DMA, Headliners and Dance Xplosion for past 25 years. She enjoyed writing articles for many years on ballet for the dance magazine "Dance Studio Life" and currently resides in Hooksett, NH with her husband. She has 2 daughters residing in NYC who are also dancers and choreographers, Skylar and Riley Rienert!



### TEWKSBURY, MA #1



Shane Farrell

Shane Farrell is a choreographer, dancer, and educator from Providence, Rhode Island. His diverse dance training started at a family-owned dance school in North Providence, RI and continued at the Brae Crest School of Ballet. In 2009, Shane joined Newport Contemporary Ballet (formerly Island Moving Company), a classically trained contemporary ballet company in Newport, RI. During his decade at Newport Contemporary Ballet (NCB), he performed in several national tours and two international tours to Kazakhstan. Shane performed in many amazing venues with NCB's site specific repertoire: Newport Nutcracker at Rosecliff Mansion, Dracula at Belcourt Castle, and Second Star To The Right: A Tale of Hook and Pan aboard the Oliver Hazard Perry tall ship. He has performed works by José Limón, Stephanie Martinez, Colin Connor, Maurice Causey, Kevin Jenkins, and Staycee Pearl. Shane has also performed in collaboration with Pasadena Dance Theatre (CA), Missouri Contemporary Ballet (MO), Owen/Cox Dance (MO), Surfscape Contemporary Dance Theatre (FL), Staycee Pearl Dance Project (PA), Houston Contemporary Dance (TX), and Samruk Dance (Almaty, Kazakhstan), and danced as a guest artist with companies throughout the northeast. Outside of the concert dance world, Shane has appeared on MTV's Made, Fox's So You Think You Can Dance, and the 2010 film Hachi starring Richard Gere.

As a choreographer, Shane's work has been presented nationally and internationally, most notably at the Abay Opera House in Almaty, Kazakhstan. He has choreographed six world premieres for Newport Contemporary Ballet (RI) and three original works for their 2018, 2019 and 2021 Newport Dance Festival summer intensive program to critical review. Writing for Motif Magazine, Mark Morin described Luminous (2013) as "raw...and passionately graceful...The suggestiveness and the musicality of Farrell's choreography...make this piece a guilty sensual delight." He has additionally choreographed original works commissioned by Wheaton College (MA), Salve Regina University (RI), Sacred Heart University (CT) and is currently on faculty in the dance department at Dean College (MA).

Shane is a master teacher with educational experience at universities, ballet schools, and elementary schools. Using a variety of pedagogical approaches, he has helped dancers of diverse backgrounds understand movement education. Please visit www.shanefarrell.org for additional information and up-to-date news on Shane Farrell.



## TEWKSBURY, MA #1



Caittin Haywood

Caitlin Haywood is a teaching artist, dancer, and choreographer from Columbus, IN. She studied at Point Park University where she graduated with a BFA in Dance concentrating in both jazz and modern. She also served as the primary tap teacher for the University's Community Outreach program. While in Pittsburgh, Caitlin was a dancer with The Pillow Project, a multi-media based dance company on the cutting edge of both site specific performance and dance for film. Caitlin had the pleasure of working as a freelance artist throughout Chicago for many years performing and choreographing for such companies as Chicago Tap Theatre, Chicago Freelance Dance, and On Tap Chicago. Her choreography has been selected for many festivals including Harvest Chicago Contemporary Dance Festival, Lake Eden Arts Festival, and JorsTap.

Currently, Caitlin is a dedicated teacher and choreographer, training her own students locally and working around the country as a guest teacher for conventions, private studios, and professional performance companies. She has judged both regionally and nationally with ADA for over 15 years including traveling to work with dancers in Pretoria, South Africa. She specializes in bringing fun methods of thinking to her classes through projects, games, and props and has worked to establish a thriving performance program for dancers with special needs. Caitlin loves being a formative part of young dancers' training and enjoys sharing her experience and love of dance with students of all ages and abilities.



### TEWKSBURY, MA #1



Diane Gudat

Diane Gudat is a freelance writer, teacher and choreographer from Indianapolis, Indiana. She now teaches at the studio she owned, The Dance Company for more than 28 years and has been a dance educator for more than 48 years.

She is the author of seven dance books specifically designed for the dance teacher: The Time Step Dictionary Volumes One and Two, Acrobatics for the Dance Studio, Variables for Teaching Tap, Music Theory for the Dance Studio, and her latest series of books, Step by Step; Book One; Beginning and Advanced Beginning, Step by Step: Book Two; Intermediate and Advanced Intermediate, She also has also produced the Flash Tap product line including Flash Tap Cramproll and Time Step Cards. She was a contributor to Dance Studio LIfe Magazine and appeared on DanceLifeTV.com.

Diane has taught for Teacher's Training Schools all over the United States, Canada and South Africa. She has served as a faculty member for numerous regional and national conventions and workshops, has been a guest artist and award-winning choreographer for many private studios, companies and musicals. She is an adjudicator, special awards judge and host for many regional and national dance competitions.

Diane is an internationally certified judge and has judged the 2013, 2016, 2019 and 2022 IDO World Tap Championships in Riesa, Germany. She has taught and adjudicated for American Dance Awards in South Africa and runs a teacher's training school in Pretoria, South Africa. She was the recipient of the 2009 CNADM Artistic Achievement Award and received the 2010 Friendship Award from American Dance Awards and most recently was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award from Dance Life Teacher Conference.

Diane's commitment to continuing education has inspired her to gather, organize and share information for the next generation of Dance Educators and performers.