



# ROCHESTER, NY JUDGE



*Nick  
Silverio*

Nick Silverio trained at Elite Academy of Dance in Shrewsbury, MA, under Lauren Mangano. He graduated the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School (B.S. in Economics, concentration in Commercial Dance Management). Represented by Clear Talent Group, Nick recently performed on the Frozen Broadway North American tour (Ensemble/Sven understudy). He has danced on "Saturday Night Live," "Westworld," "Marvelous Mrs. Maisel," "Girls5Eva," "America's Got Talent," and "So You Think You Can Dance," as well as the Elf national tour twice, closing at Madison Square Garden, and regional productions of Billy Elliot (Older Billy/Dance Captain) and La Cage Aux Folles. Nick has worked with renowned choreographers Rob Ashford, Marguerite Derricks, Stacey Tookey, Marc Kimelman, James Alsop, John Carrafa, Nancy Braun, Connor Gallagher, and Mark Stuart. He directed "First Burn," the viral dance film inspired by Hamilton. Nick also loves teaching across the country in theater, jazz, lyrical, and contemporary, creating dance competition-inspired TikToks (@nicksilverioo), and judging for top competitions. He is the co-founder of Artswrk.com, the jobs platform for dance studios and educators nationwide.



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*Makenzie  
Thomas*

Makenzie is a passionate artist originally from Canton, Ohio, with extensive training in all styles of dance. At 18, she moved to New York City to hone her craft at Broadway Dance Center's Professional Program, receiving comprehensive training in all aspects of dance and performance. During her time in New York, Makenzie appeared on *So You Think You Can Dance*, performed live on *Good Morning America*, danced the runway at New York Fashion Week, and graced the stage with *Broadway Underground*. Following her success in NYC, Makenzie was a Main Stage dancer for Disney Cruise Line. This experience deepened her understanding of theatrical performance and gave her the opportunity to shine on one of the most prestigious entertainment platforms at sea. After completing two contracts, she continued her Disney journey at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida. There, she performed in various shows and parades.

Today, Makenzie has transitioned from performer to mentor. She is the proud owner of two dance studios in Ohio, where she dedicates herself to teaching and inspiring the next generation of dancers. Her studio is a proud member of the "More Than Just Great Dancing" network, where she continues to grow as an educator and role model, nurturing young talent and fostering a lifelong love for the art of dance.



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*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, 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 Flash Dance and Finding Neverland, American Contemporary Ballet, LA Dance Project, Kizuna Dance and others.

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, including serving as President. 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 adjudicates dance competitions throughout the U.S and Canada both regionally and nationally. 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 is incredibly proud of her 2 daughters also in the dance industry both living in NYC as professional dancers and choreographers.



# ROCHESTER, NY SPECIAL AWARDS JUDGE



*Caitlin  
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.