



Music . Dance . Drama

COURSE CATALOGUE



Dear Families,

Welcome to the Franklin School for the Performing Arts! Since 1985, FSPA has provided arts education to students of all ages and levels, with outstanding programs in Music, Dance and Drama and an impressive faculty of accomplished artists, performers and teachers.

In all programs at FSPA, students are free to choose their own level of involvement, whether recreational interest or serious study. Artistic development is guided by excellent instruction, enhanced by practice and complemented by performing opportunities. While performing is an integral part of our programs, a single annual performance is not our yearlong goal. All lessons and classes focus on the development of technique, creativity and artistic expression.

Performance opportunities abound at FSPA, with the Franklin Performing Arts Company (FPAC) and at THE BLACK BOX, FPAC's new performance venue. Student ensembles cast each year by audition include dance companies and musical theater troupes with annual trips to Disney World and New York City. **ELECTRIC YOUTH**, an international touring ensemble backed by an eight-piece band of Boston professionals, is made up of young performers trained at FSPA.

Our school is dedicated to the artistic development of young people and the enjoyment of the arts for everyone. We understand the importance of proper instruction, discipline, practice and accomplishment in the arts as part of a well-rounded education. From preschooler to senior citizen, everyone is invited to discover and cultivate their talents and to express themselves in a supportive, encouraging environment. I look forward to working with you as we celebrate our 30th anniversary and another season of excellence in the arts!

Warm regards,



Raye Lynn Mercer



Vicario Studios

Director

Raye Lynn Mercer

Founder of the Franklin School for the Performing Arts, Raye Lynn received a BA Degree in Music from Middlebury College and attended the Vienna International Music Center in Vienna, Austria, where she studied with Maria-Regina Seidlhofer of the Academy of Music. Her teachers included Guiseppi deLellis, Diana Fanning, Gabriel Chodos and Yoriko Takahashi. Pianist, director and choreographer, Raye Lynn has presented 29 seasons of musicals, plays, concerts and dance productions with FSPA and the community-based Franklin Performing Arts Company, established in 1991. Raye Lynn serves as Administrator of the school, oversees the FSPA musical theater program and directs the international touring ensemble **ELECTRIC YOUTH**. Her school's student resumés include placement in top college and conservatory arts programs, national Broadway tours, regional and touring companies, European concert tours, the American Idol finals and annual performances at Disney World. Combining profession and hobby, Raye Lynn has directed Symphony of Horses productions across the country. Internationally, she has developed **ELECTRIC YOUTH'S** professional concert tours in Europe and taught musical theater workshops in Austria and Hong Kong. President and Executive Director of the Franklin Performing Arts Company, Raye Lynn is the visionary of THE BLACK BOX, a new performance and event venue located behind FSPA in the heart of downtown Franklin.

Contact us at info@fsponline.com

Cover Photo (Ballerina): Siggul/Visual Arts Masters

Welcome to 38 Main! Step inside the home of the Franklin School for the Performing Arts and experience the

Arts in Action

In Studio I, Ballet Mistress Cheryl Madeux, a former American Ballet Theatre and Joffrey Ballet dancer, moves purposely around the room working with each of her students, providing both encouragement and finely tuned corrections. Upstairs, Pro Voice Director Hallie Wetzell teaches 6- and 7-year-olds in a Let's Sing class, the first in a series of sequential voice classes offered at FSPA to build repertoire, ear training and healthy technique. Down the hall, drama instructor Nick Paone, a former Equity actor, coaches a group of energetic students in a lively improvisation. Around the corner, Little Music School Director Kim Rezendes engages the very youngest piano students, assigning a color to each note on the keyboard.

What will YOU experience at FSPA? Who will you meet? What will you learn? How will you grow? Join us and discover YOUR place at 38 Main!

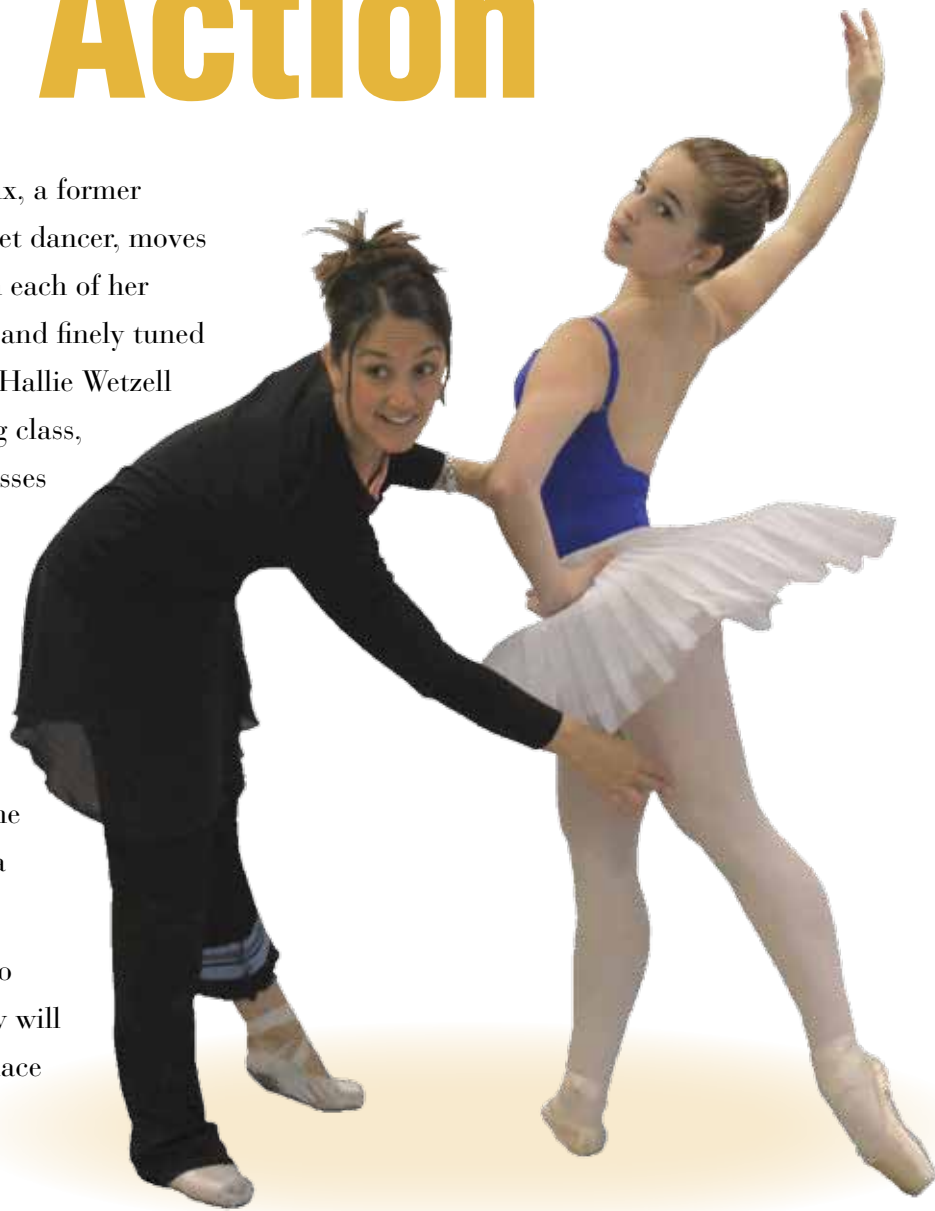


Photo: Galen Hancock photography

Little Music School



The Little Music School (LMS) teaches children as young as 18 months to play the piano and explore the musical world around them. The method's basic

principle is that all children are born with intrinsic musical ability. The sooner they are introduced to music, the greater their ability to understand and appreciate it. This belief is fostered by engaging children with the following LMS components: recognizing and working with colors, playing games, moving, singing and performing. The LMS program is built on The Three Cs – Color, Creativity and Core.

The LMS program welcomes children into a musical land where each note is a color and each color opens up a whole new world to them. They learn to love music in group play, singing, playing the piano and other instruments, imagining

and creating. In addition to learning how to read and play music on the piano, children are introduced to basic musical concepts and various genres of music that will help them to enjoy and understand music for years to come. Learning about music, children gain confidence, independence and self-esteem while developing creativity and social, developmental and communication skills.

Initially, children attend class with their peers twice weekly (maximum 7:1 student-faculty ratio) and are taught by instructors with extensive backgrounds in music and childhood education. Upon completion of their studies, LMS graduates leave the program with wonderful memories of making new friends, learning how to play the piano,

understanding the musical environment around them

and creating a lifelong love of music.

Under the direction of Kim Rezendes, the Little Music School method is available to select institutions worldwide. FSPA is pleased to be the first school in the US to offer this unique program.



CHILDREN'S MUSIC PROGRAMS

Rattles and Rhythms

Rattles and Rhythms is a music program for 1-year-olds and an adult caregiver. Thirty-minute classes encourage children to observe, sing, play, imagine, create and learn with others. This is a great opportunity for adults and their children to be exposed to music in a fun, energetic and interesting environment while learning and growing.

Wee Play

Wee Play is a 30-minute class for 2- and 3-year-olds and an adult caregiver. It focuses on singing, listening, moving and instrumental play while learning basic musical concepts.

Do-Re-ME!

Do-Re-ME! is a 30-minute class designed for 4- and 5-year-olds that includes age appropriate singing, listening, instrumental playing and learning basic musical concepts. It also introduces students to rhythmic and notational reading as well as basic music history. Students' recognition of the letters A through G is extremely important. Parental support and involvement with students' homework and activities are vital to success in this program.

INSTRUMENTAL PROGRAM

Private Lessons

The FSPA Music Department offers private lessons in all instruments. A student may begin private lessons at any time during the year, given teacher availability. Music Department Student Recitals are scheduled throughout the year. Written evaluations are issued at the end of the school year. Make-up policies can be found in the FSPA 2014-2015 Class Schedule. Ear training and/or theory classes are recommended to supplement private music instruction, especially for those with serious aspirations in music.

Private lessons are scheduled in order of date of registration.

Introduction to Theory, Composition and Improvisation

Level I (Grades 1-4)

Level II (Grades 5-8)

Level III (Grades 9-12)

Music theory provides the tools necessary to unlock creative freedom in composition and improvisation and produces quicker learners, better sight-readers and smarter, more sensitive musicians. Students explore the parameters of music composition in hands-on ways through group activities and self-directed projects. In addition to learning the rudiments of scales, chords, basic progressions and simple counterpoint, students also gain experience with computer notation programs and recording software. A formal recital of student compositions will be presented. Students must have prior note-reading instruction.

FSPA "Jazz Krewe" Instrumental Ensemble

Under the direction of FSPA Music Faculty members Arnie Krakowsky and Kenny Hadley, and with special guest musicians throughout the year, "Jazz Krewe" meets on a weekly basis and explores all genres of music, including jazz, R&B, rock, blues, funk and pop. For students of all ages and any instrument, it is a great opportunity for musicians to supplement their instrumental studies.

FSPA "Groovemasters" Percussion Ensemble

Under the direction of FSPA Music Faculty member, Kenny Hadley, the FSPA Percussion Ensemble meets on a weekly basis and exposes students to the rudiments of Latin drumming techniques, ensemble and orchestral playing and solo and ensemble work. The FSPA "Groovemasters" Percussion Ensemble performs in FSPA's annual Spring Concert. Acceptance into this ensemble is by invitation only.

Small Ensemble Coaching

A weekly coaching class designed to give instrumental students experience in playing with others, small groups are coached by experienced musical professionals in various aspects of ensemble playing including blending, staying together, part preparation, rehearsal technique and musical interpretation. Ensemble groups may perform throughout the year.

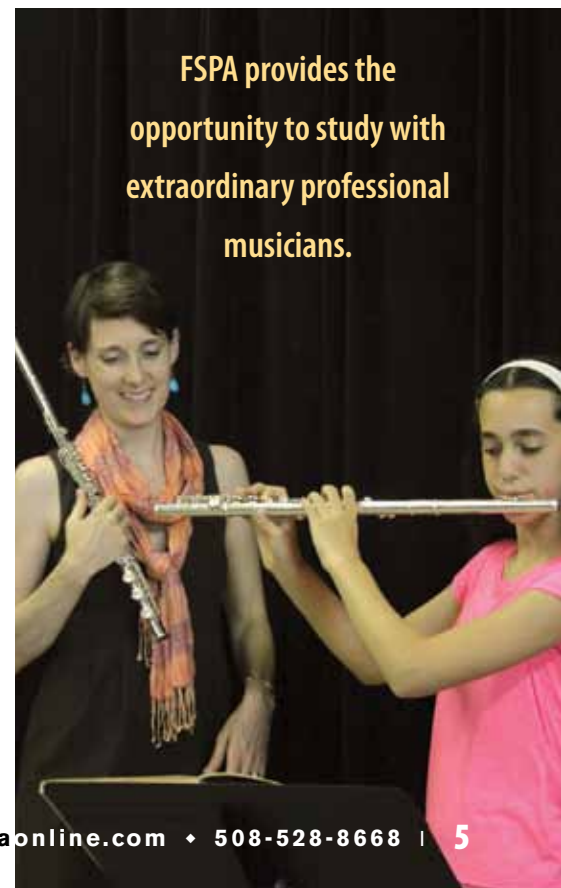
Ear Training

Ear training is a course designed for students ages 12 and older that strengthens the ability to hear sounds intelligently, through oral in-class performance and written dictation. An indispensable course for vocal and instrumental students, classes cover melodic/harmonic interval recognition, chord progression analysis, solfege, clef reading, sight singing and more. A basic ability to read music is a helpful prerequisite.

Pop Piano

Piano students learn how to read lead sheets and chord symbols to play ragtime, blues, funk, soul, R&B, rock and jazz.

FSPA provides the opportunity to study with extraordinary professional musicians.



Music Department Programs

VOICE PROGRAM

Private Lessons

The FSPA Music Department offers private lessons in voice. A student may begin private lessons at any time during the year, given teacher availability. Music Department Student Recitals are scheduled throughout the year. Make-up policies can be found in the FSPA 2014-2015 Class Schedule. Private lessons are scheduled in order of date of registration.

Voice Classes

Voice classes are designed for young singers (ages 6-18) looking to gain experience and basic technique. Classes focus on the fundamentals of breathing, vowel placement, sight-reading and ear training. A wide-ranging repertoire is studied including classical, musical theater, pop, rock and jazz genres. Solo and choral repertoire is studied at every level. Age, vocal maturity and experience determine level placement. Students wishing to enroll in Levels II, III or IV must be evaluated by the Vocal Director.

Class Levels

Let's Sing (ages 6-7) 45 minutes

Voice I (ages 8-9) 60 minutes

Voice II (ages 10-14) 60 minutes

Voice III (ages 11-14) 60 minutes

Voice IV (ages 11-14) 60 minutes

Teen Voice (ages 13+) 60 minutes

Boys' Voice (ages 9-13) 60 minutes

Teen Voice

Teen Voice is designed for the beginning to intermediate singer. Emphasis is placed on building confidence along with a healthy vocal technique. Repertoire includes musical theater and popular contemporary genres.



Vocal Coaching

Vocal coaching is offered to intermediate to advanced singers to enhance their regularly scheduled lessons. Proper vocal approach is stressed but with less emphasis on technique and more effort placed on interpreting a song. Coachings may also be scheduled to prepare for auditions.

FSPA Glee Club

Glee Club is a performance-based class that focuses on tight harmonies, rhythmic nuance and emoting a song as a soloist and as an ensemble. Glee Club also provides the perfect setting to continue work on ear training and sight-reading skills, increasing the level of musicianship from its members. Glee Club performs at FSPA events throughout the year. Students must be concurrently enrolled in Voice II or above and have the recommendation of their teacher.



Performing Opportunities for Singers

For voice students eager to bring their skills to the stage, FSPA's calendar of performances is chock full of wide-ranging opportunities — from studio voice recitals and opera scenes to acoustic coffee houses and musical theater showcases. FSPA's affiliation with the Franklin Performing Arts Company provides opportunities to perform in FPAC's main stage musicals with professional orchestra.



FSPA at the Oscars



FSPA alumna **Nadine Malouf** had the distinct opportunity to perform alongside Anne Hathaway, Hugh Jackman, Russell Crowe and other principals from Cameron Mackintosh's film adaptation of *Les Misérables* at the 85th annual Academy Awards in Los Angeles!

Nadine was part of Mackintosh's 25th anniversary national tour of *Les Misérables*, performing a seven-month run in the ensemble and as the understudy for Eponine. Nadine's burgeoning film career includes the British drama *Shame*, with Michael Fassbender and Carey Mulligan, and a featured role in Cherien Dabis' *May in the Summer*, which premiered at Sundance Film Festival 2013 as an opening day pick. Nadine studied at London's Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts during the summer of 2013, where she played Lady M in their production of *Macbeth*. In June/July 2014 Nadine starred in the LCT3/Lincoln Center Theater New York premiere of Pulitzer Prize winner Ayad Akhtar's *The Who & The What*.

"Everything that I learned at FSPA I see and use every day in my professional life. I attribute my discipline, my drive, my work ethic, my knowledge and my talent to the Franklin School for the Performing Arts. It was my foundation. It was the beginning of my understanding and my growth as a performer."

- Nadine Malouf

COMMUNITY PARTNERS FSPA AND FPAC

A Performing Arts Campus Grows Up *in the Heart of Downtown Franklin*

Since 1991, FSPA's community partner the Franklin Performing Arts Company (FPAC) has provided ongoing opportunities for professional artists, area performers, students and families to connect through the arts. FPAC's focus on youth development is reflected in the scores of children and teens cast in company productions each season. FPAC now proudly debuts a new performance venue, THE BLACK BOX, in downtown Franklin just behind FSPA. The school and company share a passion for quality arts education and performance, with a commitment to live music. Many FSPA students participate, through audition, in FPAC main stage musicals, dance, plays, concerts and community presentations. With THE BLACK BOX, the FSPA community will enjoy expanded FPAC programming, with new opportunities for creative expression and increased access to quality live theater, dance and music in our backyard.



Inspiring Students

FSPA students learn from a faculty of accomplished artists and dedicated teachers who share a passion and love for the arts. Our teachers bring an extraordinary scope of training, teaching and performing experiences to their work at FSPA. Here students find mentors with real-world experience and understanding to guide and support their development and growth.

Do You Know?

- ◆ FSPA faculty members have performed, recorded and toured with such music

legends as Dizzy Gillespie, Van Morrison, Tony Bennett and Ray Charles. Our teachers have performed as guest artists or members of such illustrious companies and ensembles as American Ballet Theatre, Artie Shaw Band, Berkshire Ballet, Boston Ballet, Boston Liturgical Ensemble, Boston Philharmonic Orchestra, Count Basie Orchestra, Kiev State Dance Classical Ensemble, Jean Appolon Expressions, Joffrey Ballet, Newport Music Festival, Opera Night in Canada and Opera Unmet.

- ◆ Our faculty brings a global perspective to teaching, with performance experiences and training that spans many continents in such countries as Austria, Canada, Haiti, Israel, Japan, Lithuania, Russia, Switzerland and Taiwan.





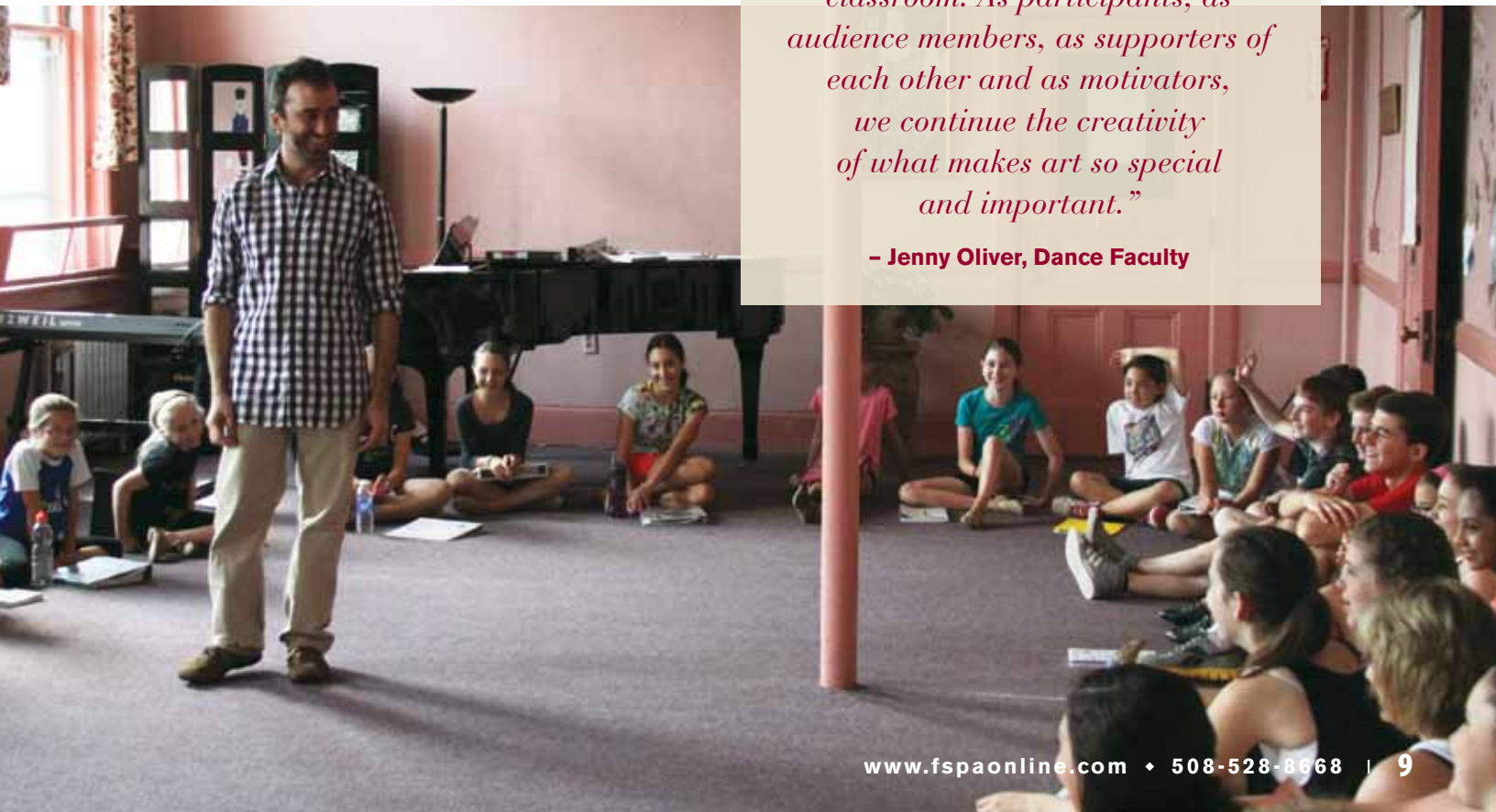
- ◆ FSPA teachers have prepared students for the New England regional semi-finals and NYC finals of the Youth America Grand Prix (YAGP) international ballet competition, for the touring companies of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and *Evita*, and for such prestigious summer ballet intensives as the American Ballet Theatre, Bolshoi Ballet Academy, Complexions Contemporary Ballet, Joffrey Ballet School and Nutmeg Ballet Conservatory.
- ◆ These mentors have also helped students gain admission to renowned musical theater, dance, classical voice and instrumental programs at America's top colleges, universities and conser-

vatories. Our alumni have earned professional credits in national Broadway tours, cruise line casts, regional theater, television and film.

- ◆ Many FSPA faculty members perform, choreograph and direct in Franklin Performing Arts Company (FPAC) productions, sharing a stage and creative experience with the scores of FSPA students who appear in FPAC's season of shows.

“The relationship between student and faculty makes FSPA a special place. It is a dream to work in a community that brings many aspects of the arts together, not only through performing but also in the classroom. As participants, as audience members, as supporters of each other and as motivators, we continue the creativity of what makes art so special and important.”

- Jenny Oliver, Dance Faculty



Children's Dance

Creative Dance

This class for 3- and 4-year-olds is an introduction to dance that explores creative movement, levels, shapes, tempos and rhythms and develops coordination and locomotor skills. Props and stories are used to engage young children and to create a fun and active learning environment. This class presents a studio performance in lieu of Spring Concert. Students must be able to participate in class without parental presence and should be cooperative in a group situation. Three-year-olds must be evaluated in a class prior to registration.

Rhythm & Movement

This class for 4- and 5- year-olds offers pre-dance instruction including exercises in balance, movement, rhythm, coordination and creativity. Children begin to develop locomotor skills, such as skipping and galloping, and learn the structure of a dance class. Stories and props are used to engage young children. Listening skills are encouraged. Students must be 4 years old or have completed a year of Creative Dance.

Pre-Ballet

This is a primary course which allows 5-7 year-olds the opportunity to progress into any form of dance. Rudimentary ballet positions, as well as basic ballet vocabulary, are taught along with floor exercises, simple steps and correct posture. A greater emphasis on musicality and rhythm is encouraged. Five-year-olds must have studied one year of Rhythm & Movement at FSPA or be evaluated and recommended for Pre-Ballet by an FSPA instructor.

Introduction to Ballet

This class is for students ages 6-8 and begins a wider study of ballet vocabulary with a greater focus on correct posture and placement. The importance of concentration, self-control, and discipline are emphasized and necessary for the progression to Ballet I. Basic steps are performed in the center, across the floor,

and in simple pathways. Students must have completed Rhythm & Movement and Pre-Ballet programs at FSPA or be evaluated for Introduction to Ballet by an FSPA instructor.

Ballet

Ballet Conservatory Track

Ballet Conservatory Classes

FSPA's Ballet Conservatory Program offers classical ballet education of the highest quality. An extensive range of training and performance experiences provides exceptional opportunities for students of all ages and levels interested in the study of classical ballet. The FSPA Ballet curriculum is based on the foundations of the Vaganova syllabus and, since 2009, incorporates the new ABT National Training Curriculum as well.

The first levels of the ballet program begin an earnest study of classical ballet. Barre work is introduced with a strong focus on individual turnout, foot development and port de bra. As dancers progress into the intermediate levels, the faculty carefully evaluates each student's progress and potential for pointe work while continuing to nurture the desire to dance. The Pre-



Photo: Sigul/Visual Arts Masters





Professional Program begins advanced ballet technique and pointe. Admission is by teacher evaluation and audition only. This program consists of our most challenging and demanding schedule and provides additional performance opportunities for dancers, along with private coaching and extra classes if desired.

Ballet Conservatory Ensemble

This class is designed to expand students' repertoire while improving technique and developing artistry. Dancers will learn challenging variations and ensemble sections from classical ballets such as *Sleeping Beauty* and *Swan Lake* and will work on original choreography when appropriate. There will be a studio performance each trimester to showcase their efforts and put performance skills into practice. Conservatory Ensemble is offered to Ballet levels II-V.

Standard Ballet Track

Standard Ballet Classes

The Standard Track is designed to train and educate students in classical ballet so they may use this knowledge to enhance other disciplines and prepare to enter competitive college dance programs, if desired. Pointe is not offered on this track, allowing for fewer requirements and greater flexibility of schedules. Students will be evaluated for placement in the level to assure continued development

and success. Ballet levels A and B meet once a week for 60 minutes. Ballet B has the option of twice per week by participating in Ballet A as well. Levels C, D and E meet for 90 minutes twice a week. Teacher evaluation is necessary for proper placement.

Recreational Track

Recreational Classes

The three-level Recreation Ballet Program is comprised of once-a-week classes to meet the needs of older students with no prior experience who wish to explore the discipline of classical ballet, dancers with some experience who want to continue study for enjoyment, and advanced dancers with limited time in their schedules. All Recreational Levels present a studio demonstration for parents in lieu of Spring Concert.

Character Dance

Character Dance is offered to ballet students of all tracks and levels as a supplement to students' classical ballet training. The class enhances dancers' knowledge of the classics and improves musicality, coordination, use of the upper body and stage presence. A subdivision of classical dance, character dance is the stylized representation of traditional folk or national dances, mostly from European countries, and uses movements which have been adapted for the theater.



Photo: Sigurd/Visual Arts Masters

Dance Department Programs

Character dance is integral to many classical ballets, including *Swan Lake* and *Paquita*. Popular character dance adaptations that are seen in these ballets, such as mazurka and tarantella, are introduced.

Boys' Ballet

This is an introductory-level class for boys ages 10 and up. Class focuses on alignment, turnout, flexibility, strength, coordination, turns, and jumps and utilizes traditional ballet vocabulary. The class consists of warm-up barre work and basic movements in the center.

Dance for Musical Theater

Dance for Musical Theater

includes a jazz warm-up, incorporating isolations and modern and jazz technique along with stretching. Students learn stylized movement from choreographers such as Fosse, Bennett, Robbins and Cole, who not only influenced the musical theater world but the entire dance genre. Curriculum includes an in-depth look into choreographers from various Broadway shows and movie musicals, learning the history and motivation behind the movement. Level I is recommended for ages 10+ and levels II and III for ages 13+. Placement in levels II and III is by audition or teacher recommendation.

Jazz

Jazz classes explore traditional, Broadway and contemporary styles in a fun, energetic atmosphere. Classes begin with a warm-up which stresses technique, flexibility, coordination and strength, followed by progressions across the floor, center work and combinations. Beginner students learn fundamental jazz steps and basic vocabulary through across the floor exercises and simple combinations. Intermediate classes focus on body placement and proper technique, stretching and development of skills. Advanced classes emphasize quality of movement in addition to perfecting

technique, performance skills and varied styles. Introduction to Jazz is offered for ages 5-7, Jazz I for ages 7-9, and Jazz II for ages 8-10. Jazz levels IV-VII require a weekly ballet class. Ballet is not required for levels A-D, allowing for greater flexibility of schedules. Ballet is recommended for Jazz III, while Jazz III-VII and Jazz A-D are 90-minute classes.



Boys' Dance I-III

Various styles of jazz and stage movement are explored in Boys' Dance. Classes are well suited to students in musical theater.

Lyrical

Lyrical dance, a subcategory of the jazz genre, incorporates ballet and modern technique and vocabulary. Lyrical dance is exemplified by its use of traditional ballet technique, various jazz styles and emotional musical connection. Classes consist of center barre as well as choreography that infuses all three genres.

Lyrical I (ages 8-12)

is a 60-minute class and Lyrical II, III and IV (ages 12+) are 90-minute classes. Placement in levels II, III and IV is by evaluation or teacher recommendation.

Modern

Modern I is a beginner/intermediate level class for students ages 10-13 and older who have been studying another dance discipline for at least one year. The class concentrates on body awareness, exploring different levels, traveling movements, and positions and increasing the body's strength and flexibility. The concept of fall and recovery, jumps, turns, improvisation and exploration of different musical rhythms and their dynamics are introduced. **Modern II** is an advanced level modern class for students ages 13+ who are ready for more challenging exercises. Advanced modern technique is studied with an emphasis on dance improvisation. Choreographic principles are introduced. Ballet is required.

Horton Technique

The Horton dance technique is described as anatomically corrective and stresses long lines and demanding isolations that build strength as well as flexibility. It is accessible to all and supports the more strenuous demands of a classical ballet

dancer. Classes are 60 minutes and include flat backs, lateral stretches, leg swings, deep lunges and falls. Students learn how to sustain positions without injury.

Tap

Tap classes are offered to students ages 5 and up and focus on rhythm, musicality and timing. All classes begin with an energetic warm-up, across-the-floor exercises and combinations. Our beginner students explore the fundamental steps of tap dance, learn tap terminology and develop the ability to maintain correct body placement. Intermediate classes further develop skills, focusing on clarity of sounds and increasing speed as well as dynamics and musicality. Our advanced tap dancers are challenged through improvisational exercises, intricate rhythms and footwork. All tap classes are 60 minutes and are offered in levels I-VII and levels A-C with an introduction to tap class for ages 5-7.

Ladies' Tap

Ladies' Tap offers adult women an opportunity to learn basic tap steps, terminology and body placement. Ladies' Tap



Photo: Scott May

provides an excellent source of camaraderie and exercise. Tap classes meet weekly for 60 minutes.

Hip Hop

Hip Hop is offered to grades 5 and up. Class includes a warm-up which concentrates on building stamina, improving strength and flexibility, body conditioning and rhythm isolations. Level I/II focuses on building a foundation of basic hip hop movements, across-the-floor exercises and short combinations to today's popular music. Level III/IV is for dancers with a strong understanding and ability to perform traditional hip-hop movements. Students will

continue to develop body strength, flexibility and stamina and will be challenged to learn and recall advanced choreography from week to week. An emphasis on core conditioning will also become a part of the warm-up. Teacher recommendation is required for level III/IV.

Dance Conditioning

Casey's Class

Casey's Class focuses on strengthening and flexibility as well as jumps and turns. Each week students experience various conditioning exercises that work on core, upper and lower body strength followed by a series of stretches that improve flexibility. Class finishes with turn, leaps and skill combinations. All dancers, beginner to advanced, benefit from this class! Level I is offered for ages 9-12, Level II for ages 13-14 and Level III for ages 15+.

Performing Opportunities for Dancers

Performing is an encouraged part of the training process at FSPA and helps dancers grow and develop. Opportunities include FSPA's annual Spring Concert, featuring all disciplines and many levels of dance. Two dance ensembles perform locally and the senior dance company performs annually at Walt Disney World. Ballet Conservatory Ensemble develops technique and artistry through class work and performance of classical variations. FSPA's annual Ballet Repertoire Series features a mixed bill of diverse repertoire designed to expand students' knowledge of the classics and to explore contemporary ballet and choreography. Many FSPA dancers are also cast, by audition, in Franklin Performing Arts Company's holiday production of *The Nutcracker*, performed with professional orchestra and special guest artists.



Photo: Mark Merten



Photo: Brandon Hancock

“What I’m most proud of is the community we have built around the arts.”

**–FSPA Director
Raye Lynn Mercer**

Infectious mix of friendship and **Common Purpose**

At FSPA students grow up surrounded by peers who enjoy the same interests. The energy, enthusiasm and excitement found at the school reflect an infectious mix of friendship and common purpose. Whether in classes and rehearsals or hanging in the hallways, students have fun together, support and learn from one another. Mentoring and peer leadership happen naturally. Ours is a family-oriented and student-centered community that supports teamwork, collaboration and connection as integral parts of creative experiences. Students learn to share ideas, respect the input of others, be sensitive to differences, problem solve and think outside the box. In every music ensemble, dance or theatrical performance, the contribution of each participant has value and impacts the success of the group – no matter how large or small the role.



Photo: Peter Millette



Photo: Scott May

More than 125 friends came out to cheer Jack on when Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* came to Providence Performing Arts Center!



Photo: Amy Boyle

Jack Mullen Hits the Road with *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*



In June 2014, FSPA student Jack Mullen concluded a nine-month run as Chip in the NETWORKS National Tour of *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*! A musical theater student, Jack was

first cast in the role through FSPA's association with Broadway Artists Alliance (BAA) of New York City. At a three-day BAA Intensive and industry-panel showcase, Jack caught the attention of casting director Bob Cline and was asked to audition for the part of Chip. Jack sang and read for the role on a Monday morning, learned he had earned the part that afternoon, and joined the tour seven days later!

"Being on tour was exciting and taught me many valuable lessons. I will miss my "Beauty family" and the adventures we had on tour, but I am very excited to reconnect with my friends and continue my training at FSPA."

- Jack Mullen

"Jack's FSPA and FPAC (Franklin Performing Arts Company) experiences inspired his passion and helped shape and prepare him. With each show, he's learned how to conduct himself backstage and express himself onstage. It's been a great introduction to understanding how a production is put together and what is expected of you."

- Nicole Mullen



Photo: Trevor Sones

Drama Department Programs



Photo: Peter Millette

Act One

Children in grades 3-5 discover, create and experience drama as an art and learning experience. Music, poetry and stories are used to expand the creative imagination. Speech activities are designed to encourage each child to improvise words and dialogue for imagined characters in a variety of circumstances. Group activities reinforce the goals of cooperation and acceptance of the ideas of others.

Creative Dramatics

Open to students in grades 6-8, this class gives students the opportunity to explore and expand their theatrical imagination. Using theater games, improvisations and simple scenes, students learn to create characters, tell compelling stories and use their voices, faces and bodies more effectively.



Building Characters

This acting class for students in grades 5-8 will allow the talents of serious young actors to find a voice. The ensemble will NOT play a lot of games, but rather work on character building, stage presence and script work. This is meant as an opportunity for students who want to learn acting and be part of a company. Acceptance into this class is by evaluation only.

Principles of Acting

Principles of Acting is for students in grades 9-12 who wish to begin a more serious study of acting and theater. Students use improvisation and original scenes to continue exploring characterization. They also work on scripted monologues and get brief introductions to theater history and its traditions.

Scenes and Monologues

Scenes and Monologues is a high level acting class which concentrates on script work and character development. Students are held to a high standard and are expected to work on material outside of class.

Improv

Improv focuses on building students' abilities to create collaboratively on the spot. We will explore techniques that will allow performers to feel more confident creating in front of a live audience.

Acting Seminar

Acting Seminar is an opportunity for students who want a broader theater curriculum. During the year, the students themselves will help guide the topics that they want to study. In the past, this class has ranged from audition preparation to magic, costume design to directing.

ON STAGE!

All FSPA Musical Theater classes will perform three times this year!

A Holiday Tribute • December 2014

Musical Theater Showcase • March 2015

Spring Concert • May 2015

Participation in these performances is optional.

Children's Musical Theater

For students in grades K-1, this class provides an introduction to skills in acting, singing and dancing. This is a performance-oriented class with regular attendance required in addition to learning lyrics and reviewing choreography at home, if necessary.

Musical Theater I-IV

For students in grades 2-4, Musical Theater I explores and reinforces acting, singing and dancing techniques and styles. More involved performance pieces and materials are introduced. Musical Theater II, for students in grades 5-7, builds on the skills learned in both Children's Musical Theater and Musical Theater I, with emphasis placed on preparation of material, performance skills and stage presence. Musical Theater III /IV, for grades 8-12, builds and expands vocal, acting and movement skills. Students present songs and scenes in class and learn techniques

for speaking and singing in character. Musical theater history and legends of the Broadway stage are also explored. Regular attendance and commitment to learning more advanced material is required.

Musical Theater Conservatory

The new Musical Theater Conservatory program is open to dedicated and enthusiastic students in grades 8-12 who are ready to commit to a comprehensive musical theater curriculum. The program offers an opportunity to engage in the performing arts at a high level and to explore possibilities for college and career. Conservatory students will meet weekly for Seminar class, to include song interpretation and musical theater scenes. Each trimester a full Broadway musical is studied and will conclude with a Sitzprobe full reading of the show for an audience. Students interested will apply to the program prior to September 1st. Conservatory requirements: a minimum of one acting class, at least four hours of

dance per week including ballet and jazz, one hour private voice, Musical Theater Seminar, Sitzprobe, at least one performance ensemble (Dance Company, Glee Club, Improv, Troupes). Musical Theater Conservatory faculty: Raye Lynn Mercer, Nick Paone and Hallie Wetzell.

Sitzprobe

Sitzprobe (German for seated rehearsals) is a part of FSPA's Musical Theater Conservatory that is open to everyone. Each trimester, the Conservatory students will learn and present a read-through of a major musical. Before inviting the public to experience the exciting stories live, auditions will be held for anyone who wishes to be a part of the presentation. Participants will learn all of the music from one show and be a part of reading that show for an audience. No memorization is necessary. With these sitzprobes, students and fans will become familiar with major works of musical theater with only a few rehearsals. Ages 10 and up by audition.

Photo: Peter Millette





A



C



K

Photo: Peter Millette



F

Photo: Peter Millette



D

So much MORE than a Performing Art

FSPA is a vibrant community, a home away from home for so many children and teens, and a nurturing place to grow up – a dynamic hub of nonstop activity and opportunity, where students learn about themselves, make lifelong friendships, realize their potential, and develop the performing and life skills to launch the futures of their dreams.

Here are just a handful of the countless FSPA experiences that help make 38 Main such a special and transformative place.

A Disney!

For 20 years FSPA ensembles have performed at Walt Disney World and taken workshops with Disney performers, choreographers and directors. This annual experience for select performing troupes and senior dance company is truly magical!

B ELECTRIC YOUTH

This international touring ensemble of singer-dancers trained at FSPA is backed by an eight-piece band of Boston's finest musicians. *EY* has toured Europe 11 times, recorded six CDs, and performed at iconic venues at home and abroad.

C FSPA Jazz Krewe

Students of all ages and instruments explore and jam to varied genres of music – including jazz, R&B, rock, blues, funk and pop – with special guest musicians and renowned FSPA faculty members Kenny Hadley and Arnie Krakowsky, supplementing instrumental lessons in a dynamic, hands-on way.

D Musical Theater Troupes & Dance Companies

Students in grades 5-12 enjoy outstanding training and performing opportunities along with a special camaraderie that comes with being part of an ensemble team.



M



E



L



J



A



I

Photo: Peter Millette

s School!

E PROJECT DANCE

Nurture your passion for dance with a fun array of activities including master classes, dance conventions, flash mobs and field trips.

F FSPA All-Student Shows

These full-length musicals cast any student who auditions each year, providing a showcase for both beginner and more seasoned talents to shine!

G Guest Artists

FSPA hosts annual master classes with accomplished stars of the musical theater and dance world, such as Davis Robertson

(Joffrey Ballet School) and Broadway headliners Tyler Hanes, Tony Mansker and Tyrick Wiltez Jones.

H Ballet Conservatory Collaborations

Collaborations with the Metrowest Symphony Orchestra and Symphony Pro Musica have provided special opportunities for Ballet Conservatory dancers to perform classic works with live orchestra.

I Friend In Me Theater Company

FSPA teens are paired with students with special needs to share weekly musical theater experiences including movement, theater games and sing alongs.

J Spring Concert

FSPA Spring Concert is a highlight at the end of the school year showcasing student's training and progress through performances in dance, musical theater and voice.

K SummerStage

The fun continues year round at FSPA with summer session programs such as SummerStage, ballet intensives, one-week camps, workshops, classes and lessons.

L Little Music School

FSPA's youngest students beam with pride at their LMS recitals and graduation ceremony.

M Future Shock

FSPA students who audition for Future Shock are able to add to their performing opportunities during the school year participating in Broadway in Franklin weekend.



H



L



G



B

Love What You Learn. Learn What You Love.



Photo: Scott May

At FSPA, there's something for everyone! You'll find music, dance and drama experiences for all ages and ability levels. Our performing arts programming encourages learning through doing, while building skills and self-esteem. Children develop a sense of independence and accomplishment at an early age in an environment that is both expectation-driven and supportive. We teach the performing arts, but we also impart life skills. And whether or not students pursue the arts for college or career, they leave here having developed poise and self-confidence, with an ability to present themselves and communicate effectively, to improvise and create, and to better manage and organize their time. The lessons our students learn and the values we share – respect, kindness, discipline, teamwork and leadership – make our school a great choice for extracurricular involvement and a very special place to grow up.



Photo: Mark Merten



Photo: Peter Millette



Grow with Us!

Go Anywhere!



Colleen Megley

FSPA Class of 2006

BA (Summa Cum Laude) in Biology and Dance – Connecticut College
MA in Dance Education and Ballet Pedagogy – New York University
(with American Ballet Theatre)

“FSPA was so much more than a school to me—it was my second home! As a dancer, performer and educator, I now know how rare the high level of training I received at FSPA is and I am so grateful for all of the incredible opportunities provided. The professional teaching faculty and staff are beyond compare and continue to support me in every step of my career. I currently serve as the Assistant Coordinator and Faculty Teacher for the School at Peridance Capezio Center and I also work with ABT’s National Training Curriculum to assist Teacher Training. FSPA opened so many doors for me professionally and personally and the staff and students there have become lifelong friends and family!”



Janna Burke

FSPA Class of 2002

BA in Music/English – Muhlenberg College
MM in Vocal Performance – Duquesne University

“After graduating from Muhlenberg College in 2008, I toured China with a group from Duquesne performing opera arias and scenes and attended the Ezio Pinza Council for American Singers of Opera in Oderzo, Italy. I moved to NYC to perform with the Bronx Opera and worked for The Metropolitan Opera as Manager of Patron and Individual Giving. I currently serve as the Major Gifts Officer at the Brooklyn Museum. Training at FSPA has given me poise and confidence and, with Hallie Wetzell, I built a vocal foundation that helped me succeed in college and professional auditions.”

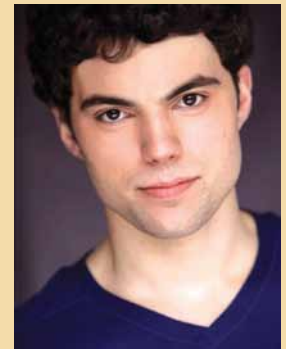


Dan Gleason

FSPA Class of 2006

BFA in Musical Theater – Pennsylvania State University

“Touring nationally with *American Idiot* was one of the greatest experiences of my life. Performing eight shows a week in various cities is exciting and rewarding, but can also be very taxing on the body. I owe a lot of my consistent vocal health and technique throughout the rigorous run to my years at FSPA. Healthy singing habits were ingrained in my body and now it has become second nature. Singing a variety of music styles at a young age also set me up to be a diverse performer in my career. Right before I hit the road with the Green Day rock musical, I was tap dancing and singing in a quartet in Gershwin’s *My One and Only* at the Goodspeed Opera House. FSPA has set me up for success in life and I am so thankful for my years of training in my hometown!”





The Broadway Connection

“I wish I had a Franklin School for the Performing Arts in my life when I was growing up. It’s invaluable.”



- Beth Leavel
Tony Award Winner for *The Drowsy Chaperone*, headlining FPAC’s 2012 Gala at Gillette Stadium

“It’s really inspiring to work with performers who are so accomplished. Seeing and appreciating how good they are makes you more determined to improve. It’s an opportunity that most kids don’t get to have. All of the Broadway stars are great to work with and make you feel comfortable taking risks and trying new things.”

- Jenna McDermott, FSPA student

Through an affiliation with Broadway Artists Alliance (BAA) of New York City, FSPA musical theater students in performing troupes have the opportunity to participate in an annual weekend program of workshops with Broadway performers, directors, choreographers and casting professionals. The customized program is held at Ripley-Grier Studios, where many Broadway shows audition and rehearse, and includes acting, song interpretation and theater dance master classes. Many of our students are invited to return for BAA Intensives to participate in advanced classes and a showcase before an industry panel of NYC agents, managers and casting directors. Broadway performers have also visited 38 Main to share their expertise, advice and personal stories with FSPA students in dance and musical theater master classes.

FSPA’s association with Broadway Artists Alliance began when BAA Founder and Director Jennifer Johns cast and music directed FSPA students locally for the Boston run of the 2000 National Tour of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and subsequently for the 2004 National Tour of *Evita*.

Assistant Directors

Kim Rezendes, Director of Little Music School and Children's Music

Kim Rezendes graduated magna cum laude from Providence College with a BA in Music and from Rhode Island College with a master's degree in Teaching Music. As coordinator of Children's Music at FSPA, she also serves as Program Director for the Little Music School and Instructor of Musical Theater. Kim serves as Associate Organist and Cantor at St. Mary Church in Franklin. One of FSPA's first students, Kim joined the FSPA faculty in 1997.

Hallie Wetzell, Instructor of Voice, FSPA Vocal Director

Hallie Wetzell holds a BA in Theater from Occidental College and Master of Music degrees in Vocal Performance and Vocal Pedagogy from New England Conservatory of Music. As FSPA Vocal Director, Hallie oversees the Pro Voice program and serves as music director for all ensembles, as well as productions of the Franklin Performing Arts Company and *ELECTRIC YOUTH*. Hallie was the Vocal Director for the FSPA Children's Choirs for the professional touring companies of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* in 2000 and 2005 and *Evita* in 2004. She has been on FSPA's Faculty since 1998 and became Vocal Director for the Franklin Performing Arts Company in 1999.

Judy Bergesen, Instructor of Little Music School

Judy Bergesen holds a bachelor's degree from Framingham State College. Judy served as an elementary school teacher at the Benjamin Franklin Classical Charter Public School in Franklin from 1995 to 2012. She was previously Assistant Director at FSPA for six years, where she served as a Children's Music, Musical Theater and Acting instructor. Judy returned to the FSPA Faculty in 2013. She has extensive performing experience and also served on the Advisory Board for the Franklin Performing Arts Company.

Kitty Cheung-Evans, Instructor of Little Music School and Piano

Kitty Cheung-Evans holds a master's degree in Piano Performance from Longy School of Music and a bachelor's degree from the University of Lethbridge. Kitty joined the FSPA Music Faculty in 2007 and also teaches throughout central Massachusetts. She volunteers her time at the Boys' and Girls' Club in Leominster, where she lectured on music appreciation and the connection between music, art, society and history in conjunction with the Fitchburg Art Museum. Kitty is an active freelance solo pianist and has collaborated with instrumentalists, musical theater performers and choirs. Kitty's love of extended piano techniques includes improvisations, prepared piano and various electronics music, which has led her to become a frequent participant at the LongyLab since 2012.

Bryan Eyberg, Instructor of Piano

Bryan Eyberg is a pianist, keyboardist and composer. He received his master's degree from the University of Michigan School of Music in 1998. He has been teaching piano for nearly 15 years, has experience accompanying singers and instrumentalists, and currently plays keyboard for various bands in the Worcester area. Bryan studied piano with Anton Nel, vocal accompanying with Martin Katz and composition with Bright Sheng. He has performed across the

FACULTY BIOS

Aaron Andrade, Instructor of Acting

Aaron Andrade holds a BA in Performance and an MFA in Performance and Society. He has performed throughout New England at such theaters as Trinity Repertory Company, The Trinity Summer Shakespeare Project, Company One, Daydream Theatre Company, Beowulf Theatre and Elemental Theatre Company and as a company member at The Providence Black Repertory Company. He's toured the country in dual language versions of *Don Quixote* and *Cyrano de Bergerac*. Aaron has been featured on screen in the films *Future Justice*, *Charles & Bone*, *Permanent*, *Side by Each* and others. Past favorite roles include Eugene in *Yellowman*, Othello, and Javert in *Les Misérables*. In 2013 Aaron was invited to perform the role of Clay in *Dutchman* at the New England Theater Conference, representing faculty and staff of Rhode Island College. Currently he is the regional and nationals host for Elite Dance Challenge Competition and an adjunct faculty member of Rhode Island College Theater Department. Aaron joined the FSPA Drama Faculty in 2013.

Casey Harkness Andrade, Coordinator of Project Dance, Instructor of Acro, Boys' Dance, Casey's Class, Dance for Musical Theater, Jazz, Lyrical and Tap

Casey Harkness Andrade has been a professional choreographer, educator and performer for more than 10 years. She received her BA in dance performance from Rhode Island College, where she trained and studied with exceptional choreographers such as Clay Talifaro, Sean Curran and Mark Taylor. She continues her education at Broadway Dance Center in New York City, where she studies weekly with Michelle Barber, Chio, Justin Boccittio and Diana Laurenson. Her choreography has been recognized both regionally and nationally with numerous awards. While a member of the Andary Dance Company, Casey had the wonderful opportunity to perform at the Cunningham School in New York City. In 2011 Casey became an adjudicator and choreographer for the Elite Dance Challenge regional and national competition. Casey is an adjunct faculty member at Rhode Island College and has been on faculty at FSPA since 2011.

mid-west and throughout the Boston area and has also written and produced two albums of his own music. Bryan enjoys teaching all genres of music, including classical, jazz and contemporary. He joined the FSPA Music Faculty in 2004.

Irina Fainkichen, Instructor of Violin

Irina Fainkichen studied at the Rachmaninoff Music College and Leningrad State Conservatory in Russia and at the Rubin Academy of Music and Dance in Israel. With years of teaching experience both abroad and in the US, Irina has also served as concertmaster and soloist for various symphonies, including the Stanford Symphony, Leningrad Chamber, Tahoe Summer Festival and Newton Symphony. Irina joined the FSPA Music Faculty in 2009.

Kenny Hadley, Instructor of Drums, Director of FSPA Groovemasters and FSPA Jazz Krewe

Kenny Hadley joined the FSPA Music Faculty in 1998 and has extensive teaching experience, including master classes and teaching clinics throughout New England. He has played throughout the US, Europe and South America and has worked with many well-known musicians including Van Morrison, Dizzy Gillespie, The Count Basie Orchestra, Peter Wolf, The Drifters and Rebecca Parris, as well as with the North Shore Music Theater, Franklin Performing Arts Company and *EY*. Recently reunited, his Kenny Hadley Big Band released their latest CD in 2009 and performed a season of Sunday jazz concerts in Quincy.

Charlie Holbrook, Instructor of Tap

Charlie Holbrook joined the FSPA Dance Faculty in 2008. With years of teaching experience, he has served as dance instructor at such institutions as Boston Conservatory, University of Rhode Island, Cathy Taylor School of Dance, American Academy of Dance and Dean College. He currently is a teacher and co-director of Krylo Dance Studios in Rhode Island. Charlie's performance experience includes work at The Bonanza Hotel in

Las Vegas, The Jimmy Fund Telethon, The Heart Fund Telethon and Leukemia Society Telethon. He has studied with Jack Stanley, Henry LeTang, Danny Hoctor, Ron Daniels, Roy Dodge, Jimmy Sutton, Dean Barlow and Bob Audy.

Beth Holmgren, Instructor of Flute, Piano, Little Music School

Beth Holmgren received a BM summa cum laude and MM from Penn State University and Ithaca College, respectively. Beth has worked extensively in the field of Arts Management and has years of experience teaching flute and piano. She joined the FSPA Music Faculty in 2013.

Arnie Krakowsky, Director of FSPA Jazz Krewe

Arnie Krakowsky has toured and performed with many well-known musicians including Tony Bennett, Ray Charles, the Artie Shaw Band, Dick Johnson, Frank Sinatra, Jr., The Four Tops, The Temptations and many others. He led production on two CDs, "Where the Tenor Meets the Bone" (Seaside Records) and "Is It Minor Yours" (Bleek Records), both featuring the legendary trombonist, George Masso. Arnie attended Berklee College of Music and studied saxophone with Joe Viola, Eddie Daniels and Jerry Bergonzi. With over 20 years of teaching experience, Arnie joined the FSPA Music Faculty in 2007.

Cheryl Madeux, FSPA Ballet Mistress, Instructor of Ballet and Pointe

Cheryl Madeux received her training at the Nutmeg Conservatory for the Arts under the direction of Sharon Dante and Donna Bonasera. Ms. Madeux has enjoyed a long professional career, dancing with such venerable companies as the Joffrey Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, and as principal dancer with the Hartford Ballet. Ms. Madeux has performed extensively throughout the United States and Europe, worked with leading choreographers including Gerald Arpino, Kirk Peterson and Twyla Tharp, and has been coached by such ballet luminaries as Igor Youskevitch

Artistic Advisors

Music Department Maria-Regina Seidlhofer

Academy of Music, Vienna

Dance Department Dorothy Beaton

FSPA Faculty 1992-2002

and Eleanor D'Antuono. Her extensive classical repertoire includes all the full-length classical productions as well as principal roles in *The Nutcracker*, *Giselle*, *Coppelia*, *The Firebird*, Balanchine's *Serenade*, *Spectra de La Rose* and much more. Among her accomplishments, Ms. Madeux was awarded first place in the National Society of Arts and Letters Ballet Competition at age 15, was a finalist in the Third Paris International Ballet Competition and the Prix de Lausanne, and was awarded a Level 1 Presidential Scholar in Dance. Many of Ms. Madeux's FSPA Ballet Conservatory students have been accepted to some of the most prestigious summer programs available and a select few recently participated and advanced to the finals of the Youth America Grand Prix in NY. Ms. Madeux is also a summer faculty member for the ABT Young Dancers Program in NY, an examiner for the ABT Teacher Training Curriculum and was recently a guest judge and teacher for the IV Connecticut Classic Ballet Competition.

Jennifer Markham, Instructor of Ballet

Jennifer Markham received her early training from Judi Drozd at Terpsichore Dance Center and with Madeline Cantarella Culpo, Deirdre Duffin Swindlehurst and Nancy Ropelewski King at the Cantarella School of Dance/School of the Albany Berkshire Ballet. She danced with the Albany Berkshire Ballet and toured throughout New England, New York and Pennsylvania. Miss

Markham has appeared in *A Dancer's Christmas* with the Boston Liturgical Dance Ensemble and has performed with CreationDance and Margot Parsons Dance Company. With Margot Parsons, she was privileged to have new works created for her using both live and recorded music, in classical and contemporary forms. Miss Markham holds a BA in Political Science and History, with a minor in Women's Studies from Emmanuel College and an MS in Arts Administration from Boston University. She is an ABT® Certified Teacher, who has successfully completed the ABT® Teacher Training Intensive in Pre-Primary through Level 5 of the ABT® National Training Curriculum. On the FSPA Dance Faculty since 2012, Miss Markham also teaches at the Boston Ballet School and South Shore Ballet Theatre.

Shauna Martin, Instructor of Voice

Shauna Martin joined the FSPA Music Faculty in 2006 and has more than 20 years of teaching experience. She holds a MM in Opera from University of British Columbia and a BM from Brandon University. Shauna's performances include a wide variety of operatic and musical theater roles in works by classical as well as contemporary composers. She has performed in the Czech Republic as well as with Canada's regional orchestras. Shauna performed several times on CBC Radio, most prominently as a soloist in a performance of Stravinsky's *Les Noces*. She is a proud founding member of the humorous and very popular children's show, *Opera Night in Canada*, which successfully toured for four years and was featured on CBC Radio's *Arts Report*.

Mariko Matsumura, Instructor of Voice

Mariko Matsumura, a native of Tokyo, Japan, graduated with high honors with a BM in Vocal Performance from University of Montana and a MM in Vocal Performance from Longy School of Music. A recipient of the 2006 Penelope Davis Honorable Mention Award, she has served as assistant and accompanist for St. Francis Xavier, UM Dance and Drama Departments, and Missoula Children's

Theater. Mariko's performance credits include *Messiah*, *Aida*, *Hansel and Gretel*, *Der Rosenkavalier*, *The Magic Flute*, and numerous premiere performances throughout the Boston area. Mariko has performed with Lorelei Ensemble, Tanglewood Festival Chorus, Jyugoya Ensemble, Chorus Boston, Setegaya Women's Chorus and Opera Unmet. She currently serves as Music Director and Soloist at First Parish in Malden. Mariko joined the FSPA Music Faculty in 2002.

Lorry May, Instructor of Modern

Lorry May holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the Boston Conservatory of Music and a Certificate of Arts Management from Marymount Manhattan College. She has danced world-wide as a soloist with Anna Sokolow for over three decades. Lorry has received critical acclaim as an off-Broadway actress, appearing in numerous productions including *Hannah*, directed by Sokolow, for whom she served as assistant for many years. She has taught modern technique at Lincoln Center Institute, SUNY, Connecticut College, Etudes et Recontres Artistique (Geneva, Switzerland) and Harvard Summer School in Cambridge. Lorry has also taught other performing arts classes at Julliard School of Music, Banff Center for the Arts and remains on the guest faculty at the HB Acting Studio in New York City. Lorry joined the FSPA Dance Faculty in 2008.

Bill Miele, Instructor of Bass and Guitar

Bill Miele joined the FSPA Music Faculty in 2006. He performs and records with many artists in the New England area including The John Almark Jazz Orchestra and The East Side Horns. He has toured extensively throughout the US and Europe with many well-known artists playing a variety of musical styles. Bill has recorded with artists including Greg Abate, Bill Harley and Mark White. He is also on faculty at The Rhode Island Philharmonic Music School and Providence College.

Ed Milham, Instructor of Voice

Ed Milham has performed as a vocalist with such organizations as the LiveARTS Concert Series, the Franklin Performing Arts Company, the Lowell Opera Company, the Merrimack Valley Broadway Ensemble, the Savoyard Light Opera Company, the Newport Music Festival and the Boston Philharmonic Orchestra. Ed holds master's degrees in Voice from New England Conservatory of Music and Conducting from the University of Massachusetts. He began teaching at FSPA in 2004 and is also a faculty member at Bridgewater State College. Ed also serves as Choirmaster at Trinity Episcopal Church in Wrentham.

Cassie Murdock, Instructor of Hip Hop, Jazz, Tap and Modern

Cassie Murdock received a bachelor's degree in Dance Performance from Rhode Island College. With years of dance performance and dance education experience, Cassie has performed and taught throughout the New England area. She joined the FSPA Dance Faculty in 2013.

Clyde Nantais, Instructor of Ballet, Jazz and Boys' Dance

Clyde Nantais joined the FSPA Dance Faculty in 1992. He holds a BFA from Boston Conservatory and a Master of Education from Temple University. He has performed leading roles in Equity Summer Stock and dinner theater productions. Mr. Nantais danced with Boston Ballet for seven years before teaching in its school for 17 years. He also was the principal ballet teacher at the National Institute of the Arts in Taipei. He has served as Ballet Master for the Boston Conservatory Dance Theater, the Berkshire Ballet and the Pioneer Valley Ballet. As choreographer, he has staged over 50 original works for more than 40 companies and schools worldwide. Mr. Nantais is the Executive Director of the Boston Dance Company Studios and Associate Director of the Boston Dance Company. He also teaches Advanced Ballet for Musical Theater students at The Boston Conservatory and is on the faculty of the Boston Ballet and Charlotte Klein Dance Centers.

Jenny Oliver, Instructor of Jazz, Tap and Horton Technique

Jenny Oliver graduated magna cum laude with a BA in Dance from Dean College and graduated from The School at Jacob's Pillow with an Excellence in Achievement Award. She is Principal dancer for Jean Appolon Expressions, a Contemporary Modern & Haitian Folkloric infused dance company based in Boston and has taught in Port-Au-Prince, Haiti at the Jean Appolon Summer Dance Institute. Jenny also adjudicates for Elite Dance Challenge Dance Competition and has choreographed for FSPA's dance company, Ballet Repertoire Series, Project Dance and *ELECTRIC YOUTH*. Jenny joined the FSPA Dance Faculty in 2008.

Nick Paone, Instructor of Musical Theater and Drama

Nick Paone holds a BA in Theater from Occidental College. A former Equity performer, Nick traveled all over the US performing with TheaterWorks, USA. His regional performing credits include *Cabaret*, *Macbeth*, *The Wedding Singer*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Pirates of Penzance* and *The Tempest*. Nick has written, conceived and directed for the Franklin Performing Arts Company since 2001. In 2007 he created FPAC's Whatever Theater Festival, a week-long festival of one-act plays, Shakespeare on the Common and musical entertainment. Nick joined the FSPA Drama Faculty in 2001.

Kellie Stamp, Director of FSPA Dance Ensembles, Instructor of Tap and Jazz

Kellie Stamp is a graduate of Stonehill College where she was an active member of the Stonehill Theater Company. She served on their Board of Directors and competed at the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival. After receiving her Master of Performing Arts Education from Emerson College, she continued her tap and jazz training at the On Stage Academy for the Performing Arts, as well as with Rosemarie Boyden

and at the Broadway Dance Center in NYC. Kellie has also studied Dance for Musical Theater with Broadway actress and choreographer Leslie Woodies. A member of FSPA's Dance Faculty since 2001, Kellie also choreographs for *ELECTRIC YOUTH*, Broadway Bound, Broadway Light, Broadway Ladies and many FSPA and FPAC productions. She is the director and choreographer of FSPA dance companies CenterStage and Next Step. Her performing credits include lead roles in *42nd Street*, *West Side Story* and *Sweet Charity*, as well as many roles in productions including *Anything Goes*, *Into the Woods*, *Humbug!*, *The Miracle Worker* and *Little Shop of Horrors*. Her choreography credits include FSPA and FPAC productions of *Humbug!*, *Anything Goes*, *'Tis the Season*, *Cabaret* and many others.

Rilla Tolmie, Instructor of Ballet

Rilla Tolmie began her dance training at age 7 with Theresa Sheridan DuBois. After studying acting at BU's School of Fine Arts under Samuel Hirsch and William Lacey, she continued her ballet training at Boston Ballet with Virginia Williams, Ballet Russe Prima Ballerina Madame Ana Roje, Lithuanian ballerina Tatiana Babushkina, and Meicyslaw Morawski of the Kirov Ballet. In 1970, she was invited to dance with Martha Baird and Gus Solomon Jr. in Ms. Baird's company. She represented Massachusetts in the Miss USA television special for CBS Network in 1975 and has choreographed and done runway for New York and Boston designers. She began choreographing for the Franklin Performing Arts Company in 1996 and also danced the role of "Frau Silberhaus" for the company's holiday production of *The Nutcracker*. Ms. Tolmie joined the FSPA Dance Faculty in 1992 and also currently serves as Ballet Mistress at the Capachione School for Performing Arts in East Bridgewater.

Marina Van Winkle, Instructor of Ballet

Marina Van Winkle, originally from Russia, danced with the Kiev State Dance Classical Ensemble, appearing in both principal classical and character roles. She has taught ballet for the Southern New Hampshire Dance Theater and the Acton School of Ballet, with many of her students accepted to top ballet schools. With a master's degree in Education from Kiev State University and a master's degree in Health Education from Middlesex Community College, Ms. Van Winkle is currently pursuing her Doctorate in Physical Therapy focusing on Sports and Dance Medicine at the University of Rhode Island.

Kyle Weaver, Instructor of Hip Hop

Kyle Weaver is a graduate of Rhode Island College with a degree in Music. He has been teaching hip hop professionally throughout Rhode Island since 2004. He has coached many groups that have gone to regional and national competitions and Kyle and his routines have won many top awards, including a Young Choreography award in 2005 and several first place highest score awards throughout the years. In 2010 Kyle led a group that was selected to participate in the Entertainment challenge at International Dance Challenge (IDC) regional competition and again in 2013 at EDC Nationals. Kyle joined the FSPA Dance Faculty in 2013.

Ida Zelman, Instructor of Piano

Ida Zelman, a member of FSPA's Music Faculty since 1993, has a bachelor's degree from the Music Conservatory in Vilnius, Lithuania, where her studies included piano performance and music education, specializing in classical and contemporary music. She participated in solo piano competitions throughout Vilnius, and Riga, Latvia. Ida has extensive experience in chamber music ensemble playing and accompanying. She has served as instructor of piano at Vilnius Music School and the New Beginning Academy in Boston.



What will YOUR journey look like?

*Where will FSPA take you?
Let's begin – come for a visit,
take a tour, meet fellow students,
faculty and staff, try a complimentary class or enjoy an FSPA performance. We're here to help!
Choose just one class or design a full program to meet your interests, talents and needs.
Grow skills, build experiences, find a mentor, make new friends.
Your FSPA adventure awaits!
Call 508-528-8668 to get started. Join us and discover YOUR 38 Main!*