

INSPIRE Guest Artists

TESSA

After training for 14 years in Lethbridge, AB, Tessa made the move to Vancouver to pursue her goals in becoming a professional dancer and teacher. Training with companies such as The Source (Joanne Pesusich), KTL (Ken Yung), and Lux (Moses Asher Christen), she has built her versatility in dance and come across some amazing opportunities. Along with teaching at Harbour Dance Centre, her credits include.. Nelly Furtado, Mariana's Trench, Nickelodeon (Ragz, Manny's Best Friend) and Disney (Descendants)! Welcome home Tessa!



REID

“Kid Icarus” Friedl is a performer/choreographer trained in all styles of dance (Hip Hop, Tap, Jazz, Contemporary, Hip Hop, Musical Theatre, etc.). Graduated in 2014 from Victoria School of Performing and Visual Arts, Reid has obtained his International Baccalaureate dance certificate, receiving the highest mark possible, and completed the highest level audio production and analysis course available. He is also an alumni member of NXG Company (ran by Alexander Chung), a member of 24/7 Dance Company (ran by Carlo Atienza, Roberta Bierman and Jon Bongato), and Illustrative Society (ran by Joe Tuliao). His main goal is to bring his more unique, multi-genre infused side of dance to the forefront through his choreography, concepts and performances.

Being the Northern Star Talent Search Winner from across Canada, a representative and performer of Northlands Entertainment, a hired choreographer, assistant teacher to Tara-Jean Popowich, Sabrina Phillips, Lee Daniels, Carlo Atienza and many other industry professionals, and hired dancer for events, ranging from local school performances to expo events, from VIP select events to paid stage shows, he has started his dream to make an impact on the dance scene.

Among his many performance and teaching opportunities over his years of training, Reid has recently been highlighted on national dance magazine “IDM” (Industry Dance Magazine) alongside other industry professionals such as Benjamin Ritter, Joel Sturrock, Stacey Tookey, Sean Cheesman, etc. NXG Company recently won 1st place at WOD in Hawaii and placed top 10 at HHI in Vegas, and 24/7 won 1st place at Artists Emerge, maintaining their champion title.

Reid was added to the Fresh Dance Intensive teaching faculty, running out of Juilliard School in New York. He was invited to tour all over Canada to further expand and share his knowledge of dance and the art of movement to other dancers around Canada. He is an assistant at VIP Dance Conventions owned and ran by Blake McGrath, and is Crew and apprentice at GSP and Street Groove dance conventions. He has also taught many master classes around Canada, and recently taught in Hawaii.



Christopher

Born in Miramichi New Brunswick. Christopher started dancing at a very young age. Growing up, he was also a student teacher for many years and choreographed his own work performing them across the east coast. In 2008, Chris was chosen to attend a Dance Tour in London, England in training with some of the world's best choreographers as well as classes with the cast of WICKED the musical.

At 18 he moved to Toronto Ontario to attend George Brown Dance College where we furthered his technical training. While at George brown he received high achievements in choreography. After graduating he then moved back to Nova Scotia and became the artistic director of Precision Dance Company. While under the direction of PDC Christopher was frequently awarded for his choreographic works while his students excelled. During these years he also co-created a Canadian East Coast event called "The Entity Tour" that inspires and trains students every summer since 2014!

Recently Christopher has had the opportunity to choreograph for George Brown College students and had it performed at their graduation show "Unleashed." George Brown has also used his work for advertisement for their post-secondary program. He was also honored to create work at "Toronto's Choreographers Ball ", "Fever After Dark " as well as "Dance Weekend" for Dance Ontario! All events that showcased Toronto's talent in the industry.

While Christopher works towards his future plans, he has had the opportunity to teach at multiple professional level training venues such as "Metro Movement" and "RIGHTFOOT DANCE STUDIO". Now, Christopher is working full time at "City Dance Corps" downtown Toronto where he teaches and choreographs weekly!

Creating stories through movement and watching it come to life is his calling. He brings passion, technique and energy to all his creations. The biggest lesson he loves to leave with students while teaching is just to dance from your heart, be yourself, have fun and never let go. Dance is his life and he is now ready to share all he knows with the world of others who share the same love.



Christopher Knowles

MADI

Madi is a young dancer/choreographer just starting out her dance and teaching career. After being accepted to both ITP and Source Dance Programs in Vancouver she chose to dance with the Source Company last year and thoroughly enjoyed her first season of dance life under the direction of Joanne Pesusich. She has been able to perform in several Vancity showcases, Under One Roof, shows on the Sunshine Coast, and shows in Vancouver and Kelowna.

She was accepted into the Triple Threat program at Randolf Academy for Performing Arts and has completed her first singing, dancing and acting year in Toronto. Her goal is to become a more well-rounded performer.

Madis's passion for dance, energy and positive mentorship has always been in the forefront. She loves working with studio kids and creating choreography for them.

