

IOWA DANCE STATE TEAM & SOLO *Awards Ceremony*



AWARDS ARE BROADCAST FREE EACH NIGHT
AT WWW.ISDTALIVE.COM

Beginning at approximately 5:00 p.m.

College Team Awards

Beginning at approximately 8:00 p.m.

Solo & Color Guard Awards

Beyond Limits Solo Recognitions

Special Awards

High School Team Awards

DTU Be Bold Awards

Judges' Choice Awards



2022 TEAM & SOLO JUDGES BIOS

For the 2022 competition, the ISDTA is proud to virtually welcome this year's panel of judges hailing from all corners of the nation. Our judges have over 400 years of combined experience and expertise in the professional dance industry to share with our Iowa dancers. Their experiences include performing, coaching, choreographing and judging across the nation and world-wide, making the ISDTA championships one of the most prestigious high school competitions in the nation.



KIN GARRETT

Kinshasa Garrett has multi-faceted experience as a performer, choreographer, director, and adjudicator. Born and raised in Dallas, Kinshasa began studio dance and drill team at the age of 7, training, competing, and performing for the next 20+ years. Upon graduating with a Bachelor of Behavioral Science in Communications, she went on to work in both secondary and post-secondary education, while continuing to direct, choreograph and consult high school, collegiate, studio and all star teams.

Kinshasa is widely respected for her holistic approach to coaching and leadership development. Her philosophy of teaching skills that contribute to coaches' and dancers' lives on AND off the performance floor, which she believes contributed to the overall success of the dancers with whom she worked! Kinshasa continues to elevate her own knowledge base and skills on a regular basis and says, "The moment that someone feels that they "know it all", they are doing themselves and those they serve a disservice. Educators have a responsibility to continue to elevate themselves and others. The process is ongoing!"

Kinshasa continues to judge while also serving as a performance coach, speaker and consultant, throughout the US and abroad. Kinshasa now resides in Cedar Park, TX and is serving in her 6th year as the Southwest Regional Director for The United States All Star Federation (USASF).



DONNA HAAS

Founder and Executive Director Marching Auxiliaries of America and MA Dance, 1976-Present; Creator, Director and Choreographer Texas Christian University "Showgirls", 1976-1998; Charter Member National Council Drill Team Camps, 1983-Present; Director TDDTEA Texas "All-State Drill Team, 1990; Director Houston Olympic Games Opening Ceremonies, 1986; Director Houston Rodeo Opening Ceremonies, 1986; Pageant Choreographer Bluebonnet Bowl-Houston, TX, Holiday Bowl-San Diego, CA, Hall of Fame Bowl-Tampa, FL, Citrus Bowl-Orlando, FL, Maui Classic Basketball Tournament, Maui, HI; Director Opening Ceremonies 1988 World's Fair Brisbane, Australia; Director Opening Ceremonies 1992 Expo Seville, Spain; Current Member of Conseil International De La Danse CID, National Dance Coaches Association Hall of Fame Award Recipient 2021, TCU Ex-Bandsmen Association Band of Fame 2021, Hall of Fame Award Texas Dance Educators Association 2002, Lifetime Achievement Winner National Drill Dance Team Directors of America, 1991-1992; Lifetime Achievement Award Texas Drill Dance Team Educator's Association, 1992-1993; Presenter TDDTEA State Conventions, DTDA National Conventions, Illinois State Convention, DTDA Midwest Conventions; Published Author of numerous articles Insights Magazine; Former Director Brewer HS Drill Team, 1976-1980, Yellow Rose Award for Teacher of the Year Brewer HS, 1980; Savant Women's Leadership Honorary, 1974; Dream Girl Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity, 1974; Head Majorette and Feature Twirler University of Florida, 1972-1974, President Delta Delta Delta Sorority, 1972-74; Collegiate Representative for Delta Delta Delta National Board, 1973; Outstanding Young Women of America, 1971; Tennessee Girls State Representative, 1970; Junior National Baton Twirling Champion, 1965.



BETSY HEATHCOCK

Betsy Heathcock has been actively involved in Dance Education since 1980. During her career she taught dance and directed at three premier High Schools, Dulles, Memorial and Austin Fort Bend. She had the distinct honor to choreograph for the 2005, 2009, 2013 and 2017 Tournament of Roses "Music for All Honor Dance Team", Dance Team Directors of Americas 1994 "All Star Dance Team" and was the United State Olympic Festival Assistant Dance Director/Choreographer in 1986. Staying involved is so important and Betsy has done this by serving on the Texas Dance Educators' Association Executive board in six different board positions. She oversaw the inception of the Texas State Dance Assessment, D.E.A.L. "Dance Educators' Assessment of Learning" and continues to Coordinate and adjudicate for this Assessment. Throughout the years Betsy has earned numerous accolades including being named to the Texas Dance Educators' "Hall of Fame" in 2005, "Lifetime Achievement Award" in 2000 and "Dance Team Director of the Year" in 1995. Betsy was a Clinic Director for MA Dance Officer Camp, MA Dance Line Camps and is currently an adjudicator MA Dance and for several companies throughout the country. Her passion is creating unique choreography in both Pom & Military genres and providing leadership workshops for both Dance Officers and Dance Teams through team building workshops and creative crafting for both Directors and students. Betsy and her husband Ron teach leadership/crafting workshops that focus on taking time for you and emphasizing the importance of giving from the heart. As a Dance Educator it is important to remain current within the industry and MA Dance & T.D.E.A. have always been instrumental in making this happen. She is thankful each and every day that she is aligned both professionally and personally



ALLIE HUDAK

Allie Hudak is a committed dance educator and choreographer. Allie received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Modern Dance with a minor in Secondary Education from Texas Christian University (2007), a Master of Educational Policies and Leadership from the University of Texas at Arlington (2014) and she is currently pursuing her doctorate in Educational Policies and Leadership from Texas A&M Commerce.

After graduating from TCU, Allie taught modern dance and hip-hop for non-majors at TCU as an adjunct faculty member. Allie was the inaugural director of the Colleyville Middle School Stars Dance Team and the artistic director for a local dance studio. In 2008 Allie became the dance director at Birdville High School. She has led the varsity dance team to eight national titles, coached four teams through the USASF Dance, and founded a junior varsity team and a hip-hop crew. In addition, Allie has built the fine arts dance program to double in size, as well as had success with straight ones at the Dance Educators Assessment of Learning. In striving for excellence in dance education, Allie reaches out beyond her own program. Allie has worked for Marching Auxiliaries Dance as a teacher, choreographer and clinic director. She has judged for the Iowa State Dance and Drill competition. Allie served on the USASF curriculum writing team and the dance curriculum team for the CEDFA Fine Arts Summit. She actively participates in the Texas Dance Educators Association (TDEA). Allie has served on the TDEA Board since 2017, and currently serves at the TDEA 1st Vice President.



ANASTASIA MILLER BURNS

Anastasia is a former graduate and dance team captain from The Ohio State University. After graduation, Anastasia became a talent agent booking choreographers, dancers, actors, athletes, and models in feature films, television, commercials, music videos, Broadway productions, and world artist tours. She was a senior agent and department director at BLOC Talent Agency LA, BLOC NYC and Clear Talent Group NYC for nearly 16 years. For the past 8 years, she has joined the team at Inside Publications as the Executive Vice President (titles include Inside Gymnastics and Inside Cheerleading) and Co-Publisher of the all-access dance magazine, INSIDE DANCE. Anastasia has been one of the Hip Hop Directors for USASF Dance and Dance Worlds since 2013 and, as of 2019, is also a Hip Hop Panel Director for IASF divisions at the Dance World Championship. You can find her speaking and judging at numerous dance & talent competitions/conventions across the US and internationally.



DEEDEE MUNSON

DeeDee an Academy Director & Choreographer for North Texas Performing Arts. Her credits include Kilgore College Rangerette, Stephen F. Austin Repertory Company, Stephen F. Austin Pom Squad member and coach, Dallas Cowboys Cheerleader, and Dallas Mavericks Dancer. She is also a former Walt Disney World Dancer where she performed in The Beauty & The Beast Show, Pleasure Island Explosion Dancers, various conventions and special events, and the Rhythms of the World Show at Tokyo DisneySeas.

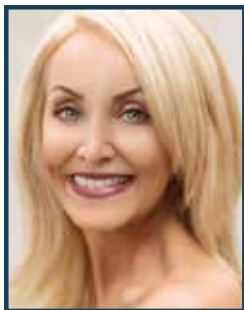
DeeDee has taught and choreographed for drill teams and dance teams across the country as well as being a head instructor and adjudicator for MA Dance. She was also a dancer/actress in the movie Miss Congeniality starring Sandra Bullock.



GRETCHEN NOACK

Gretchen is a graduate from California State University Fullerton where she majored in Dance and Public Relations. She began her dance career as the director of an award winning dance team in Southern California and then transitioned into the role of Dance Program Director for the United Spirit Association (USA) where she was in charge of staff training and program development for 5 years. Her association with the USA has continued for more than 25 years through her ongoing involvement in dance.

Gretchen has choreographed for many nationally ranked dance/drill teams and for numerous professional dance teams, such as the 49er Gold Rush, Golden State Warriors, Sacramento Kings and Los Angeles Clippers. Gretchen was honored to choreograph for the first-ever NFL international cheerleading auditions held in Tokyo Japan in 2003. She has been involved in the production and teaching of many NBA and NFL halftime shows, as well as traveled to Paris and Australia to help produce holiday parades encompassing over 300 performers. Gretchen has been selected to the judging panel for many state and national competitions, as well as the "All-Star Dance Worlds" Competition. Over the years, Gretchen was selected to judge at the USA Japan Nationals held in Tokyo. Gretchen has extensive training in jazz, ballet, hip/hop, pom and traditional dance/drill and her newest endeavor, is her comprehensive training in Pilates. Gretchen's training in Pilates has provided her a new understanding of the body, movement principles, and how to train the body to move more efficiently. Currently Gretchen's full-time career is coordinating Educational Dance Trips for Dance Teams and Studios, all over the United States. She also currently serves as the Partnership/Vendor Chair for the National Dance Coaches Association, and has for the past 5 years. Her passionate involvement in the world of dance team continues to present her with exciting opportunities.



DEBBIE NORDSTROM

Debbie Nordstrom has been a Dance Educator for the past 40 years and was a National Award winning Dance Team Director. She is the Founder/Owner and Executive Director for Ascension Dance. She is the former Contest Director for Champion Dance and Contest of Champions in Orlando, Florida. She is a Past President and Lifetime Achievement recipient of the Texas Dance Educators Association and in 2019 was named to TDEA's Hall of Fame. Debbie continues to serve TDEA as their Collegiate Chair. An original NBA Houston Rockets Cheerleader, Houston Oilers (now Tennessee Titans) Derrick Doll Cheerleader, University of Houston Dance Team Captain and former Tyler Jr. College Apache Belle, she continues to adjudicate around the country. Debbie, her husband Rick and Border Collie BarkLee reside in Cypress, TX.



NATASHA OVERTURFF

Natasha Overturff began her dance training in Ankeny, IA at her mother's studio, Moore Dance. After graduating from high school, she attended the University of Arizona to continue her dance education and graduated with a BFA degree in 2012. Upon graduating, Natasha began her career with Giordano Dance Chicago. She danced professionally with GDC for 9 seasons and performed across the U.S and internationally.

Natasha is now living in Des Moines and is sharing her knowledge and passion with young dancers in Iowa, and currently works as a guest choreographer and private coach.



KELSEY SCHEFFER

Kelsey Scheffer was born and raised in Morris, IL and now resides in Denver, CO. Kelsey began her dance career as a studio trained dancer. She then went on to attend Loyola University Chicago where she graduated with a business administration degree in sport management and marketing. While attending school, Kelsey was a member of the Loyola Dance Team, competing nationally with UDA. Throughout college, Kelsey traveled across the country teaching Varsity camps as a UDA instructor. For the past four years, Kelsey has served as the Varsity Dance State Director for the central region of the country. She is also a current regional competition coordinator and judge for UDA. Kelsey is a previous NAIA college coach at Calumet College of St. Joseph's and All-Star coach at Studio 22.



MEGAN SHUFFLE SHEPHERD

Megan is a Texas native and a big fan of art in all of its forms. She was a Kilgore College Rangerette before receiving degrees from Texas State University in both dance and education.

After graduation, Megan moved to New York City where she spent the next eight years working for Broadway Dance Center. Alongside the industry's top educators and performers, she served as the Groups Director helping to connect dancers from all over the world with the opportunity to work with talent from Broadway, NYC dance companies, and the Rockettes.

Building upon her love of dance and the health of movers of all ages, she earned her comprehensive Pilates certification at the Kane School in 2015. Now back in Texas, Megan continues to teach Pilates, run operations for an Austin design agency, and joyfully serves as a dance adjudicator around the country.



KATIE SPEICHER

Katie Speicher is an experienced dancer, choreographer, coach, and judge. As the Head Dance Coach at Midland University from 2017-2021, she led the team to one national championship, two conference championships, three regional championships and in 2019, Katie was named the NAIA Dance Coach of the Year. Katie has also coached the Nebraska State Dance Competition for the past three years and is involved with other regional competitions across the Midwest. A native of Miami, Florida, Katie was a member of the nationally ranked Coral Reef Dance Team and won multiple titles through UDA and ADA. After high school, Katie joined the Young Americans- a non-profit music outreach organization based out of Southern California. As a Company Manager, Casting Director, and Performer, Katie traveled all over the world and taught performing arts workshops to over 20,000 students. Katie is an alumni of Chapman University in Orange, California where she received her B.S. in Business Administration with Magna Cum Laude honors. In her spare time, Katie enjoys traveling with her fiancé, Scott, or playing with her Cavapoo, Ruffles!

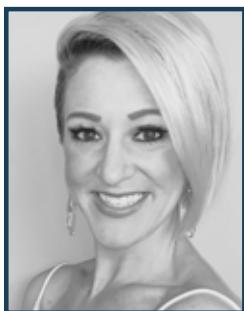


MARY WENDT

Mary has been involved in the dance team industry for over 41 years as a coach and industry professional. She serves as the Dance Scoring Director for the IASF, the International All-Star Foundation and is the Panel Director for the Junior and High Kick Divisions at The Dance Worlds. A part of the original judging panel at Worlds, Mary was the Dance Education Director for USASF and has served as the Scoring and Adjudication Director as well as the Pom Category Advisor. Mary has judged and facilitated coach and athlete workshops internationally. Additionally, she has served as the Associate Director of Enrichment and Leadership for the USASF where she assisted in the development of workshops for coaches and athletes such as Bolt, March, Dance FUNDamentals, What's your IQ Jr and Impact.

Mary is the former director/choreographer of the North Texas State University Songleaders and the Assistant Director/Choreographer for the Texas Christian University Showgirls, her alma mater, where she received a BS and MS in Kinesiological Studies. A former Kilgore College Rangerette Lieutenant and TCU Showgirl Captain, Mary has been a director for several high school teams in Texas, Ohio, New Jersey, and Washington. The Texas Dance/Drill Team Educators voted her as their youngest Lifetime Achievement Recipient and Hall of Fame Recipient. She was the executive director and former choreographer of the Citrus Bowl and worked for MA Dance as their Vice President for over 35 years.

Mary has been married for over 33 years to Ted Wendt and has a son, John, a 2018 graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy.



TAMI WHATCOTT

Tami Whatcott graduated from Utah Valley University with a BFA in Modern Dance and a BS in Dance Education. She has been a member of Synergy Dance Company, Contemporary Dance Ensemble, UVU Ballroom Tour Team, and danced as well as coached for the Utah Flash. Other notable professional companies include Diavolo, Joel Hall Dancers, Noumenon Dance Ensemble, and Myriad Dance Company. Tami has designed curriculum for multiple international schools and studios and has been trained in ballet, modern, jazz, contemporary, hip-hop, and ballroom. She has judged, performed, and taught in over 15 different countries and her choreography has been performed by professional NBA teams, dance companies, universities, musical theatre, numerous different studios, high schools as well as the European and World Championship stage.



2022 COLOR GUARD JUDGES BIOS



EVAN COONRAD

Born and raised in St. Louis Missouri, Evan has been involved in the color guard activity since 1996. Upon high school graduation he attended Southwest Missouri State University from 2000-2005 as a music education major and performed with the Pride of SMSU Color Guard. He was captain of the color guard from 2002-2005. In addition to performing with the color guard at SMS, he was a member of the Pride of SMSU Winter Guard from 2000-2004. After aging out of the SMSU winter guard program he made his way to Jacksonville, FL and performed with the Independent World Winter Guard, Northeast Independent from 2007-2009. Since moving back to the St. Louis area, Evan has taught many color guard programs in the area and is currently in his 13th year as the Director of the Lafayette HS Color Guard program in Wildwood, Missouri.



SANDI ELLIS

Sandi Ellis has been a color guard performer, choreographer, instructor, and judge in the Midwest for nearly 30 years. She performed throughout high school and college, including two trips to the Tournament of Rose Parade, and groups for whom she has written have performed at numerous college football bowl parades. Sandi is a long-time staff member at the Central Iowa Color Guard Camp and has been a choreographer and instructor at other camps in Missouri, Kansas, and Illinois. The Iowa high school marching bands with whom she has worked range in size from Class 2A - 4A, and she currently is the instructor with the award-winning Dallas Center - Grimes Marching Mustangs.



DANIELLE WELCH

Danielle Welch has been a member of the marching arts and color guard community for over 30 years. She began as a performer and has since worked as an assistant band director, color guard director, visual coordinator, marching coordinator, drill writer, choreographer, guard tech and drum line coach. Danielle has also worked as a designer, designing marching band, winter guard and winter drumline shows. After retiring from directing a number of years ago, she began her judging career in both marching and winter seasons. Her experience, training and certification through WGI Certify has qualified her to judge visual captions, design analysis, equipment technique and general effect, which she has done in Missouri, Illinois, Kansas, Tennessee and New Mexico. Danielle currently works full time as a paralegal and resides with her husband in Washington, MO, where they raised two daughters who were performers that also went on to design, choreograph, teach and director color guard.