

T. L. Williams Academy of Dance

*live
your
dream.*



with Dance...

4104 Elvis Presley Blvd. Suites A-B, Memphis, TN 38116
901-398-4600 * www.tlwilliamsdance.com

**Live
Love
Dance**

20TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON



Welcome to T. L. Williams Academy of Dance, LLC (TLWAD); we invite you to explore the world of performing arts. Students of TLWAD develop technique, performance quality, discipline, and self-confidence. Most importantly, they are taught in a professional environment with highly qualified instructors. TLWAD students develop respect for the art of dance and work toward becoming “the stars of tomorrow”. Dance education begins with an awareness of the movement of the body and its creative potential. Dance combines a mixture of discipline, poise, commitment, and artistic expression while improving balance and posture. We truly enjoy working with children, training future professionals, and look forward to years of learning and fun.

Our Mission Statement: “The mission of T. L. Williams Academy of Dance, LLC is to create artistically expressive dancers of good moral character from a diverse population.” Students of the Academy develop technique, performance quality, discipline, and self-confidence as well as respect for the art of dance and work toward becoming “the stars of tomorrow”. Our goal is to enable each student to reach his or her highest potential, at whatever age and level that might be. Therefore, our instruction is individualized to best encourage and facilitate each student’s development; and advancement is based on technical accomplishment, artistic development, emotional maturity, classroom interaction, personal work ethic and readiness for the next level. The atmosphere in the Academy exemplifies traditional values of respect and discipline, while developing in children a love for learning and to discover their potential for excellence. The Academy augments these values with fairness, equal opportunity for all, kindness and encouragement for every student. By providing students with a technically sound dance education and a fun, supportive, professional dance environment, the school strives to produce beautiful dancers that move with grace and confidence in life.”

Class Placement: The Studio Director reserves the right to place students at the level of technique where they can best achieve their full potential. Students will be promoted to higher technical levels as their work progresses (not on timetable basis). The art of dance IS NOT a “microwave” science; therefore, technique, skill, and performance quality take time and effort to achieve. TLWAD students are encouraged to attend dance workshops, conventions, and/or competitions.

Attendance: All students must report to class, every session, on time to take full advantage of the class. Students who are more than 10 minutes late may not be allowed to take class and will be considered tardy. However, students ARE encouraged to sit quietly and observe class. *Poor attendance will have a direct result in placement advancement.* Regular attendance is essential to maintain and or advance in your designated level. **If an injury occurs; LET THE INSTRUCTOR KNOW IMMEDIATELY.** Students should still attend class to observe and learn the lesson. There are NO REFUNDS OR ADJUSTMENTS made for missed classes. Substitute teachers are used occasionally when TLWAD instructors are performing in shows, have other professional commitments, and/or due to illness. *Absences: Please contact us via remind101 chat, email, and/or call the Academy phone if your dancer will arrive late and/or will not attend class and/or rehearsal. We do understand illness, emergency, and other unforeseen things happen.*

Discipline & Class Etiquette: Discipline in the Performing Arts not only refers to a student’s behavior in class, but the effort that is shown in class. *All girls should have their hair styled in a ballerina bun or in a design that has the hair pulled away from the face and off the neck (specifically for BALLET CLASSES).* Earring studs may be worn, but no other jewelry is allowed, as it is a safety hazard. Proper dance requires discipline. Students are required to be on time to class and must enter class with proper attire on. See dress code for more information. Anyone arriving in inappropriate attire or is more than ten minutes late to a class *may be* asked to sit and observe class instead of participating. Gum is not allowed anywhere in the dance studio.

Bullying: *Bullying is intentionally aggressive behavior that can take many forms (verbal, physical, social/relational/emotional, or cyber bullying — or any combination of these); it involves an imbalance of power and is often repeated over a period of time. The bullying is generally unprovoked and can consist of one child bullying another, a group of children ganging up against one lone child, or one group of kids targeting another group. Common behaviors attributed to bullying include put-downs, name calling, rumors, verbal threats, menacing, harassment, intimidation, social isolation or exclusion, and physical assaults (Definition of Bullying by Deborah Carpenter with Christopher J. Ferguson, Ph.D.). T. L. Williams Academy of Dance, LLC DOES NOT support or promote bullying in any manner. Please report any instances of such immediately to the director or an instructor. Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated. Any disruptive behavior, use of profanity, ridiculing of other students, and/or making the learning environment uncomfortable due to bullying could result in immediate expulsion from the class.*

First Aid/Safety: Students and teachers have access to a first aid kit which is necessary for minor injuries. TLWAD’s first aid kit is at the Front Desk. TLWAD will NOT provide materials which are necessary for specific classes. (Ex. Tape, Band-Aids for Pointe, hair pins, or hair ties).

Closings & Academy Information: Schedule changes will be given in advance (*unless there is an emergency*). TLWAD will break with Shelby County Schools (SCS) for Fall Break, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Spring Break, and for all federal holidays unless otherwise noted in the Academy Handbook (*there is no tuition adjustment for these breaks*). Please check your email, remind101.com, and/or call the studio for closings due to inclement weather. **It is the parent/guardian’s responsibility to sign-**

up for remind101 and/or come inside the studio to check for info notices, and/or any other information that parent/guardian(s) should know.

Tuition & Payment Information: Registration fee is \$25. **TUITION is automatically with-drawn via credit card (with a \$2 processing fee included) on the 25th or 1st of each month.** For other payments options, please speak with the Academy director. **Tuition is delinquent after the 5th. A \$25.00 late fee will be assessed to all unpaid accounts on the 6th. Parent/Guardian(s) are responsible for ensuring that payment is received by the due date. There are NO REFUNDS OR ADJUSTMENTS made for missed classes.** All tuition is based on four lessons per month. *Fifth lessons are considered a bonus and are used to offset any missed classes due to holidays throughout the year when the studio is closed.* Tuition is not pro-rated, refunded or credited for missed classes or holidays. Your child will not be permitted to attend classes or participate in any performance unless your account is current. Parents/guardians are responsible for the 33% collection fee and any legal fees (if necessary) that will be added to delinquent accounts. All parent/guardian(s) who are responsible for payments MUST have a credit card on file. It is the cardholder's responsibility to ensure that

Students missing class will be allowed to make-up their missed class. Students have one month to attend another class as a make-up. Please check in at the front desk prior to the start of class so that the instructor is aware of the make-up. **When withdrawing from TLWAD, parent/guardian(s) must give a month notice in writing. You will owe and be billed for the upcoming month if a withdrawal notice is NOT given 30 days in advance.**

Discounts: There is a \$5 discount for students who take 2 classes, \$10 for 3 classes, and \$15 for 4 classes. Pointe is *not* considered a separate technique and MUST be taken in conjunction with at least two (2) ballet classes. Pointe is a year-long commitment. Tuition is based on enrollment, not attendance. **Sibling Discounts* Registration: 1st child registration fee \$25; Each sibling registration fee is \$10; Tuition: Siblings receive an additional \$5 off monthly tuition.*

(Note: These prices are subject to change) Monthly Instructional Rates (discounts included in pricing)		**Private Classes**		
CLASSES per week	PRICE monthly rate	TLWAD directors and instructors are in high demand; therefore, pre-scheduling is required for all privates. Cancellations must be made at least 6 hours prior to the time allotted or you will be charged for the lesson.		
1 CLASS	\$50.00	Times	TLWAD Student	Non TLWAD Student
2 CLASSES	\$90.00	½ hour	\$30.00	\$35.00
3 CLASSES	\$130.00	45 minutes	\$45.00	\$50.00
4 CLASSES	\$170.00	1 Hour	\$60.00	\$65.00
UNLIMITED CLASSES	\$175.00	Semi Private 1 hr. duet	\$80.00 (\$40.00 each)	\$90.00 (\$45.00 each)
POINTE CLASS	\$20.00	Semi Private 1 hr. Trio	\$90.00 (\$30.00 each)	\$99.00 (\$33.00 each)
COMBO CLASSES	\$55.00			
DROP-IN CLASS	\$10.00 EACH (Cash ONLY)			

Class Descriptions and Information:

Tapping Tutus - Ballet and Tap Combination Classes: These classes are for dancers who are age 3 thru 11. Each level of Tapping Tutus (I, II, III) focus on teaching the basic fundamentals of dance and encourage creativity through the medium of dance. Class times are divided between both dance styles to give students a chance to develop their movement base and rhythm. As the dancer progresses he/she will be moved to more technical classes.

Tiny Jazz/Hip-Hop - Combination Classes: These classes are for dancers who are age 5 thru 8 focusing on teaching the basic fundamentals of jazz and hip-hop. This comb class will help dancers develop technique, vocabulary, and confidence in performing both styles of dance

Ballet, Jazz and Tap: These classes are offered separately and start to build the fundamentals of dance in each dance style. They develop a child's movement vocabulary in each dance style and work to build a solid dance technique.

Ballet Technique Levels Beginner II, Intermediate I, Intermediate II, & Advanced Ballet: These classes are designed to give students a detailed knowledge of classical ballet which includes technique, alignment, terminology, musicality, and artistic expression. Basic anatomy and kinesiology is also taught to develop their understanding of how their body moves. Students are

evaluated and placed in these levels by the Director.

Pointe: Dancers who are technically ready and wish to take Pointe MUST obtain permission from the director. The dancer MUST take at least two ballet classes/week to enroll in Pointe. ***This class is a yearlong commitment.*** Pointe class concentrates on the transference of ballet steps from demi-pointe to pointe and is introduced only when a dancer has developed sufficient strength in the feet and legs necessary for this discipline. Pointe classes build upon the ballet technique and offer students the chance to study classical ballet variations. Pointe work requires continuous study to develop the correct musculature and all pointe shoes must be approved by the instructor prior to wearing.

Jazz Levels I, II, III: These classes focus on traditional jazz vocabulary and various styles of jazz including Broadway jazz, lyrical jazz, and commercial jazz. The class focuses on developing strength, flexibility, correct alignment and coordination, which will draw heavily from ballet technique and alignment. Students will gain a sense of individuality and originality and will develop the ability to move quickly and think fast. The goal is to develop dancers who are expressive, dynamic, musical and passionate.

Lyrical/Contemporary: Lyrical/Contemporary class explores the creative, artistic soul through a strong foundation in ballet and jazz technique. Emphasis will be on moving in and out of traditional techniques while picking up on new, subtle movement challenges. This style of dance is constantly changing and evolving with current trends in contemporary movement. Due to the technical demands of this style, this class is by invitation only. Students wishing to take this class must be enrolled in two ballet classes & jazz class to be eligible.

Tap Levels Beginner & Intermediate/Advanced: Tap combines dance and percussion and explores a variety of styles including the two traditions of rhythm tap (hoofing) and Broadway tap. Each of these styles focus on exercises that increase control, coordination, and rhythm. Classes include across the floor exercises that teach dynamics, shading, phrasing, and musicality along with extended rhythmic phrases and improvisation exercises center floor. The goal is to develop tap dancers that are equally strong musicians, dancers, and performers.

Hip Hop Levels Beginner & Intermediate/Advanced: A high energy dance class based on street dancing that uses popular hip hop and pop music. The intricate movements, dynamics and body isolations build a dancer's stamina while keeping them current with the varied trends of Hip Hop in today's ever-changing dance arena.

Adult Dance Classes: These classes are for the recreational dancer and work to build strength, flexibility, musicality, and technique in their respective styles. Students of varied experience and age can enjoy the health benefits of dance classes while in a fun, supportive environment.

DRESS CODE FOR CLASSES

DANCERS MAY NOT DANCE IN SOCKS FOR ANY REASON

No sweatshirts OR T-shirts will be permitted in class (unless special permission is given by the instructor).

BALLET: Hair: Girls MUST wear a ballet bun or French roll. PONYTAILS or HANGING HAIR is not allowed in ballet class. Girls - **Black leotard (ONLY)**, suntan tights (NO PANTYHOSE) & split sole ballet shoes with elastics sewn (*must be sprayed with Chamois shoe spray*). Boys – Black or white class t-shirt, male tights (jazz pants are acceptable), thin white socks, & black ballet shoes with elastics sewn. Older boys should wear a dance belt. Students who are enrolled in Intermediate Ballet Levels and above must wear a *waist belt & purchase Gail Grant's Ballet Dictionary* (THESE ARE MANDATORY SUPPLIES THAT ARE REQUIRED TO HELP WITH TERMINOLOGY AND BODY ALIGNMENT).

POINTE: This class is a yearlong commitment. Attire: same as Ballet. Beginner Pointe students MAY NOT have toe pads, foam, or lamb's wool. Dancers should be fitted for Pointe shoes at Cordova Dancewear ONLY. **ORDERING POINTE SHOES ONLINE IS STRONGLY DISCOURAGED.**

JAZZ and LYRICAL: Any color leotard, suntan or black tights, dance tank tops, jazz pants, or dance shorts (appropriate length please). The required shoes for jazz are Traditional Black jazz shoes (no laces) or Caramel Capezio jazz shoes (Style #EJ2). Hair must be pulled away from the face.

CONTEMPORARY (ages 12 & up): Any color leotard, tights, jazz pants, jazz capris, or unitard/biketard (no crop tops), bare feet.

TAP: Black TLWAD leotard, suntan tights, black jazz pants or black leggings, & tap shoes. Dancers are NOT allowed to take tap class without tap shoes. The instructor may ask them to sit and observe quietly. Tap Shoes: Capezio Child "Fluid" Lace up Tap Shoe - Style No: CG17C or Capezio Adult "Fluid" Lace up Tap Shoe - Style No: CG17 (Caramel color). *Int/Adv will need black "lace up" tap shoes as well (Style No: 442). *please confirm required shoe with the instructor before tapping in them**

TAPPING TUTUS (ALL LEVELS): Same attire requirements for ballet and tap classes

TINY JAZZ/HIP HOP COMBO CLASS: Same attire requirements for jazz and hip hop.

BATON ALL LEVELS: Black short-sleeved leotard, suntan or black tights, black jazz pants or jazz capris, & black jazz shoes. There may be times when we are outside for tossing skills where the twirlers will need light weight tennis (weather permitting).

HIP HOP ALL LEVELS (ages 7 & up): T-shirt or leotard, jazz or sweat pants, and tennis shoes. Dancers ARE NOT allowed to take Hip Hop without tennis shoes (unless permission is granted by the instructor).

DANCEWEAR PROVIDERS: Dancewear & shoes can be purchased at Barbara's Dancewear (901-682-6898) OR Cordova Dancewear (901-753-7375). For more information, contact: Miss Tevita (dancingdelta@yahoo.com). If you are ordering dance supplies online, PLEASE speak with Ms. Tevita before ordering to ensure that you are purchasing the correct attire/shoes.

ALL DANCE ATTIRE/SHOES MUST BE APPROVED BY TLWAD DIRECTOR

Class Schedule

(Classes with low enrollment may be cancelled or rescheduled due to class size)

DAY	STUDIO A	STUDIO B
Mondays	Tiny Jazz/Hip-Hop (6–9yrs. old) 5:40pm-6:25pm	Int./Adv Tap 6:00pm-7:00pm
	Tapping Tutus III (9 -11yrs. old) 6:30pm-7:25pm	Contemporary 7:00pm-8:00pm
Tuesdays	Beginner Ballet I 5:40pm-6:25pm	Vocal Music (ages 12 & up) 5:40pm-6:25pm
	Intermediate Ballet I & Pointe 6:30pm-7:25pm	Vocal Music (Ages 7-11) 6:30-7:15pm
	Advanced Ballet I & Pointe 7:30pm-8:30pm	
Wednesdays	Pointe: 5:30-6:00pm Intermediate/Adv Ballet 6:00pm-6:55pm	Baton I 6:00pm-6:45pm Baton II 6:45pm-7:30pm
Thursdays	Jazz I & II 5:40pm-6:25pm	Int./Adv. Hip Hop 5:30pm-6:25pm
	Jazz III 6:30pm-7:25pm	Beginner Hip Hop 6:30pm-7:25pm
Saturdays	Tapping Tutus I (3-5 yrs. old) 9:15am-10:00am	
	Tapping Tutus II (6-8 yrs. old) 10:10am-11:00am	All Boys Hip-Hop 10:00am-11:00am
	Show/performance Rehearsals 11:00am-1:30pm (see director)	

20TH ANNIVERSARY PERFORMANCE GROUP

Are you interested in your dancer having more performance opportunities, competing, tv appearances, and/or performing arts exposure? If so, please speak with the director at the beginning of the 20th Anniversary Season. Interested dancers MUST be committed to classes, rehearsals, and performances. Dancers will receive additional training in ballet, jazz, hip-hop, tap, contemporary, and vocal/musical theater. *See the Academy Director for more information.*

Showcase/Recitals: The Showcase performance is presented twice a year (one winter and one spring). All dancers who are technically ready for the stage are invited to participate. Dancers MUST be enrolled in classes at T. L. Williams Academy of Dance, LLC to participate in any performance. Dancers are expected to attend technique class on a regular basis. It is a disservice to the dancer to only attend rehearsals. *All dancers who participate in the showcase must perform in the finale piece.* Please speak with the directors if you have questions about your child participating. Dancers who are interested in "Specialty

Pieces" (solos or duo/trios) must see the director for those pieces. *Specialty pieces will be limited and given only to those dancers who are technically ready and have shown dedication to practice and commitment in class.*

Academy Hours:

**Mon. thru Thurs. – 5:00pm until 7:30pm; Sat. – 9:00am until 11:00am
Fri. & Sun. – CLOSED**

Some events/activities/classes/rehearsals may be subject to change.

We break with SCS and Federal Holidays. Parent/Guardians will be notified thru remind101 of any schedule changes.

TLWAD 2019 Calendar

July 29 th – Aug. 1 st	Registration & Open House (Mon-Thurs: 5:30pm-7:00pm)
August 3 rd	Registration & Open House (10:00am-2:00pm)
August 5 th	Academy Classes Begin
September 3 rd	Labor Day (TLWAD Closed)
September 8 th	Grandparents Day
September 9 th thru 14 th	<i>Bring A Friend to Class Week</i>
September 28 th	Winter Showcase 2019 Rehearsals Begin
October 14 th -18 th	SCS Fall Break (TLWAD Closed)
October 19 th	TLWAD Classes resume
October 20 th	Making Strides Against Breast Cancer 5K Walk (3pm)
October 27 th – 31 st	Dress Up Week
November 11 th	Veteran's Day Observed (TLWAD Closed)
November 23 rd	Whitehaven Christmas Parade (All TLWAD dancers/parents are invited to participate - TLWAD Closed)
November 18 th	Whitehaven Songs of the Season (Abundant Grace Church Time TBA)
November 25 th -30 th	SCS Thanksgiving Break (TLWAD Closed)
December 2 nd	TLWAD Classes resume
December 20 th	Winter Showcase 2019 Final Rehearsal
December 21st	Back Down Memory Lane - Matinee 2pm & Evening Concert 6:30pm
December 22 nd thru January 3 rd	Winter Break (TLWAD Closed)

TLWAD 2020 Calendar

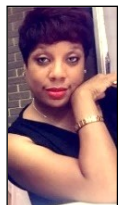
January 4 th	TLWAD Classes resume
January 20 th	Martin Luther King Jr. Day Observed (TLWAD Closed)
February 15 th	Spring Showcase 2019 Rehearsals Begin
March 14 th – 20 th	SCS Spring Break (TLWAD Closed)
March 21 st	TLWAD Classes resume
May 25 th	Memorial Day (TLWAD Closed)
June 19 th	Spring Showcase 2019 Final Rehearsal
June 20th	Spring Showcase 2020 - Matinee 2pm & Evening Concert 6:30pm
June 22 nd	End of Season Party (6-8pm)

www.remind101.com – ALL ACADEMY PARENTS MUST SIGN UP FOR THIS FREE SERVICE. Academy reminders, messages, & contact are sent thru this service as well as emails. How to sign up for Ms. Tevita's TL WILLIAMS ACADEMY OF DANCE notifications: Text @tlwad to (228) 591-1584 AND/OR Email tlwad@mail.remind.com.



@tlwilliamsdance

Meet the Academy Staff



Tevita L. Williams-Dumas (Founder/Director) is a native of Memphis, TN who has studied dance for over 40 years. She is the Artistic Director & Founder of *T. L. Williams Academy of Dance, LLC, River City Dance Company*, and a tenured teacher with Shelby County Schools (SCS) as the elementary Movement/Dance Education Specialist at Rozelle Creative & Performing Arts (CAPA) Elementary School (over 2 decades). Mrs. Williams-Dumas earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Dance Performance from Southern Methodist University (SMU), completed her teacher certification through the University of TN @ Knoxville, a Master of Science in Education Degree from the University of TN @ Martin, and Education Specialist Degree from Walden University. She is currently pursuing an Educational Doctorate in Administration & Teacher Leadership through Capella University. Additionally, Tevita received her dance and theatrical training from Memphis Children's Theater, Ballet Memphis, Memphis Park Commission Entertainers, and River City Ballet Company.

Tevita is an award-winning teacher & choreographer who has several awards, grants, and recognitions to her credit: 2012 & 2006 Freedom Awards Choreographer; (2012-2015) Bellevue Baptist Church Music Quest Production (Director of Choreography); 2013 Barnes & Noble "My Favorite Teacher" City Winner; 2012 "I Teach, I Am" Honoree; 2011 MCS Prestige Award Winner; 2004 Rotary Award for Teacher Excellence; Dance Educators of America (DEA) Outstanding Choreography Awards (2002, 2004, 2006, 2011, & 2012); Shelby County Teacher of the Year district and regional K-4 winner (2009), World Basketball Association North MS Tornadoes Dance Team (director/choreographer), Memphis City Schools Blues Renaissance Camp (choreographer), artistic director & choreographer for the Memphis Park Commission's Annual Beale Street Show, Rotary Club Professional Development Grant Winner (2002); Rotary Club Teacher Initiative Grant Winner (1997 & 2000); MCS Model Technology Classroom Grant (1997); New York City Dance Alliance (NYCDA) Commendations (1998-2002, 2004, & 2006); & a Dance Teacher Achievement Plaque at Showstopper American Dance Championships (2000). Under her direction, several of her students have won scholarships to regional & national workshops/competitions, been accepted to the Governor's School, earned Platinum, High Gold, Gold, and/or Silver Medals in dance competitions, as well as regional & national titles. Tevita has also choreographed debutante cotillions and/or pageant openings for The Memphis Chapter of Links, Inc., The River City Chapter of Links, Memphis Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and Golden Circle Social/Civic Club (Tupelo, MS). She is the co-founder of Showstoppers Annual Spring Concert at Rozelle CAPA Elementary School. Mrs. Williams-Dumas is a member of several organizations that improve the quality of life and the performing arts: Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. – Memphis Alumnae Chapter, Dance Educators of America, Southern Association of Dance Masters (Board Member/Teacher), TN Association of Physical Education, Health, Recreation, & Dance, Girl Scouts of America, The National Sorority of Phi Delta Kappa, Inc. – Beta Eta Chapter, and National Dance Education Organization. However, Tevita's most important job is wife and mother. She's been married to Shedrick for 17 years and they have a 15-year-old son, Shedrick Allen Dumas. Tevita is a member of Cummings Street Missionary Baptist Church, Dr. Eddie M. Jones, Pastor.

Tevita's passion is instructing and training young dancers through arts and academic integration. As a dedicated arts supporter & educator, she provides approximately \$10,000 in scholarships each year to young aspiring dancers in River City Dance Company by choosing to give up a yearly salary as artistic director so that she can provide assistance to dancers and their families. She is an avid supporter and fundraiser for the American Cancer Society as team captain for Dancers Against Cancer – Memphis (Making Strides Against Breast Cancer) and the American Heart Association (Jump Rope 4 Heart). Tevita also serves on the following committees for Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated – Memphis Alumnae Chapter: Jabberwock, Jewel Court, Arts and Letters (former Co-Chair), and as dance instructor/facilitator for Delta Fine Arts Summer Dance Institute. Since her first day as Dance/Movement Education Specialist Rozelle CAPA Elementary School, Nov. 17, 1994, many have often heard her say, "I can honestly say that I have never left work saying, I had a bad day. It may have been hectic, busy, and full of surprises; but nothing ruins my day." She also says, "I have been blessed and truly have a passion for my work and am committed to giving children an arts experience that will enrich their lives one step at a time."



Bettye F. Williams (Ms. Bettye as she is affectionately known) is the Assistant Director of T. L. Williams Academy of Dance, LLC & River City Dance Company. She is a retired teacher for the State of Mississippi with over 50 years of teaching experience in History and Political Science. Ms. Bettye has taught dance, baton, as well as history in the Marshall County Schools System and in the Memphis Park Commission. She is an award-winning choreographer with superior ratings in Field and Parade Corps for the State of Mississippi. Certifications: Marshall County District Workshop Training in Field and Parade Corps, New York City Dance Alliance Regional Workshop, Dance Educators of America Regional Workshop, Showstopper American Dance Championships Regionals and Nationals, Memphis Park Commission Dance Workshops, & Baton Twirling Workshop by Mary Molder (Millington, TN). Choreography Experiences: Memphis Park Commission Majorette, Cheerleader, & Dance Competitions, AXA Memphis Liberty Bowl Parade, Millington, TN Christmas Parade, Memphis Police Department "Drug Free Parade", Holly Springs, MS Christmas Parade, Rust College Founders Day Parade, Memphis Park Commission Toys for Tots, City Wide Jamborees, Various Community Center Annual Closing Shows, Running Across America (With Rochelle Stevens) Opening Kick-off, Memphis Park Commission Annual Beale St. Shows, & Baptist East Hospital Annual Kids Count Celebration.

She gives credit for her success and life's journey to God, her parents, & educators who have instilled a work ethic that she has strived to pass on to her students over the years. As a special honor and treat for such an outstanding and motivating educator, Time Magazine selected Ms. Bettye as one of the teachers to be featured in their August 25, 2014 publication. H. W. Byers High School was the only school selected in North Mississippi to be interviewed on the "New Common Core Initiative." *She shared with the journalist a simple goal, "Show up every day and teach the best we can."*



Chrystal R. Grandberry (vocal & musical theatre instructor) of Memphis, TN is one who loves to sing and appreciate all genres of music. She is a passionate educator of Shelby County Schools but is not limited to the traditional classroom. Outside of the classroom, Chrystal shares her classically trained gift in such ways as director of children's music in VBS, section leader, and pageant coach and coordinator. She is also a professional vocalist in areas of featured soloist and background singer to famous gospel artists like, Rubin Studdard, Ledisi, Shirley Caesar and Tremaine Hawkins. Chrystal's gift of song has taken her out of the country to tour Italy as a background singer for a local gospel artist. When Chrystal is not singing, she is raising two active children, Kennedy and Kingston. They are following in her footsteps in the arts in dance, voice, and drama.



Alfred "AJ" Jordan II (Contemporary & Hip-Hop Instructor) a native Memphian, began his dance training at the age of twelve with T. L. Williams Academy of Dance, LLC and was a dancer with River City Dance Company for over six years. Alfred is an award-winning performer throughout the United States. AJ is listed at one of "901's Dancers to Watch" and is honing skills as a teacher and choreographer with T. L. Williams Academy of Dance, LLC and River City Dance Company. He was recently awarded an Outstanding Choreography Award from Dance Educators of America. AJ's choreography has been featured at the Harlem Globetrotter's Game Half-time Show and SCS Leadership Conglomeration. He gives credit to God and his family foundation for all his achievements.



Kelby Auten (Tap Instructor) is excited to join T. L. Williams Academy of Dance. She is the past coordinator of the Bella Ballet program at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY. She is a graduate of Western Kentucky University and the Mahurin Honors College with a BA in Dance and a Minor in Performing Arts Administration (Magna Cum Laude). During her time at Western she was the President of the WKU Student Chapter of the National Dance Education Organization, a member of the Dance Company, a member of the National Honors Society for Dance Arts (with honors), received a FUSE grant to travel to The Big Apple Tap Festival in NYC, was awarded a scholarship to study abroad at Ballet de Civitavecchia in Italy, and was selected as Outstanding Student in Dance for 2016-2017.



Rhamerias Andre-Rashad White (Hip-Hop & Jazz Instructor) was born and raised in Memphis, TN. He began studying dance at the age of five at the Rozelle Creative & Performing Arts Elem. School with the Rozelle Repertory Dance Ensemble. At the age of nine he continued his dance education with T. L. Williams Academy of Dance, LLC. Later, Rhamerias became a founding member and principal dancer of River City Dance Company. As a teenager Rhamerias also began studying vocal training at Snowden Middle School and Central High School in addition to studying dance. Rhamerias also competed at regional and national conventions such as Dance Educators of America (DEA), New York City Dance Alliance (NYCDA), and Southern Association of Dance Masters. Rhamerias is an award-winning dancer and vocalist with such awards as: NYCDA Rising Star Award, DEA Mr. Teen National Winner, All N Honors Choir and All State TN Honor Choir. His performing experiences includes Elevation presented by Ballet Memphis, The 2006 Freedom Awards performer presented by The National Civil Rights Museum & International Paper, Manhattan Concert Productions, and the American Choral Directors Association National Convention in Miami. Rhamerias performed in the first live theatrical three-dimensional dance show with choreographers Dave Scott, Eddie Garcia, & Cris Judd. He is an alumna of the Univ. of AL (Roll Tide) with a major in Dance and a minor in telecommunications & film. He is currently working on the Oasis of the Sea Cruise Ship as a member of the production/stage team and swing dancer.

