

# DANCE CONNECTION 2016 SUMMER WORKSHOP INTENSIVE

## GUEST TEACHERS



**Tim Stevenson** wears many hats these days and as an innovative choreographer, Music Video Director, Author and Song Writer he continues to show how many different talents he has in many areas of the Entertainment Industry. In choreography he has worked with some of the industry's greatest performers like Jennifer Lopez, Ramya, Destiny's Child, Skylar Stecker, Trinity, Jo Dee Messina, Jazzie Axton, Maylin Fox, Colette Carr, Usher, Boys to Men, Johnny Knoxville, Stacie Orrico and More. With an extensive background in all styles of dance he has performed on stages, concerts, television award shows, and music videos with Jennifer, Boys II Men, Usher, Destiny's Child, Brandy, TLC, Jennifer Love Hewitt and had a scene in the Movie "Bringin Down the House" with Steve Martin. Currently Tim has finished directing three Music Videos for New Zealand Stars from X-Factor Jazzie Axton, an acoustic video for The Voice Contestant Sammy C, Video for Maylin Fox for new single "Here We Go" and Three videos from Rising Country Star Kevin Forrest Clark.



**Eddie Garcia** is an accomplished director, choreographer, dancer and all around entertainer. He has performed around the world with many of today's most celebrated stars. At just 16 years old, his incredible dancing style and technique had delivered him to the world stage via **Janet Jackson**. Less than one year later, he started touring with "The King of Pop", **Michael Jackson**. With a creative license that is both spiritually captivating and visually energized, Eddie has produced an artistic fingerprint making him one of the most recognized names within the world of dance and choreography. Eddie has also worked with Adam Lambert, Sheryl Crow, Jane's Addiction, Paula Abdul, Jennifer Love Hewitt, and Brandy, to name just a few. He also joined forces with superstar Jennifer Lopez, appearing in and co-choreographing several of her award-winning videos including her appearances on "**The Today Show**", "**The MTV Video Awards.**" and co-directed her live NBC Television Concert special – "**Let's Get Loud.**" Other choreography and performances include **Bringin' Down the House** (starring Steve Martin and Queen Latifah.), the feature film version of the musical **RENT**, Disney's **The Suite Life with Zach and Cody**, **Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief**, **Family Wedding** (starring Academy Award winner Forest Whitaker, Regina King, Carlos Mencia and Emmy Award winner America Ferrera.) and the "**Smurf**" movie. He has worked with Perry Ferrell and Satellite Party for "**Lollapollaza**" as well as Jane's Addiction for the Coachella Festival. He choreographed for Tom Holland's (director of Child's Play and Fright Night) **Twisted Tales: Vampire's Dance**. He coached David Lago for his original audition for the award winning **Million Dollar Quartet** on Broadway, performed with **Ben E King** and **Prince Royce** at the Latin Grammys in Las Vegas, choreographed and performed at the **J.F. Kennedy Center** in Washington D.C. and produced and directed his own, **Twisted Branches**, a groundbreaking tale that combines storytelling, music and dance along with a pioneering live performance effect that involves stereoscopic 3D. It breaks tradition and reinvents the way we experience theatre.



**Kobi Rozenfeld's** professional reputation and heightened demand in the dance industry has led him to work with some of the best entertainers and most notable celebrities in Hollywood. Not only has Kobi choreographed for **Beyoncé** and **Natasha Bedingfield**, but also most recently added "Musical Director" to his long list of titles when working on the Asia tour of **Barbie LIVE**, the Musical for Mattel and EMS Productions. Some of his many choreography highlights include his work with the British singer/songwriter, **Natasha Bedingfield**, for the **LifeBall** charity event for AIDS LIFE, an organization raising money for people living with HIV and AIDS, in Vienna; choreographing for **Macy Gray's** latest hit **Beauty in the World**; and with none other than the incredible pop sensation, **Beyoncé**, for her 2009/10 **I Am... World Tour**, which led to an invitation to perform alongside Beyoncé at the **Grammy Awards** in January 2010. Kobi also choreographed for **Israel's So You Think You Can Dance** and for a musical show in California's **Legoland** Amusement Park. Kobi was born in Israel, Ness Ziona, and has been dancing and choreographing from a very early age. This is where he performed in the successful productions of **Fun-Tazi**, **Cabaret the Musical**, **Peter Pan** and many more. Kobi worked with and choreographed for some of Israel's top pop stars for music videos as well as national tours. He choreographed for the **Little Mermaid** the musical, and won numerous choreography awards at the top dance festivals in Israel. In the summer of 2006, Kobi began working with **Keshet Chaim Dance Ensemble** upon his arrival in the United States. He choreographed new pieces for the company to great critical acclaim. With performances at the **Disney Concert Hall**, **Paramount Studios**, **The Kodak Theater**, for a special on **PBS** and more, he was quickly recognized for his talent and was given the title of Assistant Artistic Director. L.A.'s top working dancers presented Kobi's choreographic work at the prestigious **Carnival- Choreographer's Ball**. He now travels the world as a free-lance master teacher and choreographer and has taught master classes at the Broadway Dance Center in New York, IDA Hollywood and Studio 84 in Los Angeles as well as international workshops in Germany, Austria, the Netherlands, France, Slovakia, Spain and Guam. Kobi is currently a faculty member of the Dupree Dance convention with which he is touring the US.



**Kavita Rao** is one of Los Angeles' experienced and in demand Bollywood and Jazz Funk teachers and choreographers, Kavita produces distinctive contemporary dance styles. Internationally and regional renowned for her choreography and teaching abilities, she conjures out of her world travels characteristics of eastern and western dance. She has been featured in numerous lives shows, music videos, films, commercials and television shows. Some dance credits include: America's Got Talent, IIFA 2011 (Indian International Film Awards), Showtime's Live Nude Comedy, CBS's The Doctors, Bravo's Date my-Ex, India Calling at the Hollywood Bowl, Toshiba commercials, Old School Party at Vegas Hilton, multitude of performances at Carnival - Choreographer's Ball, Armenchik Live and AMA's at Nokia Theater, 60th Anniversary for Israel at Paramount Studios. After spending time over seas sharing and spreading her influence and craft in the Middle East, her work recently won and garnered choreographic awards throughout the region. She also obtained rave reviews for her work in "Beyond," a cabaret show running in Los Angeles. Nationally her solo choreography has gained numerous awards. She recently created artistic works in Guam, Isreal, Los Angeles and Kansas as well as numerous teaching workshops. She recently choreographed music videos for Indian Artists Kamal Khan and Ishmeet Narula. Along with teaching and choreographing, Kavita directs and owns two dance/entertainment companies: Flirt an all-female group and Karmagraphy a Bollywood fusion company. Most recently she was the US judge for India's most prestigious dance show "Just Dance," with Bollywood super star Hrithik Roshan. She has judged numerous national Bollywood competitions, including Jhoomti Sham and Bollywood America. Karmagraphy recently choreographed and danced for clients such as IFFLA (Indian Film Festival LA), Disney/Pixar, Dreamworks, Kaiser Permanente, Gita Anjali Diamonds, INDUS, TIE (The Indus Entrepreneurs), Black Book Magazine, South Asian Bar Association, Arpen Global Charities, and SDM Cancer Relief Fund. In addition to her Bollywood work, she also teaches western styles and her choreography has been featured in commercials, videos and live shows. Rao is also the resident choreographer for the commercial production company Contagious and she currently teaches at Millennium Dance Complex, Dance Dimensions and International Dance Academy Hollywood — and all throughout southern California.



**Helen Vazquez** is a competitive salsa dancer and dance instructor based in the South Bay. Helen began her salsa dancing career at the young age of 14, and within months became a member of Pretty Boys & Girls Dance Company's amateur team. She has since been a principal dancer on a number of local dance companies including MamboNova Dance Company and Grizzly Dance Company. Helen is well known in the competitive salsa scene, and has won numerous titles at competitions including the Las Vegas Salsa Congress, San Francisco Salsa Congress, and US Salsa Open Championships. In 2013, she and her partner JC Camarena took first place in the Amateur On1 division of the competition. Helen now operates her own studio in Fremont by the name of "Cachet Dance Academy", where she offers private salsa lessons as well as choreography for events such as Quinceaneras and Sweet Sixteen parties. She is also an active salsa competitor, and is an assistant coach for San Jose State University's student salsa team, Spartan Mambo.



**Christian Vincent** is a man of many talents that is a success in many areas of the entertainment industry. He is a native of Windsor, Ontario, Canada and holds a B.F.A from Butler University where he graduated with highest honors, cum laude. As a multi-talented performer, Christian first experienced success in the entertainment industry as one of the most working professional dancers. Christian has worked with such artists as Shakira, Ricky Martin, Chayanne, Mandy Moore, Geri Halliwell, Macy Gray, Brian Setzer Orchestra, Ashanti, Prince, Gloria Estefan, Britney Spears, Stevie Wonder and Madonna (where he was dance captain for her Drowned World Tour). Christian has also danced in various films including She's All That, Starsky and Hutch, Rent, The Wedding Planner, Walk Hard "The Dewey Cox Story," Flintstones "Viva Rock Vegas," Ms. Congeniality 2 and GI Joe 2 Retaliation. Even more extensive are his television appearances on Buffy, Disney's Annie, Arrested Development, Baywatch, Mad TV, The George Lopez show, Cold Case and Dancing with The Stars. Additionally, he has appeared in multiple commercials and print ads for Chevrolet, Muscle and Fitness "Hers" and Verizon. His talents as a choreographer and artistic director can be seen in various projects. He has worked with directors David Fincher and Marc Webb to name a few. Christian's commercial credits include Target, AT&T, Nationwide Insurance, WalMart, Nestle Skinny Cow, CoverGirl with Queen Latifah, Adidas and Subway. His television and film work can be seen in Noah's Arc Jumping The Broom, 500 Days of Summer and most recently on the Global television series Canada Sings. His acting career is definitely on the rise. Christian appeared off Broadway in Radiant Baby, directed by George C. Wolf. More recently Christian has made appearances on Smallville, Center Stage 2 as Harris Webb, J, J Abrams hit series Fringe, as The Archangel Michael on the ABC Family show entitled Fallen, the Lifetime movie Sins of the Mother, and most recently the Sci-fi show Continuum. Christian is currently working on his Masters degree in dance at University of California Irvine.



**Chelsea Michener** started dancing at the age of 3 in Colorado. By the time she was 17 she was accepted to the Edge Performing Arts Center Scholarship Program. She is well versed in tap, jazz, ballet, hip hop, lyrical, theatre, and contemporary. She has been seen on stage many times working for choreographers such as, Tessandra Chavez, Malaya, Joelle Martinec, Sakinah LeStage, Adam Parson, Scott Hislop, Tabitha and Napoleon D'Umo and Ryan Huffington to name a few. Some of her previous work includes *The Sing Off* (Season 3), *Cold Case*, *Dance Plug*, the NAACP awards, *O'Spada*, Alex Kogan, *Heartour* and *Christina Grimmie*. She has traveled to New Zealand, Sweden and Australia to assist some of the above choreographers. She is also a member of *SoleVita Dance Company* under the direction of Joelle Martinec and *Commonality Dance Company* under the direction of Adam Parson.



**Barry Youngblood** has worked with the *Mighty Morphin Power Rangers*, *Jordan Knight*, *Christina Aguilera*, *Plus One*, *Pink*, *Brian McKinght* and *J. Lo*. He has choreographed industrials for *Sega Dreamcast*, *Nike*, *Reebok*, *Namco* and *Sketchers*. His television credits include *MTV Awards*, *VH1 Awards*, *Miss America Pageant with Donnie Osmond*, *The Today Show*, *Regis and Kelly*, *The Young and the Restless*, *The Dove Awards*, *Nikki Cox*, *J. Lo NBC Special* and the *Soul Train Music Awards* with *Busta Ryhmes* and *P. Diddy*. He also performed for the *Queen of England* and with *Kid Rock*, *JA Rule* and *J. Lo* for the *USO Show* in *Ramkin*, *Germany* for the troops. He was a featured dancer in the movie *Bringing Down The House* with *Steven Martin* and *Queen Latifah*. His choreography can be seen on the *UDA div 1 national hip hop champions Hofstra University*, *USA national champs Idaho State University* and the *4 time national UDA div 1a hip hop champions Cincinnati Bearcats*. He was also the choreographer for the *USA Dance Team World*.



**Lilian Manansala** has a passion for the arts, teaching, and performing. She trained at *Retter's Academy of Dance* under the direction and guidance of *Darryl Retter* and *Linda Bernabei-Retter*, and was a faculty member and studio manager. Lilian's performances include *Concert of Love*, *Choreographers Carnival*, *Tremaine Scholarship Showcase*, *Jazz Dance L.A.*, *PDS Fall Ball*, *Pops Goes the Century*, *Broadway Dance Center Showcase*, *City of Hope*, *Spectrum Dance*, *Friends in Dance*, and *Move to Groove Ball*, among others. Lilian has taught for *Al Gilbert Seminars*, *DMI*, and *tanjams*, and has assisted Master Teachers on *Tremaine Conventions*, *Encore Convention*, *Dance Masters Association*, and *Hocor's Dance Caravan*. She was cofounder and co-director of the contemporary companies *abbybruce company of dance* and *[kaslem mmrmg]*, and is currently a member of *Artists Community for Change in Los Angeles (ACFCLA)*. Lilian has travelled throughout the United States teaching master classes and choreography. In New York, she taught at the world-renowned studio, *Steps on Broadway*, and at *Dancespace*. Lilian co-directed Southern California-based *R & B Dance Company* from 2002-2007, and has modeled for costume company, *Stagewear L.A.* Lilian has choreographed for and appeared in Disney's *That's So Raven*, *Cory in the House*, and *Kickin' It*, and has choreographed for *Sonny with a Chance*, *Good Luck, Charlie*, and *So Random*. She has choreographed for *R & B vocal group, SX4*, and worked with *Diva Trip*. She choreographed the pilot episodes for Disney's *Hannah Montana*, *Keke & Jamal*, and *Better Days* and has choreographed for the *Cartoon Network's Out of Jimmy's Head*. She has also choreographed for *abcfamily's Pretty Little Liars*. Her *Rhythm Machine Company* piece, *Arabia*, performed at the 49th Annual L.A. Holiday Celebration at the *Dorothy Chandler Pavilion*, which was telecast on *KCET* and received an *L.A. Local Emmy* nomination. She has also danced with *Ashley Argota* from the *Nickelodeon Show, True Jackson, VP* and performed in the award-winning *Cabrillo Music Theatre's* production of *King and I*, starring *Deborah Gibson*. Lilian choreographed and performed in an indie event to help raise awareness for the organization *ONE: The Campaign to Make Poverty History*. She also attended *UCLA* and majored in *World Arts & Cultures*. Some of her recent work has been on *Disney Channel's* original series *Dog With a Blog*. Committed to compassionate empowerment, Lilian hopes to inspire a love and appreciation for dance, and most of all, a respect and pride in oneself.



**Alyssa Burton** started dancing at the age of three and has trained in numerous dance styles such as ballet, tap, jazz, contemporary, modern, musical theater, and hip hop. A *Dance Connection Palo Alto Performing Company* alumna she went on to become a faculty member of *Dupree Dance*, graduated with a BA in Dance from the *University of California, Riverside*, and is now a full time teacher and choreographer at *Fusion Dance Studios* in *Torrance, CA*, *Family Theater Inc.* in *Hermosa Beach, CA* and is signed with the *1826 Dance* agency. Alyssa has won numerous awards for her choreography. She has been a *Mistinguett* dancer in *Kevin and Curoso's Madame Houdini* in *Atlantic City*, danced with *Razberry Jam* in *LA's Carnival: Choreographer's Ball*, *Anime Expo LA* and more. She will also be appearing in a music video for upcoming artist, *Kloe Shinn*. Alyssa is also an avid *Quidditch* player recently representing *Team USA* in *Frankfurt Germany* receiving the *Silver Medal* at the *World Games*. She hopes to continually inspire her students to not only become better and stronger dancers, but stronger people as well.



**Chris Jones** is a true triple threat with multiple credits as an actor, dancer and vocalist. He has film and television appearances that include *You Got Served*, *You Got Served 2: Winner Takes All*, *9MM* (leading role opposite Queen Latifah), *Forrest Gump*, *Battlefield America*, *Big Momma's House 2*, *No Vacancy*, *CSI-Miami*, *CSI-NY*, *Will and Grace*, *MAD TV* and many more. As a dancer Chris has performed with numerous recording artists such as Britney Spears, N'SYNC, J-LO, P.Diddy, Busta Rhymes, Chris Brown, Beyonce and appeared on tours, music videos and award shows such as the MTV VMA'S, BET Awards, Soultrain Awards, AMA'S, European VMA'S and Grammys. Some of his other stage credits include the Broadway shows *Camelot* and *The Secret Garden*. Chris has also worked as an actor and dancer in commercials and industrials for companies such as Pepsi, Footlocker, Nike, Panasonic, McDonald's, Sony, Playstation, Sketchers and Reebok. Chris is not only a performer in many realms of the industry but also has a love for choreographing and teaching. He has worked and choreographed with artists and companies like NLT, One Call, Travis Garland, Willow Smith, One Direction, Becky G, Adidas, Adidas Asia Pacific and The Lifetime Network. He can also be found traveling the world as a master teacher, choreographer and judge at many studios, workshops, conventions and competitions. He is always on the go and constantly working to create and innovate. Chris Jones is an entertainer non-the less and enjoys teaching and sharing his passion for this industry we call "Entertainment" with others.



**Allyne Gartrell** is a native of Atlanta, GA and brings twenty years of experience to the art of dance. A graduate of the Dekalb Center for the Performing Arts in Atlanta, Allyne also attended Florida A&M University and Florida State University where he excelled in Instrumental Music and Dance. As a dancer Allyne has worked with Joel Hall Dance Theatre, Ballethnic Dance Company, Ballet Wisconsin, City Ballet Theatre, and for seven years he was one of the Lead Male Dances for the Internationally known Dayton Contemporary Dance Company, where he served as Company Instructor and Rehearsal Director for DCDC II. While at DCDC Allyne danced the ballets of Alvin Ailey, Donald McKayle, Talley Beatty, Ulysses Dove, and Donald Byrd to name a few. Broadway credits include: *The Wiz*, *A Chorus Line*, *Sophisticated Ladies*, and his latest appearance in *Porgy & Bess* playing the role of Crown. Allyne also served as assistant to the Tony Award Winning Choreographer Hope Clark, for the production of *Porgy & Bess* which premiered at the Kennedy Center for the Arts. Over the past decade Allyne has become one of the most recognized master teachers in the country, known for his high energy, & physically demanding jazz and modern classes. His pulsating choreography has been featured on several dance companies and Universities including, Dallas Black Dance Theatre, Milwaukee Dance Connection, DCDC II, Morgan State University Modern Dance Ensemble, Spellman College, City College of San Francisco, Lincoln University, and Orchesis Contemporary Dance Theatre of Grambling State University. In 2006 Allyne premiered a new Ballet "Primary Movements" in collaboration with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, with an original score composed by classical composer Jonathan Bailey Holland, for the kick-off of the Dallas Black Dance Theatre's 30th Anniversary Celebration. In 1999 Allyne founded the Arts Unlimited Project and the Milwaukee Dance Connection a non-profit multi-cultural organization, focused on the preservation of the art of Dance and African American Culture in the city of Milwaukee WI. In 2004 Allyne was recognized for his contribution to at risk youth in the mid-west by Senator Russ Fiengold, and was awarded the 2004 AKA Trail Blazer Award for outstanding community service. Allyne is a member of the International Association of Blacks in Dance, National Performing Arts Guild and for the past ten years has served as the Scholarship Chairman for the Black College Dance Exchange, a coalition of Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Most recently Allyne was inducted into the 2009 Presidential Edition of *Who's Who in the Arts*, awarded the Dallas Black Dance Theatre 2009 Artist Award, and in December of 2009 Allyne was featured in *Dallas Modern Luxury Magazine* as one of the Artists in Dallas to look out for in 2010.



**Rachel Kreiling** started dancing at age three in Pittsburgh, PA, under the direction of Abby Miller. She studied ballet, tap, jazz, acro/gymnastics, hip hop, lyrical and modern. Rachel grew up in the NYCDA Family as a Regional Outstanding Dancer many times over, and has found her way back home, traveling full-time teaching with NYCDA. Also a Certified Pilates Trainer, she is currently developing and installing cross-training movement programs for pre-professional & professional dancers, movement educators, and athletes focusing on neuromuscular development training, performance enhancement, injury prevention, and rehabilitation. Rachel is a current member of Alison Chase/Performance (led by Alison Chase, founder of Pilobolus Dance Theater) and recently toured as a principal dancer in Rasta Thomas' "Rock The Ballet" (European Tour). She also performed at the renowned Joyce Theatre in NYC with "Revolution" and served as the dance captain during the National Tour. Rachel also performed in "Encore" – Toyko Disney, Pretty Girls of Dance (company), Dorrell Martin's Dance Fusion (company), SilverSea Cruises, Bryn Cohn & Co., Bad Boys of Dance and various performances with New York Theatrical Events.