

## 2012 National Dance Week Schedule and Instructors: April 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> River Valley Dance Academy

**Irving Amigon:** (Contemporary) Irving was born in Brooklyn, NY, raised in Mexico, and moved to Minnesota in 2003. He received his BA in Dance from the University of MN. Irving has performed works by Uri Sands, Karis Sloss, Zoe Sealy, Marciano Silva Dos Santos, Mathew Janczewski, Jeffrey Peterson, and Judith James Ries. Irving has been dancing with Electric Edge Ensemble since 2010. He is in his first season with a new company, Contempo Physical Dance.

**Bryce Davidson:** (Break Dancing) has been teaching athletic disciplines for over 10 years. In his 7 years as a break dancing instructor, he has had the opportunity to teach students of all shapes and sizes from 4-47! He has taught workshops for dance studios, elementary and high schools, and special events. While teaching is Bryce's first love, he also loves to perform! He has danced on stage with hip hop legends Afrika Bambaataa, KRSone, Kurtis Blow, B-boy Crazy Legs, and across the twin cities with The Collective hip hop dance crew. When Bryce isn't dancing, he is doing caricatures for events and parties, performing improv, and practicing yoga.

**Michael Matthew Ferrell:** (Jazz/ Leaps & Turns) is the 2007 Ivey Award recipient for Choreography, and the 2010 Choreographer of the Year, Lavender Magazine. Choreography Credits include *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*, *Grand Night for Singing*, and *Broadway's Legendary Ladies* at the Ordway Center, *Wizard of Oz*, *Annie*, *Babe The Sheep Pig*, *Tommy*, *Spelling Bee*, *Disney's High School Musical*, *A Year with Frog and Toad*, and *Fashion 47* at The Children's Theatre Company, *Spelling Bee*, *Evita*, *The Full Monty*, *Parade*, *Gypsy*, *The Rink*, and *Passage of Dreams* for Theatre Latte Da, *Cats*, *Annie*, *The Sound of Music*, *My Fair Lady*, *Forever Plaid*, *Oklahoma*, and *Can Can* at The Chanhassen Dinner Theatres. Additionally his work has been seen at the Minnesota Opera, Park Square Theatre, Sesame Street, Stages Theatre Company, Pantages Theatre, Disney World Orlando, and Guthrie Theatre Cabaret shows.

**Julie Kerr Berry:** (African Caribbean/Modern) MSU Dance Department Chairperson Julie Kerr Berry, (and recent recipient of Dance Educator of the Year Award, as posted in Dance Teacher Magazine) returns to deliver her amazing African Caribbean class, with live Drum accompaniment provided by Tim Berry, local musician and music educator. A collegiate style class, great opportunity for our dancers to see what lies ahead at the college level. Modern dance is Julie's love as well, as she strives to teach her dancers to learn how to use their floor. If you are looking to work hard, Julie's classes are a "not miss". Julie is a dance educator, professor, and a choreographer, who received her degree in Dance from Temple University.

**Colleen Ueland:** (Hip Hop) Colleen has worked as a Director, Producer, Choreographer, Dance Educator, and as a Commercial Actress. She has performed with "Prince" and the NPG, The Guthrie Theatre's "Much Ado About Nothing", Minnesota Opera's "The Pearl Fischers", Chanhassen Dinner Theatre's "Oklahoma" and "Swing". Additional dance credits include performing with Joe Chavala and the Flying Foot Forum. As a Dance Educator, Colleen has worked with St. Paul Conservatory for the Performing Arts, The Children's Theatre Company, University of MN Dance Program, Zenon Dance, East Side Arts Council, The Boys and Girls Club, Stepping Stone Theatre, The Lundstrum Center, Circus Juventas, and City of Lakes Waldorf School. Choreography credits include work with the Cowles Center, the Walker Arts Center, Minneapolis Institute of the Arts, Mixed Blood Theatre, The Torch Theatre, as well as commercial work. Finally she is the founder of two Minneapolis based dance companies; CU Move, and Hip Hop Co-op (featured in Dance Spirit Magazine)

**Gena Buckley:** (Jazz/ Kick/ Lyrical) Gena has been instrumental in the growth of the Jazz program at River Valley. She is the coach of our Performance Company Jazz Teams, the Coach of the Lakeville North Lakeliner High School Jazz Team, and has been an instructor at RVDA for 10 years. Formerly a MN Vikings Cheerleader for four years, Gena has also served as a judge for the MN State High School League, and has offered her expertise teaching master classes and workshops around the state for dance teams. Gena has modeled for The Line Up and Just for Kix dance catalogues, and has been seen in a national commercial for Big Lots! Check out Gena's audition prep class if you're interested in learning more about trying out for our performance companies, or your high school dance team.

**Kirsten Iams:** (Ballet/ Musical Theatre Dance) We are so excited to have Kirsten Iams on staff at River Valley Dance Academy this year. Fun Fact: Kirsten was the original Pink Ballerina Bear in Radio City Music Halls Christmas Spectacular! Kirsten has performed at Radio City Music Hall, with Ballet of the Dolls, at the Hayloft Dinner Theatre, and most recently for many seasons with Chanhassen Dinner Theatres. You may have seen her in *Joseph, Seven Brides for Seven Brothers, The Producers, 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, Easter Parade, Singin in the Rain, West Side Story, Beauty and the Beast, Anything Goes, Annie, Cats, The Sound of Music, Camelot, The Music Man, My Fair Lady, Oklahoma, Can Can, Good News, or Brigadoon*. She is a member of Actors Equity, and the Screen Actors Guild. She has trained with the Joffrey Ballet, Hartford Ballet, Riverside Ballet Arts Theatre, Ballet Folk, with Nanette Charisse, Michael Owens, and Luigi. Originally from Bismarck North Dakota, Kirsten was the Artistic Director of the Bismarck Dance Theatre; a youth Performing Company from 1994-1997. She has been teaching dance since 1978, and providing choreography since 1990 for dance and theatre groups.

**Deane Tasler:** (Tap/ Swing) We welcome Deane back for his 7<sup>th</sup> year at our National Dance Week Celebration. Deane's Tap skills are hard to match, and his experience performing in The National Tour of *SWING* at the Chanhassen Dinner Theatre, allows him to bring us an awesome closer for our National Dance Week Celebration. We hope all the junior and senior high students who have participated in the weekend, will come back for the *big finale!* Dancing with the Stars, wanna be's this is your chance! Come learn footwork, partner work and some fun lifts, as you enjoy your friends at our final workshop for the weekend! Deane is a Carlson Grad, has been seen in "Beauty and the Beast", and "Swing" at Chanhassen Dinner Theatres, is a Tap instructor, and Competition Coach for several studios here in the Twin Cities.

**Monica Kleen:** (Hip Hop/ Tap/ Lyrical) Monica serves as the Coach of the Hip Hop Team at River Valley Dance Academy. She instructs classes in Hip Hop, Tap, Jazz, and Lyrical. Monica has served as a High School Dance Team Coach in Mayer, provided workshops for local high school dance teams, has a third place National Title in Tap to her credit, and has danced in theatrical productions such as "Guys and Dolls" and "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat". She was a member of the State Championship Eastview Lightning Dance Team, and studied at Andahazy School of Classical Ballet, and Victoria's Dance productions. Besides her extensive background in dance, Monica also has a background in gymnastics.

**Kim Bahmer:** (Acro for Dancers) Kim has over 20 years experience as a competitive athlete in the sports of Trampoline & Tumbling, Artistic Gymnastics, and Diving. She was a National Champion in Power Tumbling at age 9 and State Champion in Diving for the state of Minnesota. Kim competed Division I at the University of Minnesota in Diving, and was a record holder, as well as Big ten Diver of the Week. She trained Trampoline & Tumbling for Cirque du Soleil in 2008. Kim has a Bachelor's Degree in Education, and is a USAG Safety Certified Instructor. She has a passion for helping her students reach their full athletic potential.

**Joseph Bingham:** (Partnering for Pointe) Joseph danced the role of our Nutcracker this year and we are so grateful for his return to RVDA to share his talents with our students. A recent graduate of the University of Minnesota, Joseph studied Dance and Arts Administration. In 2009 Joseph performed the role of Dream Curly in Chanhassen Dinner Theatre's "Oklahoma". He is in his 8<sup>th</sup> season as a Company Member of the Continental Ballet Company, where some of his favorite credits include: Blue Bird in "Sleeping Beauty," Spanish in "Swan Lake", the Prince, and numerous other roles in "Nutcracker", "Coppelia", "Cinderella," and the Champion Roper in "Rodeo". Joseph recently stage managed the Walker Art Center's "Momentum: New Dance Works", and served as Production Assistant for Bloomington Civic Theatre's "Sweet Charity". In 2007 and 2008, he produced his own shows in the Minnesota Fringe Festival, "Conundrum", and "Conundrum Rehabbed".

**Sue Gunness:** (Classical Ballet) Sue has been instructing at our National Dance Week Celebrations since they began 13 years ago. She is a Dance Specialist at Gustavus University, and also served as an instructor at MSU for many years. Having studied with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Sue served as the Ballet Mistress at Continental Ballet Company for several years, she has instructed at Minnesota Dance Theatre, and runs her own Dance Company (PAC) in her hometown. Sue is a wealth of information, a true artist, and an inspiration not only to budding ballerinas, but to her fellow instructors. If you love classical ballet, you won't want to miss the opportunity to take class with Sue.

## Friday April 27<sup>th</sup>

### Studio A

7:00-8:30 Partnering for Pointe 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grades, Int/ Advanced, Kirsten Iams and Joseph Bingham  
NDW 1 \$18

### Studio B

6:30-7:30 Kick 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Grades, Gena Buckley NDW2 \$14  
7:30-8:30 Junior Jazz and Cheer 3<sup>rd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> Grades, Gena Buckley NDW3 \$14

### Studio C

5:30-7:00 African Caribbean 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grades, Julie Kerr Berry NDW4 \$18  
7:00-8:30 Modern 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grades, Julie Kerr Berry NDW5 \$18

## Saturday April 28<sup>th</sup>

### Studio A

11:30-12:30 Hip Hop 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grades, Monica Kleen NDW6 \$14  
12:30-1:30 Lyrical 3<sup>rd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> Grades, Monica Kleen NDW7 \$14  
1:30-3:00 Contemporary 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> Grades, Irving Amigon NDW8 \$18  
3:00-4:30 Contemporary 6<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> Grades, Irving Amigon NDW9 \$18  
4:30-6:00 Contemporary 3<sup>rd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> Grades, Irving Amigon NDW10 \$18

### Studio B

11:30-12:30 Audition Prep Class, 4<sup>th</sup> grade and up (held in retail space) Gena Buckley NDW 11 \$12  
1:30-3:00 Hip Hop 6<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> Grades Colleen Ueland NDW12 \$18  
3:00-4:30 Hip Hop 3<sup>rd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> Grades Colleen Ueland NDW13 \$18  
4:30-6:00 Hip Hop 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> Grades Colleen Ueland NDW14 \$18

### Studio C

12:30-1:30 Junior Jazz and Cheer 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Grades, Gena Buckley NDW15 \$14  
1:30-3:00 Jazz 3<sup>rd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> Grades, Michael Ferrell NDW16 \$18  
3:00-4:30 Leaps and Turns/ Jazz 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> Grades, Michael Ferrell NDW17 \$18  
4:30-6:00 Leaps and Turns/ Jazz 6<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> Grades, Michael Ferrell NDW18 \$18

## Sunday the 29<sup>th</sup>

### Studio A

12:30-1:30 2<sup>nd</sup> -4<sup>th</sup> Grades Musical Theatre Dance, Kirsten Iams NDW19 \$14  
1:30-2:30 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grades Musical Theatre Dance, Kirsten Iams NDW20 \$14  
2:30-4:00 Advanced Ballet 8<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> Grades, Sue Gunness NDW21 \$18

### Studio B

11:30-12:30 Acro for dancers 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grades, Kim Bahmer NDW22 \$14  
12:30-1:30 Acro for dancers 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> Grades, Kim Bahmer NDW23 \$14  
1:30-2:30 Tap 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grades, Deane Tasler NDW24 \$14  
2:30-3:30 Tap 2<sup>nd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> Grades, Deane Tasler NDW25 \$14

### Studio C

12:30-1:30 Breakin 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grades, Bryce Davidson NDW26 \$15  
1:30-2:30 Breakin 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grades, Bryce Davidson NDW27 \$15  
2:30-3:30 Breakin 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grades, Bryce Davidson NDW28 \$15  
4:00-5:00 All that Swing 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grades, Deane Tasler NDW29 \$12

# Registration for National Dance Week Celebration at River Valley Dance Academy

Dancers Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Dancers Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade : \_\_\_\_\_

Parents Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Phones: \_\_\_\_\_

Class Title	Class #	Cost:
_____	_____	_____
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Total Enclosed : \_\_\_\_\_  
(Checks to RVDA)

I (parent name) \_\_\_\_\_ give permission for \_\_\_\_\_ to participate in National Dance Week classes at RVDA. I have recorded the class days and times, and know when she/he needs to be there. I understand activity related to dance may be inherent to injury, and agree I will not hold RVDA responsible for any injuries my dancer may incur. I understand the workshops are open to the community, and since class enrollment will be capped, refunds and credits are not available for cancellations.

**Thank you for joining us! Looking forward to a great Event!**

Registrations can be dropped off at the studio, or mailed to : River Valley Dance Academy  
3700 N. Chestnut Street  
Suite 101  
Chaska, MN  
55318