

Marr Mac Dance

The background is a vibrant, abstract collage. It features silhouettes of dancers in various poses, including a ballerina in a tutu and a modern dancer in a white dress. There are also musical notes, swirling lines, and colorful splashes of paint in shades of blue, purple, pink, and yellow. A large, dark, circular shape is centered in the middle, containing the text.

DANCE STUDIO HANDBOOK

FOR
PARENTS AND STUDENTS

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Celebrating 50 years!

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1/ Introduction

It's our absolute pleasure to warmly welcome you into our family at Marr Mac Dance. Our team is thrilled to see many familiar faces return to the studio and always excited to see some new faces join our community. We have created this one-stop handbook to hopefully shed some light on how things will run throughout the year as well and answer a lot of queries you may have before the year begins. While we would love you to take the time to read this information carefully and keep your handbook in a safe place to refer to as you need, don't forget that our friendly office staff, Kathy & Bridget, are always here to help and will happily answer any questions you may have. We pride ourselves on having open communication with all of our parents and students, and will always do what we can to make sure that everyone's voices are heard. Nothing is too big or too small, we promise! ☺



Cathy & Marie McFarlane
Directors

Marr-Mac's Story...

Deane Marr and her mother, Jaqueline Macdonald, founded Marr-Mac Schools Ltd. in 1968 (Marr-Mac). Marr-Mac began as a dance school and day-care centre, and was run by mother and daughter until Mrs. Macdonald passed away in 1976.

After Mrs. MacDonald's passing, both schools continued to run until the day care was closed in 1999. The dance school primarily taught ballet and jazz and over the years has expanded its program to include several disciplines of dance.

In 1997, Mrs. Marr took on business partner Cathy McFarlane, who had been teaching classical ballet and character dance for Marr-Mac for 14 years prior.

The same year, the studio moved to its current location in the Windsor Plaza building. The friendly & artistic community of Old Strathcona has been a perfect location for the studio.

Deane Marr retired in June 2015, leaving behind a legacy for the love of dance and the people it touches. Her leadership at the studio has filtered through to the instructors and is demonstrated by the care and attention given to each dancer and their individual needs.

Marie McFarlane has taken on the roles of Co-Owner and Co-Director with her mother Cathy. Marie has trained at Marr Mac in all disciplines since the age of 2, and has become an accomplished teacher and choreographer in jazz, lyrical and contemporary. Her strengths balance her mom and business partner Cathy's, whose primary focus is Russian Vaganova classical ballet training. Together they have devised a program which includes a multi-faceted training system. It offers today's dancer the ability to become well rounded artists, and equips them to either go out into the dance world and confidently audition with a high technical and artistic standard, become skilled instructors, or simply love and appreciate the art of dance.

This 2017/2018 Season, Marr Mac Dance is proud to be celebrating it's 50th Anniversary!

QUICK REFERENCE STUDIO INFORMATION

Marr Mac Dance

Address: 8627 – 109 Street, T6G 1E7

Phone Number: 780-434-9281

Email: 1968@marrmac.com

Website: www.marrmac.com

Directors:

Cathy McFarlane – 1968@marrmac.com

Marie McFarlane – marie@marrmac.com

Assistant Director:

Christina Breault – christina@marrmac.com

Office Administrators:

Bridget McFarlane – 1968@marrmac.com

Kathy Paul – 1968@marrmac.com

Parking Lot

Please park in the South lot of Windsor Plaza.

License plates must be registered at Marr Mac on the IMPARK iPad located in Marr Mac's reception area.

2/ Studio Philosophy

‘To instill the love of dance and music, and to provide a supportive atmosphere which encourages students of all abilities’.

As our studio evolves year after year, our philosophy remains the same...

We offer an alternative studio atmosphere where dancers, parents and friends feel welcome, and where all levels of classes are prioritized equally.

We ensure quality and commitment to each class from the recreational to the pre-professional level.

We expect a lot from ourselves and our students... we love what we do.

At Marr Mac, it's all good.

We're proud of our ability to offer a training program that enables our dancers to become well-rounded, well-trained dancers who are prepared to go into the professional world and do it all... well!

It's important to us at Marr Mac that all members of our team share our vision, our purpose and the philosophy that encompasses everything we do both in and outside of our classes. This is a vision that is shared and demonstrated by the directors, teachers and staff members at our studio and it is the driving force behind every interaction with our students and their families.

3/ Registration

Before slipping on those jazz shoes, it's important that all students and/or parents – whether returning or new - fill out and sign your registration paperwork so we can ensure we have the most up-to-date contact details for you. This paperwork includes your registration form & waiver for our cancellation policy, media release, and attendance/dress code policy.

Our Early bird registration offer not only means that you will go in the draw to win free team wear, but it also ensures that in the event of classes reaching capacity before the season kicks off, you will be guaranteed a place in the class/classes of your choice. Classes do reach capacity and waitlists are formed.

You can register early for each season and take advantage of the early bird special at the Marr Mac Office or online at www.marrmac.com any time in June each year.

Our Pre-Registration dates for the 2018-2019 Season will be held June 11-30th, 2018.

Our annual registration fee is \$42 per family and must be paid in full prior to the commencement of classes. Make sure you get your payment in via Debit, Credit Card*, Internet Bank Transfer (E-Transfer: Password 'registration'), Cash or Cheque as failure to pay your registration fee in time may result in losing your place in the class. *Please note that Credit Card payments have a 3% processing fee.

- Send E-Transfers to 1968@marrmac.com (password 'registration')
- Cheques may be mailed to: 8627 – 109 Street, Edmonton AB, T6G 1E7

We encourage all of our students and families to try a variety of dance styles and we are more than happy to accommodate trial classes for existing students who are wanting to try something a bit different. Please contact the office if you would like to try a new class and we will happily schedule a quick meeting and fit you in for a trial (provided the class has not reached capacity).

4/ Attendance Policy

Your child's attendance in class is very important to their peers and our teaching staff. As a member of the team, it is a commitment for you to ensure your child attends their classes on time each week and attends all lessons planned for them. Not only do absences impact their progress and competition or year-end show routines we create, it also impacts the social and confidence-building principals we work hard to foster in each age group.

If you know ahead of time that your child will be absent due to holidays/vacations, commitments or school trips, please let us know ahead of time so the class impact is minimal. If your child is too unwell to attend class, we ask that you inform our admin team by phone (780-434-9281) or email (1968@marrmac.com) as soon as you can so they can let the teachers know and preparations can be made to catch up on any missed work.

Unfortunately we are unable to accommodate make-up sessions for students who miss classes, but will make every endeavour to schedule a catch-up class in the unlikely event that Marr Mac needs to cancel a lesson.

Competitive Dancers: Marr Mac follows a strict attendance policy for dancers in the competitive stream, as dancers need to maintain a certain level of technique and training. This attendance policy applies to all classes that dancers are enrolled in: technique, support, choreography etc. The competitive schedule has been constructed to ensure the dancers are receiving the adequate balance of strength, stretch, cardio, and instruction based on their level and age.

Competitive dancers have a "3 miss" attendance policy, where 3 misses are allowed per class between September and the end of competition season. If there are more than 3 misses in a class, participation in competition may need to be assessed by the instructor. We, at Marr Mac, understand that rare circumstances may come up and every one must be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

5/ Dress Code Policy

At Marr Mac we believe that *if you look like a dancer, you feel like a dancer*. Wearing a studio dress code give students a sense of belonging to our family as well as creating an identity for our studio in the greater community.

Our dress code also:

- Encourage discipline
- Help students resist peer pressure to buy stylish clothes for class
- Help identify non-students in the studio
- Diminish economic and social barriers between students
- Increase a sense of belonging and school pride
- Improve attendance

Most dress code items can be purchased at Marr Mac during the early September Registration Days, as well as throughout September. Throughout the rest of the year, or for more selection (ex. Shoes) please visit:

On Stage Dancewear:

10004 79 Avenue (just off Whyte Avenue).

780-432-7998.

On Stage has a list of Marr Mac's dress code items and can assist you in your purchase.

Kerrie's Kostumes in St. Albert carries many of the older dress code items, but does not carry the "Motionwear" for the younger ones.

Kerry's Kostumes

2001 Tudor Glen Place, St. Albert

780-460-2626.

We expect that all dancers follow the dress code including hair requirements. The Dress Code is listed in this handbook and can also be found on our website at www.marrmac.com.

Please ensure all parts of your child's uniform are clearly labelled - individual shoes, socks, bodysuits...you'll be amazed at the amount of lost property we generate!



MARR-MAC DANCE DRESS CODE

Pre-School Ballet - Girls

- BODY SUITS
 - ***Creative Movement*** - MOTIONWEAR Style 4370, Colour Code: 509 – Pink Cotton
 - ***Pre-Primary*** – MOTIONWEAR Style 4370, Colour Code: 539 – Candy Pink
 - ***Primary*** - MOTIONWEAR Style 4370, Colour Code: 547 – Violette Cotton
- TIGHTS
 - Convertible style tights are preferred (easily transition into footless for Theraband foot strengthening exercises). These levels can also wear **white** ankle socks instead of tights.
 - Choose from the following:
 - Mondor #316 or 319, Colour – Ballerina Pink, Classique
 - Capezio – in similar color is also acceptable
- SHOES
 - Suggested brands only, other brands with similar style are also acceptable
 - BLOCH DANSOFT (Leather) Style S0205 (Full Sole) or S0258 (Split Sole)
 - CAPEZIO DAISY (Leather) Style 205 (Full Sole)
- OPTIONAL WARM-UP SWEATER OR SIMILAR STYLE 'SHRUG'
 - Black or Pink (basic style shown, different fabrics available)



- HAIR - **CLASSICAL BALLET BUN – ALL BALLET CLASSES**
 - Hair must be in a bun for all ballet classes, well sprayed and smooth. Hair-pins and hair nets to match the color of the dancer's hair must be purchased either at the dance shop or drug store.

- For a tutorial on how to make a classical ballet bun please go to:
 - LONG HAIR: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RwxxR6Jwlfk>
 - SHORT HAIR: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=loFwj8mZ9LI>
- Shorter than chin length needs a stretchy pink, blue or black headband to hold hair off the face (also available at dance shops).

Pre-School Jazz/Tap – Girls

- BODY
 - Black bodysuit and black shorts or leggings
 - (Optional: ballet bodysuit and tights may be worn instead for Pre-School levels)
- SHOES
 - Jazz: Tan slip-on jazz shoe
 - Tap: Black leather tap shoe (brand and style depend on what fits best)
- HAIR
 - Long Hair: Ponytail or bun
 - Shorter than chin length needs a stretchy pink, blue or black headband to hold hair off the face (also available at dance shops).

Pre-School Ballet/Jazz/Tap - Boys

- BODY
 - Black shorts, white short-sleeved T-Shirt
- SHOES
 - Ballet: White socks, black leather/canvas ballet slippers with elastic
 - Jazz: Tan slip-on jazz shoe
 - Tap: Black leather tap shoe (brand and style depend on what fits best)
- HAIR
 - Tidy and off the face



Vaganova Prep (VP) – Vaganova Ballet 6 (VB6) - Girls

Bodysuit - Girls

- Vaganova Prep (VP), Vaganova Ballet 1 (VB1), Vaganova Ballet 2 (VB2)
 - Style Number: 40095 Mondor Tank Nylon Bodysuit
 - Children Sizes: 2-4, 4-6, 6x-7, 8-10, 12-14
 - Color
 - **VP** – Coppen Blue (light blue)
 - **VB 1** – Violet
 - **VB 2** – Royal Blue
- Vaganova Ballet 3 (VB3)
 - *Mondor– Pinch Front Leotard #3505 (thick-strap) **Black**
 - OR
 - *Capezio BraTek MC110 – **Black**

*VB3 dancers have an option of either the Bratek if they like the bra, or the Mondor pinch front if they don't like the bra
- Vaganova Ballet 4, 5, 6 (VB4, VB5, VB6) & Teen Ballet
 - Style Number: MC110 Capezio BraTek Bodysuit - **Black**
 - Adults Sizes: X-Sm, Small, Medium, Large, X-Large

Tights (VP & up) - Girls

- **Convertible Tights:** #319 Mondor (or comparable brand/color) Classical/Ballerina Pink
 - **Child Sizes:** 2-6, 6-10, 10-14
 - **Adults:** Sml, Med, Lrg, X-Lrg, XX-Lrg.

Shoes (VP & up) – Girls

- Pink soft leather or canvas shoes with elastics any brand

Optional Warm-Up Sweater or similar style 'shrug' (VP & up) – Girls

- Black or pink wrap ballet sweater (basic style shown, different fabrics available)



HAIR - CLASSICAL BALLET BUN – ALL BALLET CLASSES

- Hair must be in a bun for all ballet classes, well sprayed and smooth. Hair-pins and hair nets to match the color of the dancer's hair must be purchased either at the dance shop or drug store.
 - For a tutorial on how to make a classical ballet bun please go to:
 - LONG HAIR: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RwxxR6Jwlfk>
 - SHORT HAIR: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=loFwj8mZ9LI>
- Shorter than chin length needs a stretchy pink, blue or black headband to hold hair off the face (also available at dance shops).

Vaganova Prep (VP) – Vaganova Ballet 3 (VB3) - Boys

- White short sleeved t-shirt
- Black fitted shorts (bike short) or black boys tights
- White/black ankle socks/tights or bare feet
- Black leather ballet shoes

Vaganova Ballet 4 (VB4) – Vaganova Ballet 6 (VB6) - Boys

- White or black fitted t-shirt, short sleeve/sleeveless
- Black/navy/ tights
- Dance belt
- Black leather or canvas ballet shoes

General Dress Code

Level 1 Prep – Level 6 - All disciplines – Girls & Boys

****Please note: Jeans, “school clothes”, and jewellery are not allowed in any class****

Hair must be up for all classes –Classical bun for Ballet

- **Ballet** – Please refer to the ballet dress code by level
- **Jazz, Lyrical, Contemporary**
 - Girls: Bodysuit, dance tank top or half top with black shorts or leggings, Beige convertible tights
 - Boys: Black shorts, white T-shirt
 - Girls & Boys: Tan slip-on jazz shoe
- **Modern**
 - Girls & Boys: T-shirt, leggings, dance shorts or jazz pants, bare feet only.
- **Tap**
 - Girls: Black leotard or black fitted dance top; black leggings/tights/shorts
 - Boys: Black shorts, white T-shirt
 - Girls & Boys: Black leather tap shoes (brand and style depends on what fits the best –heels are not recommended).
- **Highland**
 - Girls & Boys: Knee socks, shorts, t-shirt or workout top, highland shoes, full circle practice skirt (discuss with the teacher when this will be required).
- **Irish**
 - Girls: bodysuit or workout top, black tights with black shorts or leggings
 - Boys: Black shorts, white T-shirt
 - Girls & Boys: Black Irish shoes (see teacher for specific Irish shoe info).
- **Hip-Hop**
 - Girls & Boys: basketball shorts/track pants/sweatpants, t-shirt any color
 - Indoor ONLY white/black runners.
- **Glee Club /Stretch**
 - Moveable dance wear – (**no jeans, or school clothes**)
 - Any dance shoe ie. Ballet, jazz

Thank-you!



6/ Waivers

CANCELATION POLICY	<p>❖ I have read and understand Marr-Mac's cancelation policy requiring one months' notice of cancelation. At the time of cancelation I will not receive a refund for the current & following month's tuition fees or pianist fees. Costume and Competition refunds will only be issued until October 15.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2017-18</p>
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DRESS CODE	<p>❖ I have read Marr-Mac's dress code for the class (es) my child is registered in. I understand that not coming properly dressed may result in my child watching class that day.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2017-18</p>
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ATTENDANCE POLICY	<p>❖ Marr-Mac's attendance policy expects students to attend their classes on a regular weekly basis. If you are planning a vacation outside of the regular holiday dates please notify the instructor well in advance. This is equally important for competitive and non-competitive classes. My child is registered in weekly dance class (es) and understands the importance of regular attendance in the class (es) in order to properly progress in their training.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2017-18</p>
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COMPETITON CLASSES	<p>Dancers registered in competitive classes will be allowed 3 misses per class between Sept - April. At the discretion of the instructor, dancers may not compete due to missed classes.</p> <p>❖ My child is registered in a competitive class (es) and understands regular weekly attendance is necessary in order to participate in competitions.</p> <p>❖ I agree to pay all competition fees.</p> <p>❖ I agree to my child entering up to 3 local competitions. Any additional competitions will require further written consent.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2017-18</p>
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PHOTOS	<p>❖ I agree to the taking and use of photos and videos of my child for Marr-Mac purposes only, including advertisement, ie. Website, brochures, signage.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">2017-18</p>
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I understand that Marr-Mac Schools Ltd. does not give credit and/or refunds for class(es) missed due to holidays, vacation, illness, weather etc. I further understand that there are risks of physical or property damages, losses, or injury that may result from my child's participation with Marr-Mac Schools Ltd. and voluntarily assume the risks associated with such participation.

Dancer's name (s) _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Print Name _____

- I give my consent to receive newsletters and other correspondence from Marr-Mac via email.

YES _____ NO _____

7/ Communication

By now you have probably noticed that we are BIG on communication here at Marr Mac. It is our promise to respond to all enquiries as soon as possible and we will never leave a question unanswered. Our friendly office staff can be contacted at 780-434-9281 between 4:00-8:00pm Monday to Thursday, or between 9:30am-2:00pm on Saturday.

Email: For convenience, our primary means of communication is via email. You will receive regular newsletters and important information via email so please ensure you have provided the studio with an up-to-date email address that is regularly checked. We are of course happy to include multiple email addresses per family if you would like your correspondence sent to numerous recipients. Don't forget to add our email addresses 1968@marrmac.com & marie@marrmac.com to your contacts so we don't end up in the dreaded Junk folder!

Text/Telephone: In the infrequent case of urgent information (for example, unexpected class cancellations or performance changes), we will text/telephone all families. So, for this reason, please make sure the mobile phone number you have provided to the studio is correct and up-to-date. You can opt-in to our text list by texting "bjt" to 1-306-992-7543... or for ease of memory 1-306-992-PLIE. This is a convenient way for your students to stay in the loop as well!

Notice Board: We always display important upcoming reminders, dates and studio details on our noticeboard in reception so please have a quick look when dropping off and picking up in case there is anything you may have missed. We are always happy to chat in more detail about communications you may receive from the studio, so if you need any clarification please don't hesitate to call us at 780-434-9281 to chat with one of our helpful team members.

8/ Important Dates

We understand wholeheartedly how busy the lives and schedules of our dance families can get as the year rolls on, so we have tried to get all of our important dates organised and ready for you so you can plan other commitments. Below we have listed some of our most important “Save the Dates” with more information (including times, costumes, requirements, etc.) to be communicated via email as we get closer to the events. If you know ahead of time that your family will be unable to attend these events due to planned holidays or existing commitments, please let reception know at your earliest convenience.

Date	Event	Description	Who it involves
Sep 5, 6, 7, 2017	Registration Days/Dance Wear Sale	Register for your 2017 classes from 5:00-8:00pm at Marr Mac	Everyone
Sep 9, 2017	First Day of Classes		
Sep 25 – 30, 2017	Costume Measurements	Christina Breault in classes to measure students for costumes	All students – please ensure they are present this week
Oct 9, 2017	Thanksgiving Monday	Studio closed for Thanksgiving Monday. (*Classes are still held on Saturday Oct 7)	Monday students and teachers only
Oct 31, 2017	Halloween	Studio closed for Halloween	
Oct 27 – 29, 2017	Guest Choreography Weekend	Guest Choreographer Sarah Adam at Marr Mac to set competition pieces	Level 4 Lyrical, soloists who have requested guest choreo.
November 2017	Donate/bring Auction Items	Bring 2 brand new auction items to office for donation to Silent Auction	All Families
Nov 11-12, 2017	Triple Threat Dance	Held in Edmonton this year (as opposed to Calgary).	All students

	Convention	Students can register independently at www.triplethreatdance.com	
Nov 11 & 13th, 2017	Remembrance Day & Monday Nov. 13	No classes on November 11 or 13th for Remembrance Day. (Monday holiday due to Public School's Fall break)	Saturday/Monday dancers and teachers only
Nov 27 – Dec 2, 2017	Watching Week	Parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, friends! Come watch class!	All classes
Dec 10, 2017	Silent Auction	Annual Fundraiser Brunch with dancing entertainment at Chateau Louis Conference Centre	All Families & Friends welcome and encouraged to attend. Several classes performing at the auction.
Dec 24, 2017 – Jan 7, 2018	Christmas Break	Studio closed	
Feb 19, 2018	Family Day	No classes	
Feb 28, 2018	Pre-Competition Showcase	Competition rehearsal at Festival Place Theatre	All competition students
Mar 1 – 4, 2018	Teacher's Convention	No classes	
Mar 10, 2018	50 th Anniversary Party!	Party at Marr Mac with drinks, appies and dancing! Tickets will be available	All Marr Mac Families, past and present!
Mar 16/17, 2018	Vaganova Ballet Exams	Ballet Exams at Marr Mac	Optional for VB3, VB4 and VB5 dancers
Mar 26 – 31, 2018	Spring Break	No Classes	
Apr 2, 2018	Easter Monday	No Classes	

Apr 5 – 8, 2018	5,6,7,8 Showtime! Competition	Dance Competition and Convention in Lake Louise	Level 2, 3, 4 competitive dancers (not Hip Hop)
Apr 11 – 15, 2018	Gravity Dance Festival	Festival Place, Sherwood Park	All competitive dancers
Apr 17 – 22, 2018	Standing Ovation Dance Festival	Myer Horowitz Theatre, U of A Campus	All competitive dancers
Apr 25 – 29, 2018	Dance Extreme Dance Festival	Festival Place, Sherwood Park	All competitive dancers
May 21, 2018	Victoria Day	No Classes	
May 27, 2018	Scene Rehearsal	Full Year End Show rehearsal at Marr Mac	All dancers & all classes participating in the year end show (no tech or drop in)
May 28 – Jun 2, 2018	Photo Week	Photos taken in costume at Marr Mac	All dancers in year end show
Jun 10, 2018	Year End Show	Marr Mac's 50 th Year End Show! Theme: "Gold" for our Golden Anniversary!	All dancers in registered classes (no tech or drop in)
Jun 11, 2018	Online Registration Open	Registration open online for 2018/2019 dance season	All families
Jun 11, 2018	Pre-Registration Days	Registration open	All families

9/ Year End Show – Sunday June 10th Jubilee Auditorium

Marr Mac Dance's annual Year End Show is at the Jubilee Auditorium in June. This year's show date is Sunday June 10. Every year we choose a theme to guide teachers in their dances, costumes and music. This year to celebrate Marr Mac's 50th "Golden" Anniversary we will be using the theme of "Gold"!

Dancers are scheduled to attend a dress rehearsal throughout the day and performance at 6:00 that evening.

We highly encourage all parents and dancers to stay for the entire show, if bedtimes allow. We have made every effort to begin our show early in the evening and keep within a 2.5-hour time limit to help this cause. It is always disappointing for the older dancers to get out on stage and dance to a half empty audience, and always more fun for the wee ones to see the older dancers in action!

DVD's of the performance are available for pre-order in the office near the end of the dance season and can be picked up during pre-registration days in June. If you are interested in last year's DVD, please check in with the office to order.

A complete Year End Show Handbook and Backstage Guide will be emailed out later in the year.



10/ Costumes

Costumes are carefully chosen by instructors for competitions and/or our year end show performance in June. Costumes are ordered from dance costume catalogues, made by seamstresses, or purchased from stores where applicable.

We understand that families want to see their dancer up on stage in costumes that appropriately reflect the dancers age as well as the money spent. We are committed to restricting costumes that project sexuality, contain explicit graphic or textual content, and ensure that all costumes meet a certain standard of quality and artistry.

In order to ensure accuracy (as best as we can!), Christina Breault will be in classes the week of September 25 to measure each student for their costume. Costumes are ordered with growth in mind, and up-sized where appropriate. Costumes are tried on in class upon arrival to ensure the proper fit, and alterations are made where appropriate. Alterations are the responsibility of the parent, unless an error was made by Marr Mac.

Teachers will set hair and makeup requirements for each class. A studio hair style will be set by teachers for the older dancers, so that hair can remain the same throughout the show.

Families who do not comply with their fee or costume payment obligations may be excluded from performances. Costume expenses are the responsibility of the parent, and costumes will not be issued to students with unpaid class fees.

11/ DancEnhance Parent Society & Annual Silent Auction

DancEnhance Society is a registered, non-profit organization whose overarching goal is to provide support for enhanced learning and development opportunities for dancers in the community. Since our establishment in 2008, we have supported dancers in several ways including:

- Subsidizing dancers' expenses to attend workshops and dance trips
- Sponsoring guest instructors, choreographers and dance workshops in Edmonton
- Offering a 'Dream to Dance scholarship' for children of families in need who would like to take dance instruction.

Annual memberships are available to the public for \$10.

Every parent of a registered student at Marr-Mac Dance & Theatre Arts, and every Marr-Mac student over 18 years of age, is a member of the society.

DancEnhance Society is currently in need of new board members. Board members meet a few times a year to discuss allocation of funds, new opportunities & fundraising, and for the AGM. The time commitment is minimal yet extremely valuable to the society and the dancers.

We highly encourage you to take part in the society if:

- you have an interest in supporting the society by attending meetings or as a board member (parents, grandparents, friends, welcome)
- have a dancer who is interested in attending workshops and dance trips during the year
- would like your dancer to receive subsidies from the Society towards workshops or dance trips in the future
- are interested in learning more about upcoming dance trips
- would like to assist in fundraising or trip planning

The Society would love your input as to what you think their goals should be to best suit the needs of your dancers!

If you'd like further information about the society or opportunities to participate or volunteer, please contact **DancEnhanceSociety@gmail.com**. By sharing your email address with us, we can keep you up to date on subsidies, workshops, etc.

Thank you for your support! Wishing you a wonderful year in dance,

DancEnhance Society Board of Directors

Please email any suggestions to dancenhancesociety@gmail.com

DancEnhance Society –Silent Auction-Brunch Fund Raiser Sunday, December 10th, 2017 – Chateau Louis Conference Centre

The DancEnhance Parent Society Silent Auction is their main source of fund raising. Many classes are performing at the Sunday auction/brunch. Tickets go on sale in November and the event sells out each year. Check with your child's teacher as to whether they are performing.

The Society asks for each family to donate 2 brand new items for the auction. These items can be of any dollar value and can be dropped off at the office beginning in October. Tickets go on sale November 1 – please watch for an email with ticket purchasing instructions and to see if your dancer is performing.

Please help us out by volunteering to help set up auction items on the day of the auction or to help transport auction items to the Chateau Louis the day before the auction.

It's a super fun event and a great opportunity to get some great deals on your Christmas list!

12/ Dance Levels, Ages, Disciplines & Streams

Level Breakdown

Marr Mac's levels follow the following order:

- Marr Mac Minis Sessional Daytime Program
 - "Tip Toe Toddlers" 18 -36 months
 - "Minis" 3-5 years
- Creative Movement Ages 3-4
- Pre-Primary Ages 5-6
- Primary Ages 7-8
- Vaganova Prep/ Level 1 Prep Ages 7-8 (These prep levels apply to Ballet and Tap only)
- VB 1/ Level 1 Ages 9 - 10
- VB 2/ Level 2 Ages 10 - 11
- VB 3/ Level 3 Ages 11 - 12
- VB 4/Level 4 Ages 13 & up
- VB 5/ Level 5 Ages Approx 15 & up

As dancers require two years of training for each Vaganova Ballet (VB) level, students remain at the same level for two years from Level 1 and up. This applies to all disciplines to remain consistent. Although students are in the same numerical level for 2 years, the teachers constantly introduce new material and training over that duration so that students are constantly learning and progressing. Two years in the same level does not mean two years of the same teachings and training.

Ballet

Marr Mac has two different options for Ballet classes, Vaganova Ballet and Ballet Technique.

The Vaganova Ballet (VB) classes follow the Vaganova Ballet style based out of Russia, and students have the option to prepare for and take part in Ballet Exams from Level 3 and up. These students follow a specific syllabus based on level and age. From Level 3 and up students are expected to take at least 2, preferably 3, ballet classes per week to properly train in this style.

All "Ballet Technique" classes are still based on the Vaganova style, but are focused more on developing ballet technique rather than following a set syllabus. Therefore, the teaching is geared towards the specific student's needs and allows for the combination of different levels in the same class. These classes are offered for students who either a) want extra ballet classes in their week on top of their VB classes, or b) do not wish to follow the VB stream. There is no show choreography component in this class.

Marr Mac Minis Sessional Daytime Program

Our Marr Mac Minis Daytime Sessional program offers combination classes teaching Jazz and Creative movement for 3-5 year olds, and an introduction to music and movement for 18-36 months.

Classes are offered at the same time for ease for parents with children in both levels. Children in the Marr Mac Minis 3-5 year old class can go into class on their own, while a parent attend the Tip Toe Toddlers class with their child aged 18-36 months.

Multi-sibling discounts of 10% off are offered for 2nd and subsequent siblings registered in a Marr Mac Mini or Tip Toe Toddler program.

10- week sessions are offered three times a year: Fall, Winter and Spring. Please see our website for more information on days and times and to register.

Competitive Vs. Non-Competitive

Marr Mac offers classes for both the competitive and non-competitive dancer. We, at Marr Mac, take pride in both streams of training and place emphasis on quality instruction for all classes.

- The **non-competitive stream** focuses on training and technique through the love of dance. Dancers work hard throughout the year to improve and excel in each discipline, and take part in the Marr Mac Year End Show in June. Students in the non-competitive stream may pick and choose which styles of dance they wish to take part in, with more “wiggle-room” than the Competitive stream as there are less class requirements and added commitments (time-wise and financially).
- The **competitive stream** begins at Level 2, for the majority, and is focused on holistically training a dancer as part of a team to compete in Spring competitions. The instructors thoughtfully assemble the competitive classes so there is unity within the group, as age and skill level must be in synch for the class to present well in competition. Please note there are certain class requirements for the competitive dancer to build and maintain the strength and technique that is required to train at that competitive level (listed below, by level). This extra commitment not only includes required classes, but also extra rehearsals, competitions to attend in April and May, as well as additional fees for guest choreography, costumes and competition fees.

Non-Competitive Stream- Classes by Level

Marr Mac Minis Sessional Daytime Program

- Three 10-week sessions throughout the year: Fall, Winter & Spring
- Two age groups offered
 - “Tip Toe Toddlers” – a parent & child class for 18 – 36 months
 - “Minis” – Ages 3-5

Creative Movement – Ages 3-4

- Creative Movement (Ballet based)
 - Monday Creative Movement
- Tap & Jazz combination class
 - Saturday Tap/Jazz 3-5 yrs
- Ballet & Jazz combination class
 - Saturday Ballet/Jazz 3-5 yrs

Pre-Primary – Ages 5 & 6

- Ballet
 - Monday Pre-Primary Ballet
 - Saturday Ballet 6–8 yrs
- Tap
 - Monday Pre-Primary Tap
- Jazz
 - Monday Pre-Primary/Primary Jazz
 - Saturday Jazz 6-8 yrs
- Tap/Jazz combination class
 - Saturday Tap/Jazz 3-5 yrs
- Hip Hop
 - Saturday Hip Hop Level 1 NC
- Glee
 - Saturday Glee 6 yrs & up

Primary – Ages 7 & 8

- Ballet
 - Monday Primary Ballet
 - Saturday Ballet 6-8 yrs
- Tap
 - Monday Primary Tap
- Jazz
 - Monday Pre-Primary/Primary Jazz
 - Saturday Jazz 6-8 yrs

- Hip Hop
 - Saturday Hip Hop Level 1 NC
- Glee
 - Saturday Glee 6 yrs & up
- Highland
 - Thursday Beginner Highland

V Prep/Level 1 Prep Ages 7 & 8 (Based on ballet and/or tap experience)

Some students are the same age as “Primary” but due to years of Ballet and/or Tap experience, have been moved to a level called V Prep (Ballet) or Level 1 Prep (Tap). These students have access to all of the Primary classes, but will take V Prep or Level 1 Prep for their Ballet or Tap, when necessary.

- Jazz
 - Monday Primary Jazz
 - Saturday Jazz 6-8 yrs
- Hip Hop
 - Saturday Hip Hop Level 1 NC
- Glee
 - Saturday Glee 6yrs & up
- Highland
 - Thursday Beginner Highland
- V Prep Ballet
 - Wednesday VB Prep
- Tap (“Level 1 Prep/Level 1” or “Primary” - depending on tap experience)
 - Monday Primary Tap
 - Wednesday Level 1 Prep/Level 1
- Tap Choreo class - Option to compete in Tap if dancer has 2 or more years tap experience.
 - Wednesday Tap Choreo

Level 1 – Ages 9 & 10

- Ballet
 - Wednesday VB 1
 - Thursday Ballet Tech 1
- Jazz
 - Thursday Jazz 1/2 NC
- Hip Hop
 - Saturday Hip Hop Level 1 NC

- Glee
 - Saturday Glee 6 yrs & up
- Tap
 - Wednesday Level 1 Prep & Level 1
- Tap Choreo class - Option to compete in Tap if dancer has 2 or more years tap experience.
 - Wednesday Tap Choreo
- Highland
 - Thursday Beginner Highland

Level 2 – Ages 10 & 11

- Ballet
 - Monday VB 2
- Jazz
 - Thursday Jazz 1/2 NC
- Tap
 - Saturday Level 2 Tap
- Contemporary Lyrical
 - Thursday Contemp Lyrical 2/3/4 NC
- Strength & Stretch
 - Monday Strength & Stretch
- Hip Hop
 - Saturday Level 1 or Level 2 NC (Depending on years experience)
- Glee
 - Saturday Glee yrs & up
- Bollywood
 - Monday Bollywood
- Highland
 - Thursday Beginner Highland

Level 3 – Ages 11 & 12 yrs

- Ballet & Exam Classes
 - Thursday VB 3
 - Saturday VB 3
- Pointe
 - Wednesday VB 3 Pointe
- Jazz
 - Thursday Jazz 3/4 NC
- Tap
 - Monday Level 3 Tap
- Contemp/Lyrical
 - Thursday Contemp Lyrical 2/3/4 NC

- Hip Hop
 - Saturday Hip Hop Level 3
- Glee
 - Saturday Glee 6 yrs & up
- Bollywood
 - Monday Bollywood
- Jumps & Turns
 - Wednesday Jumps & Turns 3 & up
- Strength & Stretch
 - Monday
 - Thursday
- Injury Prevention - Tuesday

Level 4 – Ages 13 & up

- Vaganova Ballet & Exam Classes
 - Tuesday VB 4
 - Thursday VB 4 Exam & Comp Choreo (Must be 3rd VB 4 ballet class per week in order to register & compete. Do not need to meet additional competition requirements.)
 - Saturday VB 4
- Ballet Tech Classes
 - Tuesday Beginner Teen Beg Teen/Adult Ballet Drop in (or registered)
 - Tuesday Experienced Teen /Adult Ballet (Must register)
- Jazz
 - Thursday Jazz 3/4 NC
- Contemp/Lyrical
 - Thursday Contemp Lyrical 2/3/4 NC
- Hip Hop
 - Saturday Hip Hop Level 3 NC
- Bollywood
 - Monday Bollywood
- Jumps & Turns
 - Wednesday Jumps & Turns Level 3 & up
- Strength & Stretch
 - Monday
 - Thursday
- Injury Prevention
 - Tuesday

Competitive Stream - Requirements & Additional Classes Offered

*Please see requirements and offered classes in the competition handbook

13/ RUSSIAN VAGANOVA BALLET EXAMS

As a studio who values the growth and commitment of our dancers from all ages, it's our pleasure to offer exams to students in Vaganova Russian Technique as a part of our ballet program. This year, our exams will be held on March 16 and 17 with the exact time to be confirmed at a later date via email. We encourage all students in VB3 and up, who are taking a minimum of 3 classes per week, to register for an exam.

While exams are not compulsory, our Ballet training in the **Russian Vaganova Technique**, is a highly recognised ballet system worldwide. Examiners are invited who have been trained in the Russian technique through a recognized training facility. ie. The Vaganova Choreographic School in St. Petersburg, Russia or a similar highly qualified facility.

Our experience shows that formal exams present a unique opportunity for the children to display and take pride in how hard they work and can progress in their classes. Our exam students always find their exam experience to be uplifting, beneficial and rewarding. Students receive a written report card with valuable feedback to continue to perfect their ballet training, and will also receive a certificate of completion from the Vaganova Dance Society of Alberta. The cost of exams will be emailed to those students interested in taking part in the examination session.

14/ Schedule

Scheduling our classes is a huge task and we take all care to ensure that children are given classes at an age-appropriate time without long hours that may lead to fatigue or disrupt home / school life. Please find below our schedule for 2017/2018 and please contact us if you have any questions at all.

Please note: Marr Mac reserves the right to make changes to teachers and/or timing of classes, cancel classes or add classes as the year progresses.

Here is a link to the schedule on our website. This is the best way to view an up to date version of our schedule at any given time.

<http://www.marrmac.com/registration-2/schedule/>

15/ Birthday Parties

Marr-Mac offers 2 - hour birthday party packages for children of all ages!

The fee for up to 12 partiers is \$250.00 (plus GST) which includes:

- 2 hours use of 2 studios
- One dance room
- One party room

Marr-Mac instructor to teach a one-hour dance class of either:

- Jazz
- Hip-Hop
- Lyrical
- Creative Movement package - dance, birthday story, props & costumes for dress up

Party bookings are available weekdays for preschoolers and weekends for all ages. The instructor will conduct the dance class during the first hour followed by your use of the party room for the second hour. The kitchen fridge & microwave are also available for your use.

Party room includes:

- Tables & chairs (you provide decorations, table cloths, plates, cutlery, food etc.)
- Sound system to play music
- You can bring and set up whatever else you would like to include at your party (ie. photo booth, games etc.)
- Parents have access to the party room; ½ hour before the booking, while the partiers are enjoying their dance class and ½ hour following the booking for clean-up.

Visit our website or follow the link below for a registration form:

<http://www.marrmac.com/disciplines-and-programs/programs/birthday-party-rentals/>

16/ Code of Conduct

To ensure the smooth, safe running of Marr Mac Dance and an enjoyable experience by all, below you will find our code of conduct. As always, we are open to feedback, so if any of the requirements outlined below are unclear or concerning, please give us a call to discuss further. Following a formal meeting, we do reserve the right to dismiss or take disciplinary action on any students or parents who breach our studio's code of conduct.

We are unable to take responsibility for our students before or after their scheduled classes and it is the responsibility of the parent to ensure their child is picked up and dropped off on time. In the case of an emergency or unavoidable delay, please contact the studio immediately to inform us of the situation so we can keep your child calm and safe until they can be collected.

Any questions or complaints must go through appropriate channels – parents and students are welcome to contact Marr Mac Dance teachers before or after class if the teacher's time permits, or contact reception to set up a meeting with the teacher and Marie and/or Cathy. In the rare case of a parent or student showing disrespect or defamation to any parent, staff member or student, a meeting will be called immediately and dismissal may be considered at the discretion of the Directors. Physical, mental, emotional or cyber bullying by parents, staff or students will not be tolerated and may result in dismissal from the studio.

Marr Mac Dance takes no responsibility for any stolen or misplaced property on the studio premises and we encourage our families to avoid bringing valuable items into the studio where possible. Cubbies are provided in each studio for students to store bags while in class. Please do not leave any valuables unattended in the change rooms or otherwise.

Marr Mac Dance management reserves the right to change teachers or timetabling when necessary at any time throughout the year.

Choreography, costuming and studio policies remain the intellectual property of Marr Mac Dance and may not be reproduced or sold by any students, parents or staff without permission of the Directors.

17/ Safety

To ensure the safety of our dancers and teachers, we lock the doors to the studio at 8pm every evening. If you have a child finishing a class after this time, please either enter the studio before 8pm, or arrange for your dancer to meet you in the upstairs lobby or at the car.

As part of your registration, you will have read and signed a media waiver allowing us to proudly use images and video footage of your student for advertising and promotional purposes. Should you have any concerns whatsoever with signing this declaration, please see our reception staff who will happily assist you.

The directors and staff at Marr Mac Dance are educated in the negative impact of inappropriate music and costume selection when it comes to performing dance routines and are wholeheartedly committed to ensuring children in all of our dance routines are not subjected to any inappropriate songs or costuming. We recognise that songs with sexist, explicit, violent, racist, homophobic or criminal content may influence our dancers and/or audience and will strive to avoid using such music. We are committed to restricting costumes that project sexuality, contain explicit graphic or textual content.

18/ Privacy

When you purchase or hire a product or service with Marr Mac Dance, the information we may collect from you includes your name, address, telephone numbers, email addresses, medical information and perhaps credit card or bank details. It may also include details of the products and services we provide to you as well as the status of your enrolment. We only collect information directly from our students or their parent/guardians primarily for the purpose of providing services and products to you and to administer and manage invoicing and debt collection.

We may occasionally use your information to promote and market to you information which we consider may be of interest to you unless you contact us and tell us not to do so.

We will never sell or pass on any of your information to third parties unless required by government authorities or in the event of debt recovery. Any information passed on will be done so with appropriate privacy and confidentiality protection.

Information is stored securely in paper or electronic form and is accessible only by authorised personnel.

If you would like to know what information we hold about you or wish to update the information, or if you wish to be removed from all further direct marketing communications, please contact our office at 780-434-9281.

20/ Social Media

Marr Mac Dance's Social Media Policy refers to all social networking sites, video/photo sharing sites, blogs, micro-blogs, wikis, podcasts, forums, instant messaging and geo-spatial tagging (for example, Facebook check-ins). Please see below for our regulations regarding Social Media and feel free to contact our office staff if you have any questions.

- Please remember that your anonymity on Social Media is never guaranteed and to exercise particular caution when posts, images or videos identify children in your care.
- Remain mindful that your behaviour on Social Media remains in keeping with Marr Mac's code of conduct as outlined in chapter 6 of this handbook.
- Any comments or posts perceived to be obscene, defamatory, threatening, harassing, discriminatory or hateful towards Marr Mac Dance staff, students or families may subject the owner to disciplinary or legal action.
- Should you wish to engage on Social Media while identifying as a studio volunteer or employee, you may only do so with integrity, respect, and adhere to privacy and confidentiality policy.
- Any content revealing or referring to sensitive studio information is not allowed to be shared online.
- Intellectual property laws apply (for example, costume design and choreography)
- All matters pertaining directly to the studio - whether it be fees, scheduling, placements or performance opportunities - may not be communicated via Social Media. We have an open door policy and encourage all communication, complaints and feedback to be communicated to the studio owners directly.
- We discourage parents / students and teachers from becoming 'friends' or 'followers' on Social Media, unless there is an existing relationship. We consider all studio members to be family and as such feel the obligation to respect and monitor personal boundaries.
- You may not post photographs / videos that feature Marr Mac dancers other than your own online without the proven consent of their parent/guardian.
- Identifying information of any featured minors - including names, ages or location - must be removed when posting on Social Media.

21/ Team Wear



We are so pleased to be offering a new and SIMPLE way to have Marr Mac Dancers ordering Team Wear!

Entripy Shops is an online site that allows you to customize the apparel items to your liking for Team Marr Mac!

By visiting marrmacdance.entripyshops.com you will see all of the options to design from T-shirts, Sweatshirts, Hoodies, Sweat pants, track pants, jackets, toques, snap back flat brim hats, and bags of all kinds.

First select the item of apparel you would like to purchase, next you can create the look you desire from the Marr Mac logo options, font colors, personalized names, dance disciplines, and team numbers.

The best part is the items are shipped to your door and there are no deadlines to meet as you can order all year long!!

Dancers in a particular class or a group of students can order matching apparel if they get together and create the design and order it as they wish.

The possibilities are endless!

If you have any troubles with the site please email christina@marrmac.com for some guidance.

22/ Our Teachers & Faculty

Finally, it's our pleasure to introduce our hand-picked faculty for 2017/2018! Our enthusiastic, passionate and dedicated teachers are thrilled to be a part of your family's dance journey this year. We are truly looking forward to growing together to mould this generation of skilled, confident, genuine and unique performers.



Christina Breault – Assistant Director & Fine Arts Coordinator

Christina's journey through dance began when she was 3 years old in the Creative Movement program at Marr Mac Dance. Throughout the years she studied in many genres of dance with a main focus in Ballet.

On this journey Christina realized her passion for teaching dance to young children; which lead her to train in ISTD Classical Ballet and attained her Intermediate standing as well as her Associate Diploma Teachers certificate.

She has since expanded her training into the Russian Vaganova Technique of teaching Classical Ballet through workshops at Ballet Divertimento School in Montreal. Her students have made the transition to the Russian technique.

Her love of teaching did not stop at dance; prior to having two children Christina also pursued a career as a Special Needs Assistant and Sign Language Interpreter for the Edmonton Public and Catholic School Boards.

Having grown up at Marr Mac Christina truly embodies the school's philosophy to instil the love of dance and music in students of all abilities. She feels so proud to teach at such a wonderful dance studio. Christina began teaching at Marr-Mac in 1997.

Christina's Disciplines:

Creative Movement, Classical Ballet, Marr-Mac Minis Daytime program, Fine Arts Summer Program Coordinator



Sarah Hirniak grew up in Edmonton, Alberta, and started her life as a dancer at the young age of 3. She started competing at age 5 and trained in several disciplines including jazz, ballet, modern, contemporary, musical theatre, tap, and hip hop. Sarah also completed her Advanced I Cecchetti Ballet examination standing.

After high school graduation she attended one year at the University of Alberta in the Faculty of Science.

Feeling a need for a change in lifestyle, Sarah moved to Vancouver where she was accepted into the Intensive Training Program at Harbor Dance Centre. She graduated June 2015 from the program in which she trained for 25 hours a week in

contemporary, ballet, hip hop, street jazz, Broadway and tap. This experience opened up many opportunities for personal growth and discovery and Sarah is thankful for the experience.

Sarah has since moved back to Edmonton to return to school at the University of Alberta, this time in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, working towards a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology.

Sarah began teaching at Marr-Mac in 2015.

Sarah's Disciplines:

- Jazz
- Contemporary
- Jumps & Turns



Since the age of 3, **Tisa Carr** has loved to dance! Her career started off with Ballet and gradually increased to include disciplines such as Tap, Jazz and Modern.

By the age of 14, Tisa realized that Tap was her passion. As a Marr-Mac veteran, Tisa was fortunate to discover her love of dance at Marr-Mac and is pleased to be able to share the love of tap with the new generation of Marr-Mac students!

After years of teaching and participating in various dance exams and competitions, Tisa has successfully completed her

Advanced Tap and Modern exams with high results!

Tisa has been able to share her experiences and opportunities with her students and hopes to continue to help them grow and learn to love the art of dance.

Tisa's dance career has led to various opportunities such as adjudicating the Stettler Dance Festival and working with various ISTD examiner's from around the world.

Tisa is continuing to grow with her love of Tap and looks forward to sharing this passion with her students!!

Tisa began teaching at Marr-Mac in 1993.

Tisa's Disciplines:

- Tap



Laura Gillard, born and raised in Fort McMurray & began dancing at age 4 following in her sisters' footsteps.

She expanded her ballet training by attending various ballet intensives throughout Canada.

Having the foundation of ballet, opened doors for her to learn and love all different styles and aspects of dance, studying: jazz, modern, lyrical, contemporary and tap. Laura completed her Advanced Foundation Ballet Examination in RAD as well as her Grade 8 Tap Examination in Al Gilbert. In 2009, she moved to Edmonton to attend the University of Alberta (UofA).

Not being able to give up dancing, she joined a start-up student run company at the UofA, MOD Contemporary Dance, where she became a founding member and spent 4 seasons (2010-2013), having an enriching experience as a teacher, choreographer and performer in 4 showcases..

Laura currently performs locally with 'ViVa', in festivals, charities and the Edmonton Singing Christmas Tree. Her past performance opportunities included national and international tours with ViVa's first self-produced show "Dreamscape: our dreams told through dance", through the North American Fringe Circuit in 2015.

Still a firm believer, that she can balance university and dance, she is currently studying in her Doctoral degree at the University of Alberta in oceanography.

Laura began teaching at Marr Mac in 2014.

Laura's Disciplines:

- Jazz
- Lyrical



Callie Lissinna has loved training in ballet, jazz, lyrical, contemporary, musical theatre and tap since she began dancing at the age of 3.

She has participated in competitions with Marr Mac for 9 years, receiving overall high score scholarships for her lyrical and pointe solos along the way.

She has also trained at Ballet Divertimento in Montreal and Harbor Dance Centre in Vancouver, and has completed the Advanced ISTD ballet exam.

While training at Marr-Mac in several dance disciplines Callie has also assistant taught ballet under Cathy McFarlane.

In addition to teaching dance, Callie is attending the University of Alberta in the Faculty of Engineering.

Callie began teaching at Marr-Mac in 2016.

Callie's Disciplines:

- Ballet
- Ballet/Jazz Combo



Jeannie Vandekerkhove is a teacher, choreographer and dancer who trained classically in her youth, furthering her studies at Arts Umbrella and Ballet British Columbia's Mentor Program.

She has taught professionally at Arts Umbrella, J'adore Dance, Ballet Divertimento, Montessori, YWCA Montreal's Outreach Program, Mile Zero Dance's Education Program, Orchesis, as well as numerous workshops, both pre/professionally and in private and public schools across the country.

Jeannie has danced professionally in Edmonton, Montreal and Vancouver and has performed both nationally and internationally for a variety of renowned choreographers.

Her own professionally choreographic work has been presented in Banff, Calgary, Edmonton, Montreal and Vancouver.

Jeannie began teaching at Marr Mac in 2014.

Jeannie's Disciplines:

- Contemporary Ballet
- Ballet Tech
- Lyrical



Madelaine Lussier grew up dancing in Edmonton and Grande Prairie and was trained in the RAD and Cecchetti methods of classical ballet as well as modern, jazz, and tap.

Madelaine first joined Marr-Mac in 2005 as an adult student and began teaching in the ballet program a few years later.

She has since trained in the Russian Vaganova Technique of teaching classical Ballet through workshops in Edmonton and St. Petersburg, Russia.

In 2015, Madelaine completed Level 1 of the Perfect Form Physiotherapy Dance Teacher & Health Professional Intensive Workshop and in 2016 completed her 500-hour advanced yoga instructor training.

She continues to take classes and workshops in different styles of dance and is looking forward to sharing her knowledge and enthusiasm for dance with the students at Marr-Mac.

Madelaine is also Secretary of the Vaganova Dance Society.

Madelaine began teaching at Marr-Mac in 2011.

Madelaine's Disciplines:

- Classical Ballet
- Injury Prevention



Francois Chevennement is one of the few rare artists who have managed to have a distinguished performance and teaching career.

Mr. Chevennement was the Artistic Director at Dance Alberta from 2003 to 2006 before being asked to take the lead as Artistic Director of Citie Ballet. Francois managed to make Citie Ballet a professional company during his 9 year career with them.

His unique choreography is distinguished by numerous collaborations with different Canadian Artists from a variety of different arts forms.

Trained at the Conservatoire National de Danse d'Avignon, his professional experience includes dancing with Ballet d'Avignon, Ballet du Nord and Alberta Ballet.

He has performed diverse solo and principal roles from such choreographers as George Balanchine, Paul Taylor, Jean-Paul Comelin, Myriam Naisy, Maryse Delente, John Butler, Jose Limon...Francois was nominated soloist in 1991 in Ballet du Nord. He performed internationally and danced in the biggest stages around the world.

Francois received his State Teaching Diploma in Classical Dance from France in 1994. At numerous times during his multiple career, he was asked to be an adjudicator for Ballet exams, competitions, Grant foundations...etc.

Francois looks forward to sharing his expertise and love of dance.

Francois began teaching at Marr-Mac in 2015.

Francois' Disciplines:

- Advanced Ballet
- Pas de Deux



Keely McBride enjoyed a successful dance career for more than two decades, competing across Canada, Scotland, and Australia.

She has also performed for many special events, both nationally and internationally, including the

World Championships in Athletics, the Alberta Tattoo, and the International Gathering of Scottish Highland Dance in Disneyland Paris.

As a member of the Scottish Dance Teachers' Alliance (SDTA), Keely has taught dance to a variety of levels in Edmonton and Saskatoon. With more than 10 years of experience teaching highland, Keely's style is to "sweat it out!" Whether the class is beginners or Provincial champions, she enjoys providing a challenging and fun environment for her each of her students to excel.

Keely continues to take classes to stay active and keep a fresh perspective on dance. Outside of dance, Keely has a Master of Public Health, and works with the Government of Alberta. She has a passion for community, and can be found at a variety of local events, live music, or volunteering.

Keely began teaching at Marr-Mac in 2016

Keely's Disciplines:

- Highland Dance



Shrina Patel has been dancing for over 20 years!

Her first dance experience came at age 7, when her mother enrolled her in the first of her many dance competitions. In her own words, "From the moment I stepped on stage my mind opened and my soul sang – my heart was in ecstasy. Growing up I was shy and introvert, but through the language of dance I learned to communicate and express myself to the world".

Shrina continued down this path sampling different dance styles from around the world. Incorporating a wide variety of dance knowledge, from East to West, her style has evolved and brings a unique flair to dance and teaching, which is sure to dazzle the spectator, and challenge even the most demanding dance students.

From traditional folk dancing East Indian Garba & Raas dance and the intoxicating drum beats of Bhangra, to elements of Latin Zumba and pop'n'lock, wacking and freestyle Hip Hop dance, her classes challenge and free the dancer to find their own unique language of expression.

Shrina firmly believes that dance is the most intimate self-expression that everyone embodies; we just need a chance to set it free.

“Dancing is more than a hobby for me; it’s the language of my soul and sets me free; it is all about learning to love oneself through exploring the inner self.”

Shrina hopes to share her unique twist to choreography and expression of dance to all that are willing to take the journey of discovering a new artistic side of their selves.

Shrina began teaching at Marr-Mac in 2014

Shrina’s Disciplines:

- Bollywood



Catherine O'Reilly began her Irish dance training at the age of eight with Matterin Irish Dance School in Edmonton, and along the road switched to Knock Irish Dance School.

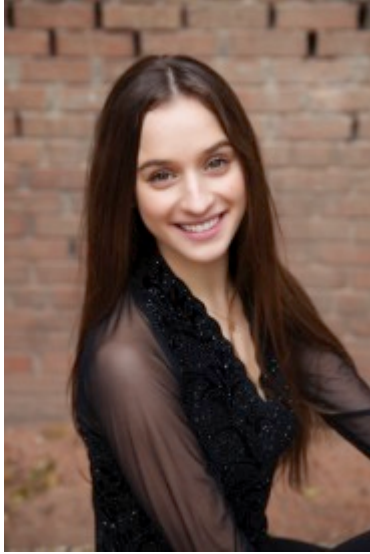
She danced competitively for eight years in strictly Irish competitions and continued to dance non-competitively for another three years.

Catherine assistant taught with her sister Kristin for a few years before going to college in California, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts Degree.

Catherine has taught for Marr-Mac since 2010.

Catherine’s Disciplines:

- Irish



Dasha Rozhdestvensky was born and raised in Edmonton, Alberta. She started her dance training at Dance Alberta in her home town, and studied various forms of dance such as ballet, tap, jazz, lyrical, contemporary and hip hop.

At the age of 13, Dasha was accepted to the School of Alberta Ballet in Calgary, and moved there shortly after the ninth grade. While living in Calgary, Dasha focussed on ballet and contemporary, and was exposed to many guest teachers, choreographers, and various artists that inspired her.

Dasha has been taught by various dancers from Ballet BC, Paul Taylor Company, and the Royal Ballet.

She has performed in many shows across Canada, which have broadened her ability to share her love of dance.

Dasha was one of the few graduates who graduated from the Dedicated Contemporary Stream at the School of Alberta Ballet.

In addition, Dasha is very fascinated by different styles of choreography, which she is still working on, including a piece she choreographed with another artist on the schools Contemporary Stream.

She is very excited to share her passion and knowledge with younger generations.

Dasha began teaching at Marr-Mac in 2016.

Dasha's Disciplines:

- Tap
- Jazz
- Glee Club
- Hip-Hop



Josh Capulong entered the dance world at the age of 16 with recreational breakdancing. His intrigue to learn more about the hip hop culture motivated him into discovering and learning new genres of the dance. He truly realized his passion for the art of hip-hop when he made his way to LA. There, he trained along side many world-renowned dancers such as Luam, Kyle Hanagami, Lyle Beniga, Keone Madrid, and many more.

In 2009, he joined his first hip hop crew, Next Gen. It was not long till this young, up and coming crew made a name for themselves in the Edmonton Hip-hop community. Sean Kingston, Ace Hood, Fanny Pak and Supreme Soul are just a few of the artists in the industry that Josh has opened for alongside Next Gen.

Not only has Josh met many successes in his dance career, such as a 2nd place finish at World of Dance Vancouver 2013, he has also utilized his skill of dancing to give back to the community at a local level.

He has performed for several benefit concerts such as Little Hearts Big Dreams, Stand Up For Love, Forever Young, A Friend in Need is Japan Indeed, Hip Hop for Hope and many more. Many of these benefit concerts were also a time for Josh to share his musical side.

He is a part of local trio band ADD. His shared musical passion has lead him to journey to many places such as San Diego, Los Angeles, and Vancouver.

Incorporating many aspects of his surroundings into his own, Josh's new age style, emphasizing on intricacy and musicality, gives him a unique touch as a dancer and choreographer.

Josh began teaching Hip-Hop at Marr-Mac in 2012.

Josh's Disciplines:

- Hip Hop



Hannah Kulmatycki was born and grew up in Edmonton, Alberta and began dancing at Marr Mac at the age of 2 where her love for ballet began.

She has continued her training in ballet at Marr Mac ever since then, completing her ISTD ballet exams up to the Intermediate standing. She has trained in other dance disciplines including Contemporary, Lyrical and Jazz.

Hannah has taken Master classes in St. Petersburg, Russia receiving a workshop Certificate in Vaganova Ballet, and continues to practice in the Vaganova method of ballet. She worked as a student teacher alongside Christina Breault and Cathy McFarlane, before becoming an independent instructor.

Outside of dance Hannah is currently studying Biology at the University of Alberta and enjoys various extracurricular activities including: photography, travel and many types of athletics such as barre exercise class, and soccer. She also has been teaching Sunday sweat classes for IVVIVA Edmonton for over 3 years.

Hannah began teaching at Marr Mac in 2016

Hannah's Disciplines:

- Ballet Tech



Bridget McFarlane was born and raised in Edmonton where she began dancing at Marr Mac at the age of 3. She trained and competed in many disciplines including lyrical, contemporary, jazz, and ballet. She has completed her Advanced ISTD ballet exam.

She has trained at many schools across Canada including the Royal Winnipeg Ballet School, Goh Ballet Academy Vancouver, Ballet Divertimento Montreal, and Harbour Dance Centre Vancouver. She has also trained under Ballet Masters in St. Petersburg, Russia from the Vaganova Ballet Academy.

Bridget has previously been a student teacher at Marr Mac in the disciplines of ballet and jazz, and is excited to share her passion with the next generation of dancers as she begins her own teaching career.

Bridget began teaching at Marr-Mac in 2017.

Bridget's Disciplines:

- Strength & Stretch



Marie McFarlane has danced at Marr Mac since the age of 2. She is ISTD trained in Classical Ballet and Tap and obtained her Advanced Exam standings in both. She is also trained in Jazz, Lyrical, Highland, Modern and Musical Theatre, performing in numerous exams, competitions, and shows such as Cinderella and The Nutcracker.

Marie has travelled with Marr- Mac teachers and students to Russia, New York and Vancouver for various workshops, and spent two of her summers as a teenager training at the National Ballet School and The Royal Winnipeg Ballet.

She began her teaching career with Tap in 2008 at Marr- Mac and in the years following switched to Jazz and Lyrical/Contemporary. She has since settled into her own style of both and realized her love for teaching and choreography.

Marie completed her Bachelor of Science in Nursing and worked as a Registered Nurse in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at the Stollery Children's Hospital for 4 years, before switching over full-time to a career with Marr-Mac.

When founding director Deane Marr retired in June 2015, Marie became partner and co-director of the school with her mother, Cathy McFarlane.

Marie's Disciplines:

- Lyrical
- Jazz
- Contemporary



Cathy McFarlane joined Marr-Mac in 1982 as a dancer and the next year began to teach Ballet. In 1995 she became Deane Marr's business partner. Together they have taken various teaching and dance courses in Toronto, Winnipeg, St. Petersburg Russia, Vancouver Calgary and Montreal.

Cathy is ISTD and RAD trained in Classical Ballet obtaining her Advanced standing as a dancer in both syllabi. She also has her Elementary level in National and Modern and holds her Licentiate Teaching certificate with the I.S.T.D.

She has since expanded her training into the Russian Vaganova Technique of teaching classical Ballet through workshops in St. Petersburg Russia and Ballet Divertimento School in Montreal. Her students have made the transition to the Russian technique.

Cathy is also President of the [**Vaganova Dance Society**](#).