

FACULTY 2023/2024

Pam Brushwood has been the Owner/Director of Brushwood's School of Dance since its beginning in Orange County in 1975. Pam studied dance in Richmond under Julia Mildred Harper, was a member of the Richmond Ballet until 1971, and was a member of Miki Liszt Dance Company in Charlottesville. She is a member of Dance Masters of America. Pam lives in Gordonsville with her husband Steve, and when not teaching she enjoys her family (including her 4 granddaughters and one grandson), sewing, church activities and traveling especially to Hatteras Island, North Carolina! This will be her 50th season of bringing dance to students in our area!

Regina Delman has been part of Brushwood's School of Dance faculty for almost thirty years, but has been teaching ballet, tap and jazz for over thirty-six years. Of her twenty-nine years with BSD, she has been teaching Petite Performance for over sixteen years. She found her love of dance while growing up in the Bronx, NY at age three and began her performing career at age ten. After graduating from high school, she expanded her studies of dance in college and was nominated and published for the "Extraordinary Students of America" for Performing Arts in 1987. When Regina is not dancing, she is the barber at Fork Union Military Academy. One of Regina's proudest accomplishments is raising two smart and beautiful daughters, Jessy and Stephanie. Regina also has three adorable grandsons, Jace, Lex and Clark

Shannon Higginbotham has studied ballet, tap, and jazz since the age of nine. At age twelve she expanded her studies to include modern, lyrical, hip-hop, and pointe. She studied at Saint Cloud State University in Minnesota and University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point focusing on Modern and African dance as well as choreography. As a professional dancer she has performed for a number of companies including Tapestry Russian Ballet Company, Repertory Dance Theatre; a modern and African based repertory company, a featured guest performer throughout the Twin Cities area and a break-dancing troupe based out of Minnesota. She has taught a variety of dance techniques through inner city outreach programs and oversaw the dance department at Camp Matoaka for girls. Shannon joined Brushwood faculty in the summer of 2005.

Ashley Tucker Kisamore danced at Brushwood's School of Dance for fourteen years where she was a member of the Performance Companies, as well as assisting in classes of younger students. She earned a Master of Arts in teaching degree from James Madison University in 2010. In 2009, Ashley graduated cum laude from JMU, completing a Bachelor of Arts degree in dance and a Bachelor of Science degree in elementary education. At JMU she was a member of both the Virginia Repertory Dance Company and the Contemporary Dance Ensemble. Ashley has performed throughout the mid-Atlantic region, including at Dance Place and the Kennedy Center in Washington DC, as well as Miami Florida, and London, England. Besides teaching at BSD, Ashley is currently dancing as a founding member of Dogwood Dance Project based in Richmond, Virginia, and serves as the Director of Education and Youth Ensemble Coordinator. Ashley is also currently a fourth-grade teacher in Ruckersville, VA.

Racheal LaBonte has been with BSD since 2017 and teaches modern, ballet, pointe, tap and yoga. She has a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance and Performance and a 200 hour Registered Yoga Teacher Certification. Prior to this she received an Associates of Arts for Dance, an Associates of Science for Exercise Studies from Anne Arundel Community College. She was a graduate from the Kirov Academy of Ballet and has performed with Corps de Danse, previously DragonFly Dance Experiment. Racheal has taught at both Towson University and Anne Arundel Community Colleges' Departments of Dance as an adjunct faculty member, worked with CREDO (Capital Region Education Dance Organization) as a board member, and CORPS de Ballet International as an intern to the President of the Board. She has traveled and lived throughout the US and abroad, most notably she initiated a collaboration where she staged and managed Amman, Jordan's first "Nutcracker Spectacular," which included a children's choir, local dance students, and the Amman Symphony Orchestra.

Kelli Sims grew up dancing at Brushwood's School of Dance, starting at just 3 years old. She spent 15 years at Brushwood's and most of that time she was a member of Brushwood's Performance Companies. After graduating from high school, and moving away for college, Kelli always knew that one day she wanted to return to Brushwood's to teach. Seven years later, she finally moved back into town with her husband, Jacob, and last year, Kelli returned to Brushwood's as a dancer and substitute teacher. This year Kelli was invited to teach classes and be an official dance teacher at Brushwood's. After having such a wonderful experience at Brushwood's School of Dance growing up, Kelli is excited to share her love for dance and appreciation for creativity with our new generation.

Carly Dulaney danced at Brushwood's School of Dance for seventeen years where she participated in the various styles of dance taught as well as being a member of the Performance Companies. Throughout her time dancing at Brushwood's, Carly was an apprentice for modern classes, Brushwood's Junior Performance Company and assisted in teaching classes for the younger students. She participated in many workshops focused on tap, modern, and ballet throughout her time at Brushwood's including a classical ballet workshop under Thomas Hanner and tap classes with Chloe and Maud productions. She continued to take ballet and modern classes at Liberty University during college where she is currently a senior completing her Master of Social Work degree. Carly is beyond excited to be returning to Brushwood's School of Dance as a teacher!

Sharon Corner started dancing at the age of 4, both in the Netherlands and on Long Island, NY, and was blessed to raise four children who also love to dance. Besides teaching for studios in NY, MA, and FL, she created a performance team at Lake of the Woods church that put on two performances a year to benefit the local food pantry for over a dozen years. She also choreographed for the LOW Players production of "Music Man." Married to Tim for over 30 years, Sharon loves to crochet and spend time with her 5 grandchildren at various events and was introduced to Brushwood's School of Dance when her granddaughter Skylar started dancing here.

Maddie Haislip began dancing when she was only 3 years old and has danced at Brushwood's School of Dance for 16 years. During this time, she participated in many dance styles, was a member of the performance companies, and was an apprentice for tap and ballet classes. She has previously taught Tap 1/2 while also being a student of the studio. Maddie is currently pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education, online at Liberty University. She is looking forward to returning to teaching earlier than anticipated and continuing to share her love of dance with the students at Brushwood's School of Dance.

Caroline Groome started dancing at Brushwood's School of Dance in 1996 following in her sister's footsteps, her love for dance started at age three. During her time at BSD Caroline trained in many styles of dance including ballet, jazz, tap, hip-hop, and modern as well as being a member of the Performance Company. Her love and passion for performing arts is what brought her back to us and is now shared with her daughter, Lillian, who is a dancer and member of our Performance Company here at Brushwood's. Caroline is very excited to be back this year as a student and substitute teacher.