

# BALLET ARTS SUMMER 2018 FACULTY

Registration by phone 345-3433 or by mail 2018 Rambling Rd., Kalamazoo, MI 49008 ♦ balletartshome.com

## GUEST FACULTY Dance Intensive I



**Christina Elida Salerno** - Raised in Westmont, IL, Ms. Salerno received her formative ballet training and performing experience with Salt Creek Ballet as a pupil of Founding Director Patricia Sigurdson. She spent two summers in New York City, one as a student of American Ballet Theatre's School of Classical Ballet under the direction of Mikhail Baryshnikov where her teachers included Mr. Baryshnikov, Luba Gulyeava and Mikhail Messerer.

Ms. Salerno completed her ballet training as a scholarship student at San Francisco Ballet School, studying primarily with Larisa Skylanskaya. While at San Francisco Ballet School, Ms. Salerno also studied with Lola de Avila and Jocelyn Vollmar.

After graduating from San Francisco Ballet School, Ms. Salerno took a position with Boston Ballet II under the directorship of Laura Young. Bruce Marks invited her to join the full company the following year. Ms. Salerno danced eight seasons with Boston Ballet, rising to the rank of Soloist.

Ms. Salerno left Boston Ballet to pursue a dance career in Europe, initially joining Zurich Ballet as a Soloist under Heinz Spoerli. Ms. Salerno was then invited by Monica Mason to join The Royal Ballet in London, where she spent five years as a Soloist, performing principal and soloist roles.

Ms. Salerno has toured the world extensively, performing on the Bolshoi stage in Moscow, the Maryinski in St. Petersburg and other opera houses and theatres in Germany, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Switzerland, Mexico, the United States, France, Japan, Singapore and South Korea. She was one of a select group of dancers chosen by Bruce Sampson for a special European dance festival tour.

Ms. Salerno has taught ballet technique classes in and around Boston, teaching nine year olds through adults, at the Boston Ballet School and the Young Dancer Summer Workshop of Boston Ballet. She taught for two summers at Nina Alonso Hathaway's Fresh Pond Ballet in Cambridge, MA. While in England, Ms. Salerno taught at the Sadler's Wells Summer School in London with other professional dancers of The Royal Ballet. Since moving back to the United States, she has enjoyed teaching Master Class and Summer Intensives for Ballet Arts in Kalamazoo, MI. She now teaches specialized ballet classes for young athletes interested in the benefits of ballet training. She is currently Executive Director of Salt Creek Ballet.



**Eddy Ocampo**, internationally renowned contemporary choreographer and dance teacher, has created ballets in Europe, Mexico, Canada, Russia and throughout the U.S. His work can be seen on such companies as Giordano Dance Chicago, Luna Negra Dance Theatre, Thodos Dance Chicago, Eisenhower Dance Ensemble, Houston Metropolitan Dance Company, Odyssey Dance Theatre (Salt Lake City), Kannon Dance (St Petersburg, Russia), and many regional ballet companies in the U.S. He has taught numerous artistic residencies for some of the most prestigious universities and colleges in the in Europe, Mexico, Canada, Turkey, the and Russia.

Mr. Ocampo served as school director of the Giordano Dance Center, as well as the director of Giordano II from 2000-2004. He is also the founding artistic director the American Jazz Dance Festival-New Generation in the Russian Republic and continues to travel to Russia yearly to spread his passion of jazz dance to many who may have never been exposed to the art form.

Mr. Ocampo has received many awards, nationally and internationally for his choreography, among them he is the recipient of: the Dance Chicago Outstanding Choreography Award in 2003 & 2004, the Cliff Dwellers Arts Foundation Choreography Award in 2005 & 2007, the National Choreography Recognition Award for Regional Dance America in 2012 & 2104 and has been honored as the 2005 Filipino American of the Year for his contribution to the arts community as a Filipino American. Mr. Ocampo resides in Chicago and is Co-Artistic Director of LEVELdance, a Chicago based, site specific design based contemporary dance company.

## GUEST FACULTY

### Dance Intensive II



**Dawnell Dryja** is originally from Canton, Michigan where she trained under her mother, Dawn Greene. Dawnell took over as the owner and Artistic Director of Academy of Dance Arts in Comstock Park, MI four years ago and enjoys fostering an environment where the students can grow in all the different disciplines of dance.

Dawnell has been on staff at the Grand Rapids Ballet School for fourteen years and teaches intermediate through advanced ballet as well as pointe class, variations and pas de deux class. She has taught and ballet mistressed for numerous schools, summer programs, and competitions throughout the United States, some of these include Dance Masters, Southold Dance Theatre, Oak Ridge Ballet, Ballet Theatre of Toledo, Burklyn Ballet Theatre, Cecchetti Council of America.

Dawnell currently dances for the Grand Rapids Ballet and has for the past fourteen years. As a dancer, Dawnell has had the opportunity to work with esteemed choreographers and teachers from around the world such as Nils Christe, Fredrick Franklin, Suzanne Farrell, Kirk Peterson, Val Caniporoli, Peter Boal, Raymond Lukens, and Stanton Welch to name a few. She also has performed live in concert with Bela Fleck and the Flecktones and the John Jorgenson Quintet. Some of her favorite ballets she has performed are Swan Lake, Giselle, Coppelia, Red Angels, Fingerprints, Jewels, Allegro Brilliante and The Gift of the Magi.

Dawnell has a lovely daughter, Tevyn, who is the light of her life.



**Cassidy Isaacson** began her ballet training at the age of 4 in her hometown of Redmond, Washington. She trained at Pacific Northwest Ballet (2002-2008) under the direction of Abbie Siegel, Meg Potter, Marisa Albee, Timothy Lynch, Elaine Bauer, and Eva Stone. She then went on to train privately with Deborah Hadley (2007-2011) in Bellevue, Washington. She spent summers training at the Pacific Northwest Ballet (2003- 2009) and Long Beach Ballet in China (2010), Julliard Summer Intensive (2011) in New York as well as the Grand Rapids Ballet Summer Intensive (2011). Cassidy joined Grand Rapids Ballet in 2011 as a trainee and is now a full company member. She performed at the Grand Rapids Art Prize awards ceremony in 2012. Cassidy also performed a piece by Marisa Hayes' pas de deux Natural Phenomena: Nina Simone Suite with her partner Cao Chi Thanh of Hanoi Dance Theater in Paris (2012) and in Vietnam (2013). Cassidy performed in the Van Andel Arena for LiveArts in 2015.