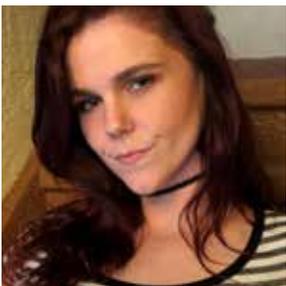


PVPA CONSERVATORY TEACHER BIOGRAPHIES



SEAN ALEXANDER BART

Sean Alexander Bart, voice and piano, is a full-time artist and educator. He received a comprehensive classical education at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, supplemented with studies in multiple other styles and genres, most importantly a long tutelage with the powerful, malleable singing techniques of Richard Nickol. Sean has over 160 professional and youth productions to his credit, encompassing a variety of musicals, operas and straight plays, on top of a full roster of pop/rock bands, studio work, and many years of private teaching and coaching. Sean's approach is dynamic, holistic and process-oriented, structured for the healthy pursuit of goals. Students enjoy a greater connection to the full capabilities of their instrument, and an understanding of those elements which help them express their artistry.



COURTNEY BARTLEET

Courtney Bartleet has choreographed and taught dance throughout the South Bay. She has assisted musical productions at Torrance High School including *Camp Rock* and their *Annual Night of Broadway*; assisted at CLI Studios in Hip Hop Dance recording; taught Hip Hop and Jazz/Funk classes with Jazz It Up Studios; and has done her fair share of performing with Starlight Productions and Torrance Theatre Company. Hoping to carry on her passion for the arts with PVPA!



ABBY CARLSON

Abby has worked with students of all ages as a private instructor, choir director, and classroom teacher. She holds a Bachelor of Music in Education and Vocal Jazz Performance and a K-12 Teaching Credential from the Bob Cole Conservatory of Music at California State University, Long Beach. Abby currently teaches Musical Theatre Voice at the Orange County School of the Arts and directs the choirs at Shepherd's Grove Academy & High School. She also directs the children's choir at her church, and vocally coaches at Los Alamitos High School. Abby is an active performer and choreographer in the Southern California musical theatre scene, and she sings with two professional a cappella groups, four rock bands, and regularly performs as a classical and jazz vocalist. She has toured the US and Europe with various performing groups and has shared the stage with some of the greats.



DANI CLEMENT

Dani brings her "Bay Area Flavor" to Los Angeles as a professional dancer, choreographer, and spokesperson. A Life Member of the international hip hop dance company Culture Shock, she danced for Culture Shock Oakland for as well as the Los Angeles Chapter. She directed the Future Shock Oakland youth outreach program for 5 years, including co-coaching the gold medal winning USA and World Hip Hop Championship team of MINI SHOCK. She coached and gave a professional experience to young dancers like Zendaya, Dominique Battiste and Justin and Jake Deanna. Professional companies she partners with are Dance the Magic, Boogiezone, Urban Jamm Dance Convention, Elite Beat Dance and Dance in a Box. Dani has extensive background in sports entertainment. She danced and choreographed for the NBA's Golden State Warrior Girls and Junior Jamm Squad and was the Dance Director and Choreographer of the SparkIDS WNBA dance team for 3 seasons. Her Film and TV credits include, *The Matrix Reloaded* and *Revolutions*, *Illusion*, "Dulhan" *Made in America* and various indie films. Dani choreographed shows for the Style Network and other reality tv and was a featured dancer on 15 episodes of *Dance 360*. Dani has experience with corporate events, various variety shows, danced at the Disneyland Resorts/Disney Performing Arts,

Broadway and reality appearances. She has worked live on stage as well as music videos with music artist, LL Cool J, Amiere, E40, Mario, Frankie Vallie, Prima J, 4Deep, Dol Rae, and Sub Pop Label Artists. A favorite of northern and southern California dance teams Dani is a go to choreographer for high school teams such as Mira Costa, Redondo Union High, Bishop Montgomery and Palos Verdes High School.



PAM COVAS

Pam Covas is an established tap teacher and choreographer in the Southbay for over 30 years. Her effective and enjoyable style is influenced by her mentors, an elite list of tap masters including, Jimmy Payne Sr., Pat Rico, and Henry LeTang. Pam has enjoyed performing alongside Arthur Duncan, Eddie Brown, Cab Calloway and The Nicholas Brothers, promoting the art of tap dance. Her productions include *An Evening of Tap Dance* at Marymount College, *American Rhythms I, II & III* at The James Armstrong Theater and the *Masters In Tap Series* at The Torrance Cultural Arts Center. Pam is founder of *The Honey Taps*, a song and tap dance group that now has companies in NYC, Chicago and Los Angeles. Her work was featured at *The Choreographer's Canvas* in New York City and on the NYC Life series *Barefeet Dance with Mickela Mallozzi*.



JONATHAN BLAKE FLEMINGS

Jonathan Blake Flemings joins us as a recent transfer from New York City! He has performed and taught all over the country at such places as Point Park University, Pittsburgh CLO, Broadway Dance Studio, The Studio School LA, and US Performing Arts. Recent credits: *A Funny Thing... Forum* at the Pittsburgh Public Theatre, *The Scottsboro Boys* for The REP at Pittsburgh Playhouse, *A Chorus Line* at Olney Theatre, *Dreamgirls* with Pittsburgh Musical Theater, *Hairspray* at The Finger Lakes Musical Theatre Festival, *CATS* at Cortland Repertory Theatre, and *West Side Story* and many others as a student performer at the Norris Theatre. NYC credits: *Luigi Tribute* at Symphony Space. LA credits: *Hollywood Loves Broadway*, Sony Studios; "Elementary," CBS. Graduate of Point Park University (BFA, Musical Theatre) and a proud member of the Actors' Equity Association and Screen Actors Guild.



JUSTON GONZALEZ

Juston Gonzalez has been working and teaching the youth through Disney from 2013-2019. Having been a performer since childhood, He attended Cal State Long Beach and graduated in 2017 with a Bachelor of Arts degree emphasis on acting, equipped with skills and knowledge in acting and auditioning technique, character breakdown, Shakespeare, vocal and breathing technique.



JULIE HAST

Aka Julie Tea, was first hired to assist the dance teacher at the age of 12, but didn't become a professional dancer until after receiving her degree from UCLA in Kinesiology. Being part of the chorus in the L.A. production of *42nd Street* led to several national commercials, television and industrial gigs along with a number of benefits, performing with or for some of show business' greats. Julie has appeared in numerous musicals, developed choreography for children both on stage and in videos, has been a technique coach for dance, drill and tall flag competition teams, and is part of Pam Covas' Honey Taps dance company. When she isn't dancing or working with kids, she's either developing environmental education, producing videos, or teaching businesses how to reduce waste and recycle.



KEENON HOOKS

Keenon Hooks, an LA native, began dancing in high school when his mentor Jennifer Infante had him step into his first tap shoe for the musical *Crazy For You*. From there he found his passion and his dance career took off. He received his dance and theatre training from Peninsula School of Performing Arts, South Bay Conservatory, Millennium Dance Complex, Negri Learning Center, Pacific Conservatory of the Performing Arts, and El Camino College. He spent 2 years as a principle/featured dancer with Oui Geometor Dance Company, and then went on to perform in several choreographer showcases including *The Carnival Choreographers Ball*. Once finished with school, he also went on to work as a regional Actor/Dancer/Choreographer with companies such as Cabrillo Music Theatre, San Diego Musical Theatre, Long Beach Opera, Performance Riverside, Utah Festival Opera & Musical Theatre, Candlelight Pavilion Dinner Theatre, Chance Theatre, Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center, and the Tony Award-winning Utah Shakespeare Festival. He is represented for Equity Theatre by Steven Dry at Connor Ankrum & Associates Inc. and a proud member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society.



SETH HORINOUCHI

Seth Horinouchi started dancing at the age of seven, training at various studios in tap, ballet, jazz, hip hop, modern, and contemporary. He attended the Orange County School of the Arts under the Commercial Dance Conservatory from the 7th grade and graduated in 2014. Seth's performances include several national TV commercials, music videos, and two seasons with the SparKids, the youth dance team of the WNBA L.A. Sparks. He was a Spotlight Awards semifinalist and a Joffrey West Intensive full scholarship recipient. Seth also was on Terry Schulke's Points of View Dance Company and had the opportunity to perform at the Capezio ACE Awards and the McCallum Choreography Festival in Palm Desert. Currently, he trains in various styles of dance at Edge Performing Arts Center, Movement Lifestyle, and Sweat Spot. He also teaches at Boogiezone Utopia and is a Company Assistant on a Pasadena-based dance company called Rogue Makers.



AMANDA MEADE-TATUM

Amanda is excited to join the staff at Palos Verdes Performing Arts. She grew up here in PV and has been performing throughout Southern California for many years. She started out cheerleading then moved on to dance and eventually she found the wonderful magic that is musical theatre. Some of her favorite credits include: *Bye Bye Birdie*, *A Chorus Line*, *Hairspray*, *Grease*, *In The Heights*, *Bring It On: The Musical*, and *The Little Mermaid*. She recently had the pleasure of choreographing *Seussical Jr.* here at PVPA. You have seen her in the music video "If I Lose Myself" by OneRepublic or a recent Kool-Aid Jammers commercial.



SARAH MARIE

Sarah is excited to get the young imaginations of Palos Verdes moving this season. Sarah graduated from the Pacific Conservatory of the Performing Arts in 2009 and has been working professionally in and around the South Bay ever since. Sarah has spent the past two summers here at PVPA as the dance teacher for Camp Curtain Call. She choreographed 2016's *Alice in Wonderland Jr.* and co-choreographed *13 the Musical*. She has taught music at Sage Academy and ballet at 186th st. Elementary and Studio C Performing Arts. Sarah has used her experience as a theatre professional to judge many festivals of the Drama Teachers Association of Southern California and with singing being her number one passion, she is excited to use her years of training to mold the next generation of performers. "When one teaches, two learn."



CHRISTINE NEGHERBON

Christine Negherbon has been in 6 National Tours including *Chicago*, *Crazy For You*, *My Fair Lady* and *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* (starring Ann-Margret). Regional theatre: *Cats* (Jennyanydots) *Sound of Music* (Maria) and *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Millie) to name a few. TV: *Hart of Dixie*, *Haunting Evidence*. She is co-founder/co-author of The Thriving Artists. She is wife of actor, Joe Abraham and Mom to Cole & Ty. www.TheThrivingArtists.com



SHANTA' ROBINSON

Shanta' Marie is a "Tiny Firecracker", she grew up training in ballet and continued to add styles such as jazz and tap along the way. She is a multiple award nominated theatre performer who has performed in numerous musicals and traveled the world as a dancer on Disney Cruiseline. For the past two years she was the Magic Carpet in Disney's *Aladdin A Musical Spectacular*. As a teacher and choreographer Shanta' has taught at numerous dance studios and schools throughout California, her students have gone on to own their own studios and dance for the NBA. My goal is for my students to leave my class with more confidence believing they can do anything!



JOEL SLUYTER

Joel began his dance training at Ball State University in Indiana. He then moved to New York City and continued his education at New York University as a dance performance major. He has been choreographing dance for the last ten years. He has taught at Kings Academy High School, Ball State University, Torrance and West High Schools, and several high schools throughout Indiana. His work has won Grand Championships at Show Choir competitions. He has choreographed musicals including *West Side Story*, *Back to the '80s*, *Camp Rock* and *Nonsense*. He also teaches Hip Hop dance during the summer program at the Professional School of the Arts.



JULIA SPRINGER

Julia Springer is pleased to return to PVPA as a teacher after being a student and performer at the Norris for many of her formative years! As a dancer, singer, actress, performer, and collaborative artist, Julia has been fortunate to work both in Boston and LA over the past 7 years. Julia has a BA in Linguistic Studies and Italian Studies (Wellesley College '16), and has had the great privilege to teach ESL, work, and dance in a company in northern Italy, as well as teach ESL here in the South Bay. This year, however, Julia is focusing her time and energy on her performance work, the arts, and teaching. She is so excited to be on board!



KATHERINE TOKARZ

Katherine is absolutely thrilled to be joining the wonderful faculty here at PVPA! Katherine is an actress/dancer/singer originally from Massachusetts and trained in Worcester, New York, Boston, and Paris. On Broadway she could be seen in the original cast of *ROCK OF AGES* (Constance, Justice/Regina cover), the original cast of IRVING BERLIN'S *WHITE CHRISTMAS* (Rhoda), *A CHORUS LINE* (Kristine), and *WICKED*. She also sang a duet with Alan Menken at his Songbook Concert at Lincoln Center, and participated in the Workshops and Pre-Broadway version of *LEAP OF FAITH* at the Ahmanson Theater. Before Broadway, Katherine traveled the world living and performing in Japan at Tokyo Disney, in Paris at The Moulin Rouge, and at Disney World in Florida. Since moving to LA, Katherine has been a recurring character on *Don't Trust the B-* and *The Neighbors*, both on ABC. Most recently, she starred as the sharp-tongued Brit "Emily" in a The Unauthorized Musical Parody of *The Devil Wears Prada* as well as "Annie Herman" in *UMPO: Troop Beverly Hills* at Rockwell Table & Stage. Other TV credits include: *Grandfathered*, *Shimmer and Shine*, *It Could Be Worse*, *Bloopers*, *Mercy*, *The Tony Awards*, *Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade* and more. In 2017, Katherine can be seen in the upcoming Freeform series, *Famous in Love*, starring Bella Thorne. As an instructor,

Katherine has taught masterclasses at studios and universities around the country. She believes in providing a safe, honest, challenging, and positive class environment for students to grow and take risks. Her classes focus on the joy of performing and story-telling as well as technique. Katherine is a proud faculty member at AMDA College and Conservatory in Los Angeles, and a guest artist at The EDGE.



EMILEE YAAKOLA

Emilee is originally from Portland, Oregon and is a graduate of The Pacific Conservatory for the Performing Arts. She has performed up and down the West Coast with many regional theaters and has had the joy of originating leading roles in three new works. However, her true passion is sharing her love of musical theater with young actors. She has taught throughout Oregon, Washington, California, and New York. For over five years, the educational department at PVPA Conservatory has been her home away from home and she is thrilled to be making an impact on so many young lives in the South Bay area.