

# PACIFIC ARTS COMPLEX

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TRANSFORMING STUDENTS  
INTO ARTISTS



# ABOUT US

Pacific Arts Complex was founded in 2012 in Santa Cruz, CA. We started with a group of 30 students and a small group of teachers in a two room studio. In 2013 PAC purchased Steps Dance Studio from the estate of Carrie McCoid who had tragically passed away leaving behind a beautiful legacy and hundreds of mourning students and families in our community. Our little family quickly grew to hundreds of students, a staff of over 20 and 150 classes per week between our two locations. We are committed to creating a community space that provides young, emerging artists with the tools and support to reach their full potential as performers and choreographers. Students are challenged to develop a strong technical background in multiple styles of dance and grow artistically in both our recreational and pre-professional programs. The staff at PAC is dedicated to offering high quality arts education as well as creating a fun, positive learning environment.

## About the Owners



Tisha Nusbaum began dancing at the age of 7. In High School she toured with Santa Clara Ballet's Nutcracker through out the Western United States. She performed on the television show Star Search and danced with a company in Germany and professionally in Japan. Upon her return, she and Athena Knight opened No Limits Dance. She and Athena built a successful recreational and competition program. Tisha and her family relocated to Modesto where Tisha taught Jazz/Tech at Juline's School of Dance and was hired as Company Manager and Ballet Mistress of Central West Ballet, taking them to the RDAP festival three years consecutively. Tisha and her family returned to Santa Cruz where Tisha taught full time at No Limits Dance, as well as Santa Cruz Dance Company and Steps Dance Studio. Her dancers have received hundreds of scholarships and national titles, jobs and college admissions, as well as appeared on America's Most Talented Kids and So You Think She Can Dance. She has received over 50 choreography awards regionally and nationally, many FDA nominations, the ICON award from Showbiz and Choreographer Of The Year at KAR nationals. These experiences have given her the opportunity to be hired to choreograph for dancers throughout the country. As Co-Owner/Director of Pacific Arts Complex she has found her home, and looks forward to many more years creating and teaching the family she loves.



David has been doing stage and media productions for almost two decades. Based out of Santa Cruz Ca, he is an audio production engineer, motion graphics artists, professional videographer, choreographer and teacher. He has traveled all of over the country and overseas performing and filming for numerous productions. He started teaching dance at the age of 13 and has been doing so consistently for the past 22 years. He was featured in the 2004 American Choreography Awards, and participated in the 2005 International Performing Arts Festival in Shanghai, China. In 2006 he created his first complete show "BreakBeat" which traveled the continental US. Since then he has cofounded many dance crews as well as co produced shows such as "InnerActions" which was featured in the Georgetown National Institutes in Washington DC. After 8 years with Pacific Arts Complex, David is focused on creating a lasting impact on the dance community by training future teachers and fostering leadership amongst rising choreographers.



Leslie Johnson extensively studied ballet, jazz, contemporary, hip hop, modern, tap, and musical theater starting at a young age in Auburn, California. She's had the opportunity to teach/choreograph at dance studios, high schools, and colleges in the bay area winning top awards and honors with her choreography including an invitation to the 2012 American College Dance Festival Gala Performance. Upon moving to Santa Cruz, Johnson founded Flex Dance Company in 2008 and has produced multiple full length performances as well as performed/ choreographed work for multiple benefits, emerging artists showcases, festivals, music videos, and community shows, also including and international tour in 2012. In 2010 Johnson was the Artist in Residence at The 418 Project. She danced for Tawnya Kuzia in RUGGED at its inception, toured with Cid Pearlman's Touring Project, and performed with Dietzman and Co. Leslie has taught at Pamelot School of Dance, Motion Pacific, and was also the Artistic Director at Santa Cruz Dance Company where she directed a pre-professional teen company. In 2012, Johnson, along with David Bortnick and Mireya Nunez opened Pacific Arts Complex, later joined by co-owner Tisha Nusbaum. PAC has become such a special home and the best dance family she could ever ask for.

# Class Descriptions

## LYRICAL/CONTEMPORARY

Contemporary/Lyrical is a style of dance that uses the emotion and mood of the music to elicit movements from the dancers. Students have a warm up focusing in core strength, flexibility, and movement of the back. The class includes floor work, progressions, and center combinations.



## JAZZ

Jazz class will focus on learning proper dance technique such as isolations of the body, improving performance quality and developing complex rhythms and patterns. Students will be exposed to various styles of jazz such as Broadway, Street and Contemporary to help develop a well rounded dancer. Class curriculum is based on ballet technique layered with traditional jazz movement and includes a proper warm-up, stretches, isolations, across-the-floor progressions, and combinations.

## BALLET

Ballet classes are offered from a beginner level to advanced. Students are taught proper body placement, body alignment, barre and center floor work, along with across the floor combinations. Beginner classes introduce vocabulary, proper alignment, and classical ballet technique. Advanced classes include adagio and allegro work, and combinations using balance, strength, and style. In addition Pointe is offered. All students are urged to study ballet, as it is the foundation of all other dance styles and facilitates further success in these disciplines.

## HIP HOP

Hip hop is a high-energy class that infuses the latest styles of choreography, breaking, popping, and locking. Classes will encourage students to step outside of the box by bringing their own individual style and personality to the movements. This class will cover the basics of what we call the foundation of hip hop as well as learning new and exciting dance trends



## TAP

Our tap program is grounded in both traditional classical tap technique as well as hoofing (a rhythmic style focusing on complex polyrhythms and improvisation). Students will learn about the rich history of all styles of tap while developing coordination, stamina, music theory and more!



## ACRO

Acro, short for acrobatics, is similar to a gymnastics or tumbling class. Our experienced acro instructor will guide the class towards increased flexibility, balance, strength, muscle control, discipline and concentration. This class will focus on fundamental acrobatic technique, teaching such skills as handstands, chin stands, elbow stands, cartwheels, back bends, walkovers, balance and contortion tricks, all each student's individual level of experience.

# Fees & Tuition

## Registration

We have a once per season registration fee of \$30 per dancer due at time of registration.



## How Tuition Works

Our monthly tuition is based on how many hours a week you sign up for. All accounts are on autopay and fees are run on the 1st of each month. Any dancers also on teams will have other team associated fees as well. A credit card is required to be on file while enrolled at PAC, if alternative methods of payment are preferable cash and check payments must be made before the 1st of the month in order to avoid your card being charged.



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Our price structure is based on a maximum class size that may have to be significantly reduced due to social distance policies. An updated pricing structure will be released and all families will be notified before payments are processed.

# CLASS PRICES

HOURS PER WEEK	.75	1	1.5	2	2.5	3	3.5	4	4.5	5	5.5	6	6.5	7	7.5	Unlimited	*Platinum
COST PER MONTH	60	65	85	120	140	155	175	200	220	235	245	255	265	275	285	300	400

## Sibling Discount

We offer a 30% discount to any additional siblings taking classes at PAC. The sibling max for families with multiple kids on teams has been discontinued.

## \*NEW PLATINUM PACKAGE!

- Access to CLI Courses
- Access to all PAC online Canvas Courses
- Priority registration
- Monthly feedback cards from your teachers
- VIP Tickets to Recital

# Our Staff



We are so lucky to have such a large group of committed and amazing staff members. Our staff is comprised of over 20 teachers, 3 office staff and dozens of subs and assistant teachers. Many of our staff members are alumni of our program creating a multi-generational diverse group of creative and inspired teachers.



# Teams and Crews

## Competition and Performance Teams

Our 100+ team members are split between a variety of different levels and ages. Our performance teams perform locally and train between 3-10 hours a week. Our production team members start to enter the competition world as well as performing at local events. Our full Comp Teams do between 4 regional competitions a year as well as a convention and bi annual trips to nationals. Our dancers and choreographers have won countless awards on a regional and national level and often spend as much as 20 hours per week in classes and rehearsals.



## Hip Hop Crews

We have 5 hip hop crews based on age, ability and commitment level. Crews will also do multiple local performances, attend Monster's Dance Convention and possibly do a 2nd competition TBD. Each team/crew requires a specific minimum number of classes (increasing with age) and mandatory weekly practices.





Solos, Duos, and Trios are extra options available to all Teams and Crews. Applicable competition entry fees and practice times/rates are in addition to regular team practices and expenses. After teams are announced, please contact the teacher/choreographer of your choice to make arrangements.

Team/Crew Options	Performing	Production	Competition	Hip Hop Crews
Age 4+	●	●		
Age 7+	●	●		●
Age 9+	●	●	●	●
Multiple Local Performances	●	●		●
Carrie's Dream Scholarship Showcase	●	●	●	●
National Competition Every Other Year			●	
Required Minimum Hrs 3-4 per week	●			
Required Minimum Hrs 3-6 per week		●		●
Required Minimum Hrs 5-9 per week			●	
Occasional Weekend Practices			●	●



If you have any additional questions please email us at [pacificartscomplex@gmail.com](mailto:pacificartscomplex@gmail.com)