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| “...an excellent instructor… outstanding ability to reach children of different age levels with her appealing enthusiasm of dance…creative in her teaching strategies…personable, dependable and totally committed to her teaching…an asset to any program...”  Caroline Rademacher Principal, Loretto Elementary School  “...provided superior dance instruction and made the dance classes such a positive experience…her well planned lessons, soft spoken approach and patience have turned many children into excited little ballerinas…an outstanding human being…a tremendous asset to any program...”  Cynthia GilmoreAssistant Principal for Com. Ed. Mandarin Oaks Elementary  “You have been such a beautiful role model for our daughter. She loved every second of dancing this year!...you have played a positive part in her development and we thank you…”  Dance Parent Comments  “Miss Kathy, You have given me the happiest memories. I can’t even put into words how you have helped all of us. I hope you teach dance to kids for years to come.”  Former Dance Student  “I believe the dance educator’s role is far more than teaching ‘steps’…  it’s about instilling self-esteem,  confidence, and life lessons that  will influence the students to be  successful adults, whether or not they continue to dance. ”  Kathy Ramirez | About Myself… I consider it an honor and privilege to be able to instill my love and passion for dance to students of all ages.   * I’ve accumulated over 38 years of teaching experience, particularly with Preschool Age students and Ballet Students as well as all aspects of dance instruction including building curriculums, choreography, costuming, scenery design and creation, stage direction, studio management and accounts, parent interaction, program design and dance photography. * I am dedicated to enthusiastic and positive teaching as a means of creating and nurturing a lifelong love of dance as well as ‘life-skills’ in children. * I pride myself on being professional, mature and dependable.  Teaching, Directing, Studio Management Experience KatDance, formerly ArtistikVision Performing Troupe –1992-Present - Jacksonville, Fl.  Founding Director, Choreographer, Producer of dance/theater company. Taught ballet, pointe , jazz, tap, preschool movement, tumbling and acrobatic skills, anatomy for dancers, musical theater classes, along with the assistance of my husband, Phil Ramirez (professional actor, musician, photographer), Stage Direction, Set Design and Construction, Costume Design, Music Editing, Program Design, Dance Photography. Annual theater productions - affiliations with Mandarin High School, Mandarin Middle School and Mandarin Oaks Elementary School, Bolles School, Ponte Vedra High School. Outreach performance experience at Jax Landing-National Dance Week, World of Nations Celebration- Metropolitan Park and local Elementary Schools and nursing homes.  Mazza Smith Studio of Performing Arts, Inc. 1992-2016 - Jacksonville, Fl.  Independent Contractor, Studio Ballet, Pointe, Jazz, Tap, Preschool, Theater classes (all levels) and satellite child care center locations throughout the Jax area, including but not limited to:   * Bank of America and CitiBank Bright Horizons Child Care Centers * Childtime Child Care Center, Mandarin 1993-2005 * Kindercare Learning Center, Mandarin, 1992-2002   Choreography, costuming, organizing for annual recitals held at Times-Union Center.  Loretto Elementary School 1998-2007 / Mandarin Oaks Elementary School 1995-2002  Duval County Schools, Community Education Program  Developed dance curriculum and taught Ballet, Jazz, Tap, Preschool Classes, Initiated and conducted ‘Parent Days’ every 6-8 weeks including parent participation, student demonstration and performance  Mark Spivak’s Dance Institute 1995-1998 Jacksonville, Fl.  Ballet and Preschool Classes, choreography for annual recital held at Florida Theater  Anne Marie Bouygues Studio of Dance 1995-1996 Jacksonville, Fl.  Preschool Ballet Classes  Marta Jackson School of Dance 1991 Orange Park, Fl.  Ballet, Tap, Jazz and Preschool Classes, Office Management, Parent Liaison  Nice School of Dance 1980-1990 Orange Park, Fl.  Ballet, Tap, Jazz and Preschool Classes, choreography for annual recital held at Times Union Center. Studio Management of over 400 students including accounts, costume ordering, student registration. Lisa Nice was my dance teaching mentor. Dance Education / Training / ExperienceOngoing Professional Teacher Training I continue to expand my teaching abilities by regularly attending some of the finest dance teacher seminars in the country, in an effort to offer educational, fun and inspiring dance classes. Example of seminars attended:   * **Musicworks Teacher Convention**, Los Angeles, CA * **Bella Ballerina Preschool Online Conference** * **Rhee Gold Project Motivate**, Orlando, Fl. and **DanceLife Retreat Center**, MA * **Dance Teacher Summer Conference**, New York, NY * **LA Dance Force Convention**, Daytona Beach, Fl. * **Kiddance Teacher Seminar** – Sarasota, Fl. * **Dance Maker’s Convention** – Daytona Beach, Fl. * **Access Broadway Convention** – Jacksonville, Fl.   Some of the inspiring teachers I have been influenced by: Frank Hatchett,  Janice Barringer, Jo Rowan, Darryl and Becca Retter, Al Gilbert, Joan Lather, Rhee  Gold, Finus Jhung, Deborah Vogel, Bob Rizzo, David Howard, Cathy Roe, Ron  DeVito, Scott Benson, Melissa Hayden, Nancy Myers-Gitlin Dance Training & Performing Experience  * Continued Performing Opportunities - at various dance recitals and productions thoughout the past 25 years! * Florida Ballet at Jacksonville **1984-1986**  Laurie & Michael Byrd, Directors – Performed Les Patineurs, Taming of the Shrew, Nutcracker, Beauty and the Beast and trained in summer programs, took company classes * Ballet Repertory of Jacksonville 1979-1981 Betty Swenson, Director - Professional Touring Company Member, performed Jewel Fairies from ‘Sleeping Beauty’, Little Swans from ‘Swan Lake’, Spanish from ‘Nutcracker’ in addition to original works. Additional instruction with Donna Freyberg, Jean Bedells (Royal Academy of England), Rebecca Wright (American Ballet Theater) * Jacksonville Lyric Theater/Starlight Symphonette 1981-1987 – Carter Nice, Director, performed at annual summer Pops concerts at Times Union Center with Symphonette Orchestra and The Merry Widow Opera * First Coast Nutcracker Productions –Waltz of the Flowers, Snowflakes, Spanish Variation * Nice School of Dance 1978-1990 - Lisa Nice-Longworth, Director, danced in annual recitals plus tons of community performing! * Jacksonville Ballet Theater Dulce Anaya, Director * Ballet Guild Mervyn Rickard, Director * Orange Park School of Dance 1975-1978 Trudy Sigman, Director – 1975 Touring Program, 28 performances seen by over 11,000 people!  My Hobbies and Interests Bible Study and Teaching, Scrapbooking, Photography, Music, Cruising and Islands! |