

RIFF DALLAS

*presents*

# TAPN2TAP - A Tribute to Tap Dance



## Live Tap Concert!

BRINGING THE BEST OF TAP DANCING TO THE FEET OF DALLAS

Eisemann Center  
Hill Performance Hall  
January 14, 2024

Presented by:



RIFF Dallas is celebrating 10 years of tap festivals this year!

THE EISEMANN CENTER HILL PERFORMANCE HALL

PRODUCED BY

RIFF DALLAS, LLC

# TAPN2TAP

## A TRIBUTE TO TAP DANCE

DIRECTED BY: MALANA MURPHY, REBECCA CANNADAY  
STAGE MANAGER & LIGHTING DESIGNER: NICK GOMEZ

FEATURING

IAN BERG  
ELIZABETH BURKE  
REBECCA CANNADAY  
HEATHER CORNELL  
ERIC DECAMINADA  
DERICK GRANT  
LUKE HICKEY  
LISA LATOUCHE  
ANTHONY MORIGERATO  
SARAH REICH  
CHARLES RENATO  
ENRIQUE ROSARIO  
MADELINE ROSE

AND SPECIAL GUESTS  
SCHOOL OF JACOB'S PILLOW ALUMNI 2023

PRESENTING YOUTH ENSEMBLES  
JAM YOUTH PROJECT  
LEAP TAP ENSEMBLE  
MARY NO & CO  
PORTLAND YOUTH TAP COMPANY  
RHYTHMICLE SOUND  
THE TAP CITY ENSEMBLE  
from American Tap Dance Foundation

MUSIC by RIFF JAZZ BAND  
JONATHAN FISHER    ANDREW GRIFFITH    PETER RIOUX

# ACT ONE

## ENSEMBLES

*Introduction by Malana Murphy and the RIFF Jazz Band*

YOUR HOST: Malana Murphy

### ELIZABETH BURKE RESIDENCY

Title: Corner Pocket

Music: RIFF Dallas Jazz Band

Choreography: Elizabeth Burke

Dancers: Lucy Becker, Emma Breaux, Kaylen Caporaletti, Audrey Chapin, Allie Foster, Ella George, Isabell Jackson, Shivali Kiehler, Grey Mar, Mia Miranda, Zhang Rongchuan, Talya Ziya

### PORTLAND YOUTH TAP COMPANY - Artistic Director - Kelsey Leonard

Title: Laura

Choreography: Buster Brown passed down by Kelsey Leonard

Dancers: Charlotte Boyd, Lucy Cowan, Giselle Ditchfield, Charlie Fei, Aubrey Franck, Sienna Lai

### LEAP TAP ENSEMBLE - Artistic Director - Matt Shields

Title: Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea

Music: Dianna Krall

Choreography: Matt Shields

Dancers: Alana Villasmil, Samantha Whitaker, Brynley Mitchell

### THE TAP CITY ENSEMBLE from American Tap Dance Foundation - Artistic Director: Susan Hebach

Title: Asturias

Music: Isaac Albeniz

Choreography: Guillem Alonso & Roser Font passed down by Emma Butensky

Dancers: Anoushka Jhaveri, Poppy Lee-Slovin, Marly McGrath, Jeanne-Marie Rigopoulos, Arden Sehgal, Kyleigh Vickers

### MADLINE ROSE RESIDENCY

Title: Dat Dere

Choreography: Maddie Murphy

Dancers: Bailey Bar-Am, Alexis Benford, Matthew Conway, Lucy Cowan, Kenzie Dziedzic, Bella Fiddler, Aubrey Franck, Emma Gallardo, Alivia Glasco, Chelsea Jang, Julia Jarmon, Olivia Klinck, Kynlie Moore, Emma Mugati, Dylan Murphy, Fin O'Neill, Sabrina Patel, Ashlyn Weber, Samantha Whitaker, Alana Villasmil



RHYTHMICLE SOUND - Artistic Director - Torie Gray

Title: The "In" Crowd

Choreography: Sterling Harris

Dancers: Torie Gray, Maddy Maly, Cara Plants, Tori Shaner, Alexcia Shannon, Aly Wahler

JAM YOUTH PROJECT - WASHINGTON, DC - Artistic Directors: Mark Orsborn and Jen Ray

Song: California Dreamin

Artist: Bobby Womack

Choreography: Mark Orsborn

Dancers: Naomi Campbell, Kaylen Caporaletti, Emiko Diro, Ella George, Jacqueline Gold, Becca Karon, Mya Medlin

JACOB'S PILLOW 2023 ALUMNI - Directed by: Sterling Harris

Title: The Dance

Choreography: Sterling Harris and dancers

Dancers: Andrew Carr, Michael Dascomb, Owen Mar, Shreyas Rai, Dylan Szuch

MARY NO & CO - Artistic Director - Mary No

Song: We Are Family

Artist: Sister Sledge

Choreography: Mary No

Dancers: Angelina Artale, Julianna Artale, Sutton Fox, Tessa Fox, Rylee Fox, Avery Gallo, Giada Garaffa, Cayleigh Heffernan, Victoria Kempf, Isabella Kempf, Julia Mable, Lily Malbin Nancy Marrabello, Chiara Mirante, Machenzie Nepola, Neela Patel, Sonja Patel, Serena Salogiannis, Chloe Salogiannis, Ami Sofocleous

DERICK GRANT RESIDENCY

Music: Well You Needn't

Artist: Thelonious Monk

Choreography: Derick Grant

Dancers: Mia Ansel, Sofia Beers, Wyatt Beers, Marie Chouinard, Casey Coker, Riley Cooke, Michael Dascomb, Giselle Ditchfield, Charlie Fei, Rory Foranoce, Naomi Ivery, Jordan Lassiter, Mia Leon, Sadie Loless, Xyla Maddox, Nancy Marrabello, Jillian Petruccelli, Cara Plants, Amy Rubin, Miles Schmidt, Tori Shaner, Alexcia Shannon, Allie Stewart, Danny Sullivan, Austin Tredemeyer

RIFF DALLAS JAZZ BAND

Upright Bass: Jonathan Fisher

Keys: Peter Rioux

Drums: Andrew Griffith

*Intermission*

ACT TWO

*The Professional Side of Things*

CHARLES RENATO

*with REBECCA CANNADAY AND ERIC DECAMINADA*

HEATHER CORNELL

LISA LATOUCHE

ERIC DECAMINADA & REBECCA CANNADAY

IAN BERG

MADELINE ROSE, ENRIQUE ROSARIO, STERLING HARRIS,  
ASHTON CARTER, CASE PRIME, DYLAN SZUCH

ELIZABETH BURKE & LUKE HICKEY

ANTHONY MORIGERATO

SARAH REICH & MATT SHIELDS

DERICK K GRANT

FINALE *and* JAM SEND OFF

*Your RIFF Cast:*

DYLAN SZUCH, CASE PRIME, STERLING HARRIS, ASHTON CARTER, ERIC DECAMINADA,  
REBECCA CANNADAY, ENRIQUE ROSARIO, MADELINE ROSE, CHARLES RENATO,  
LUKE HICKEY, ELIZABETH BURKE, IAN BERG, SARAH REICH,  
LISA LATOUCHE, ANTHONY MORIGERATO, HEATHER CORNELL, *and* DERICK K GRANT

*RIFF Interns*

*Dylan Szuch & Audrey Chapin*

*RIFF Jazz Band*

JONATHON FISHER, ANDREW GRIFFITH, PETER RIOUX

**IAN BERG - BOSTON, MA**

Ian Berg is a Boston-based tap dancer originally from Chicago, Illinois with training and performance experience in tap dance, ballet, modern dance, jazz, and contact improvisation. In high school, Ian trained at the Joffrey Academy in Chicago while also dancing with renowned Chicago based tap company MADD Rhythms. Ian is also an alumnus of The School at Jacob's Pillow and the Boston Conservatory with a BFA in Contemporary Dance Performance. Ian is a current student of master tap dancer Dianne Walker, teacher of the Leon Collins Repertoire.

Ian is currently an affiliate professor at Emerson College as well as a guest lecturer at Tufts University teaching tap dance practice and history. He has received recognition as a choreographer from The Yard where he was named a 2019 Bessie Schonberg Fellow, The Boston Foundation where he was named a 2019 Next Steps Awardee and The Massachusetts Cultural Council who named him a 2020 Choreography Fellow. He also works as choreographer and dancer with tap dance company Subject:Matter.

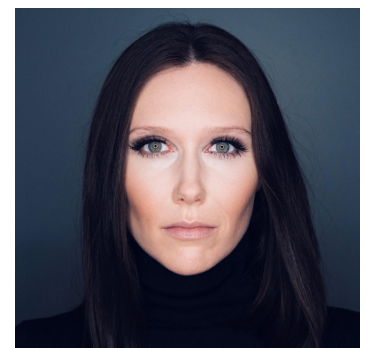
**CHRISTOPHER BROUGHTON - AUSTIN, TX**

Born and raised in Los Angeles, CA, Christopher Broughton began dancing at the age of 12 and never looked back. Under the instruction of Paul and Arlene Kennedy at Universal Dance, he immediately became a member of the Kennedy Tap company, world renowned and responsible for tap greats such as Derick Grant and Dormeshia Sumbry-Edwards, the latter of which he had the pleasure of performing as cast mates in his first Tony, Astaire and Drama Desk Award winning Broadway show *After Midnight*. Broughton's dancing has also led to National recognition with the NAACP ACT-SO Award not once, but twice. As an instructor, performer and choreographer, his art has taken him everywhere from St. Louis and Washington D.C. to Brazil, Finland, Cuba, Italy, Germany and beyond.

In 2007, hardship struck Broughton's life when he spent over a year recovering from a major injury to his left leg. He has very much since returned and is at the peak of his game. Since his triumph, Broughton has performed and toured the world with greats such as Jason Samuels Smith, R&B singer MYA, Ted Levy and Chloe Arnold to name a few. Company work has included national and international tours with Dorrance Dance, including Bessie Award winning work *The Blues Project* co-created/choreographed by Michelle Dorrance, Dormeshia Sumbry-Edwards, Derick K. Grant, and Toshi Reagon. He has also performed as a featured dancer on the 25th Anniversary International tour of *Riverdance*; a critically acclaimed run of the Signature Theatre's revival of *Jelly's Last Jam* featuring choreography by Jared Grimes; *Magic of The Dance*; *Rasta Thomas' Tap Stars*; *The Cotton Club Parade* at NY City Center; and the national tribute tour of *Thank You Gregory!*. Christopher's athletic choreography, courage and charisma are in the highest demand and he continues to learn and grow his art. Christopher Broughton owes his sincerest gratitude to his sister Chantel Heath, who introduced him to the world of dance, Tonie Nicholas, son of the legendary Fayard Nicholas, and Paul and Arlene Kennedy; without whom, he wouldn't be where he is today.

**ELIZABETH BURKE - NEW YORK**

Elizabeth Burke (@elizabethrburke) is a "sinuous and sizzling (IndyWeek)" and "deft and impassioned (The New York Times)" tap dancer originally from Chapel Hill, North Carolina, who now works out of Brooklyn, New York, primarily as the Co-Dance Captain of 2015 MacArthur Fellow Michelle Dorrance's acclaimed company, Dorrance Dance. Burke has been with Dorrance Dance since 2010, and prior to that, spent 11 years under the tutelage of her mentor, Gene Medler, in the North Carolina Youth Tap Ensemble (NCYTE). She holds a BA in Political Science and a BA in Communication Arts from Marymount Manhattan College and is an alumna of The School at Jacob's Pillow. Aside from her current work with Dorrance Dance, Elizabeth pursues her own choreographic work, and various artistic collaborations with fellow tap dancer and artist Luke Hickey.



## REBECCA CANNADAY - NEW YORK

Rebecca Cannaday is currently in three Professional Tap companies that are based out of Manhattan and travel around the country for various performances including CHRProject directed by Charles Renato where she is Dance Captain, ProjectConvergence directed by Vikas Arun and Apoorva Natarajan, and #Taplife directed by Anthony LoCascio where she is also Dance Captain and Choreographer for the company. Some of her most memorable performances have been for BuzzFeed, Spotify, JetBlue, Chicago Human Rhythm Project's "JUBA" in "Virtuoso" choreographed and directed by Charles Renato, the Battery Park Dance Festival, the American Tap Dance Foundation's "Rhythm in Motion" where she has danced for numerous tap dance legends including the late Broadway star Dexter Jones, "In the Groove" choreographed and directed by Dormeshia Sumbry, TAPN2TAP at RIFF Dallas, and "Gotta Dance" at the Ted Shawn Theatre at Jacob's Pillow after attending the Professional School Program for Tap Dance under the close direction of Michelle Dorrance and Dormeshia Sumbry. She was 1 of 25 dancers in the world chosen to attend the Jacob's Pillow Tap Program in 2019.



## HEATHER CORNELL - NEW HAMPSHIRE

Heather Cornell continues to perform, mentor and collaborate with dancers and musicians around the world. She has spent the past 40 years touring — with her company Manhattan Tap (1985–2004), with other rhythm tap companies and shows, and with her solo and group projects. She was commissioned to create the first dance show for the London Jazz Festival in London, England. She was Dance Director for "Three Penny Opera" at Atalaya Theatre in Spain, and choreographed the Broadway play "The Play What I Wrote." She continues to be invited to festivals around the world where she teaches and performs.

Heather Cornell mentors musicians and dancers internationally. Currently she is mentoring a Ph.D. research candidate in dance and dramaturgy at De Montfort University in Leicester, UK, and a masters student in music at York University, Toronto, Canada.

Heather was mentored by a number of the first generation of tap masters who graced the vaudeville stage. She gives credit for her long career to the inspiration of their oral history and traditions that were passed on to her with such life and passion. She was also mentored by the iconic bassist Ray Brown and they collaborated on original music for tap over a number of years. Her own passion is to teach artists to be bilingual in the languages of music and dance.



## ERIC DECAMINADA - NEW YORK

Eric was born and raised in New York, began dancing at the age of 5 at his hometown studio, The Pulse Performing Arts Studio. Throughout his years of training, he was able to work with and perform choreography by some of the best in the business, including Derick K. Grant, Jason Janas, Sarah Reich, and many others. He is currently working as a Professional Tap Dancer based out of NYC where he is a part of CHR Project (directed by Charles Renato) and Project Convergence (directed by Vikas Arun and Apoorva Nataraja) as a company member. Most recently, he has been working alongside his longtime mentor and friend, Dexter Jones, as an assistant and dance captain while workshoping new choreography. Eric's performance credits include "Tap Family Reunion" (directed by Dormeshia Sumbry, Derick K. Grant, and Jason Samuel Smith), "Gotta Dance" (directed by Michelle Dorrance and Dormeshia Sumbry), "Tap Kids" (directed Lisa Hopkins), and he has performed in a variety of locations such as Dizzy's Jazz Club at Lincoln Center, the Rainbow Room at Rockefeller Center, and the Ted Shawn Theater at Jacob's Pillow. Eric is also currently working as a teacher and choreographer at numerous dance studios around the tristate area.





## DERICK GRANT - BOSTON, MA

Derick K. Grant (Performer, Choreographer, Director) has an established career that spans over three decades. Under the direction of two time Tony Award winning director George C. Wolfe, he was an original company member and Dance Captain for Bring In 'Da Noise, Bring In 'Da Funk at both The Public Theater and on Broadway and also starred in the role of 'da beat for the first National Tour of Bring In 'Da Noise, Bring In 'Da Funk. He created the critically acclaimed show Imagine Tap! and was appointed as the Co-Artistic Director of Chicago Human Rhythm Project's Rhythm World Summer Festival.

Mr. Grant was the recipient of the Princess Grace Award for Upcoming Young Artist, The Helen Hayes Award (Washington D.C.) for Outstanding Featured Actor as well as two additional for his role in Bring In 'Da Noise, Bring In 'Da Funk. Mr. Grant also received two Los Angeles Ovation Awards for choreography and for best Ensemble performance in Noise/Funk, and was most recently recognized for Best Choreography for Imagine Tap! He was also nominated for the Lester Horton Dance Award for Best Male Performance from the Dance Resource Center of Los Angeles. Choreography and performance credits include The Apollo Theatre's Get On The Good Foot (James Brown Tribute) local and national tour; The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts' AFRICAN ODYSSEY program (EXPRESIONES LATINAS Festival); Opening number for Daniela Mercury with Brazilian artist Nego Gato; The Aaron Davis Hall Black History Month Celebration; The Queens Symphony Opera's DUKE ELLINGTON CONCERT, Ann Arbor's ARTS FESTIVAL; The Embassy in Portugal; THE CONNECTICUT BALLET COMPANY's celebration of MEN IN DANCE with Brett Raphael; and as a special guest artist with The Jazz Tap Ensemble. Mr. Grant's own production of the history of tap, A NIGHT OUT: TAP! toured the country successfully for three months. Mr. Grant also joined Mr. in Yonkers, NY, Vermont and Boston. He also appeared with violinist Sa-Idah for a tribute commemorating The Colonial African Heritage's African Burial Ground Reinterment produced by the Schomburg Center. In an effort to celebrate, nurture and cultivate the future of the art form of tap, Mr. Grant continues to teach locally as a faculty member at Steps On Broadway and at venues worldwide, offering group and private instruction as well as lecture demonstrations. He is currently the national tap spokesperson for So Danca.



## LUKE HICKEY - NEW YORK

Luke Hickey is a NYC based tap dance artist and choreographer, named by Dance Magazine among '25 To Watch' in 2020. Hickey credits his knowledge and achievements to the incomparable brilliance of his mentor, JUBA Award recipient Gene Medler (North Carolina Youth Tap Ensemble). His choreography has been presented by Jacob's Pillow, Birdland Jazz Club and the Chelsea Factory, to name a few. Luke is honored to be a company member of Michelle Dorrance's Dorrance Dance.



## LISA LATOUCHE - NEW YORK

As a proud Canadian and New Yorker, Lisa's credits are world renowned. She was an original cast member in Broadway's Shuffle Along, choreographed by Savion Glover and Directed by George C. Wolfe, where she received both the Fred Astaire Award and the Actor's Equity Award for Outstanding Broadway Chorus. Her TV credits include the 70th Annual Tony Awards and Amazon's Original "Z, The beginning of everything". Previous highlights have also included touring with the Savion Glover production, Stepz, and also performing with both New York's Off-Broadway and the North American touring casts of STOMP. Since 2010 she has run her own performance company Tap Phonics and has been commissioned to present for such organizations such as The Brooklyn Museum, 92Y, Gibney Dance and Fall For Dance North. As an educator and Professor she has taught for PACE University, NYU, The School of Jacob's Pillow, University of Calgary, Decidedly Jazz Danceworks, Rosie's Theater Kids and member of the creative council for the American Tap Dance Foundation. Her most recent endeavor has been writing and directing her debut film TRAX encompassing her journey back to Alberta while discovering important local black history. Above all, her proudest achievement greatest inspiration, is the gift of being a mom.



## ANTHONY MORIGERATO - NEW YORK

Anthony is a tap dancer, producer, director, content creator, writer, and Emmy nominated choreographer. Anthony is the executive producer and artistic director for AM Dance Productions. AM Dance Productions, short films include *The Text* (2015), *The Subtext* (2018), and the award winning *When Snow Falls* (2020). AM Dance Productions live theatrical shows include *AM Dance Project* (2006-2008), *Matt and Anthony* (2009), *flood (in the dark corner)* (2017), *flood (redux)* (2020), and *Alternate Spaces* (2021). In 2014, Anthony founded and is currently the co-director and managing partner of *Operation: Tap*, an online forum that is dedicated to immersing tap dancing into the public's consciousness. In 2019, Anthony created *CODA*, *Break The Floor's* online dance competition scoring system that provides dancers with genre specific score sheets, homework video content to improve their performance, and data analytics. Anthony worked as a tap dance teacher, performer, and adjudicator for *NUVO Dance Convention* from 2010-2020. As a performer, Anthony was a soloist and member of *Michael Minery's Tapaholics* (2002-2012), a soloist and associate choreographer for *Stacey Tookey's Still Motion*, and a soloist for various tap dance festivals, benefits, industrials, seminars, and performances since 1999. He has appeared as a choreographer and/or a performer on television shows including *The Tony Danza Show* (2005), *America's Got Talent* (2009), *The Arsenio Hall Show* (2013), *So You Think You Can Dance* (2013-2018- Emmy Nomination 2016). Anthony holds the world record for "most tap sounds in one minute" having made 1,163 sounds. Anthony is an accomplished dancer in multiple disciplines, having trained at *Marymount Manhattan College*, where he performed the works of *Robert Battle*, *Elizabeth Higgins*, *Jiri Kylian*, *David Parsons*, *Katie Langan* and *William Soleu*. He has recently done choreographic residencies at *Marymount Manhattan College* (2014, 2016, and 2019), *Pace University* (2019), and is an artist in residence at the *American Tap Dance Foundation* (2020). Most recently Anthony performed and had choreography featured in *Ayodele Casel: Chasing Magic* (2021), presented by the *Joyce Theater* in NYC. Anthony continues to travel as a teacher and choreographer for dance organizations, festivals, competitions, theater schools, and dance studios all over the world.



## SARAH REICH - LOS ANGELES, CA

(Performer, Choreographer, Instructor, Composer) Sarah has emerged as one of the new leaders in the Art Form of Tap Dance. This Los Angeles native has been sought after to perform, choreograph, and teach in over 40 countries. "I want to continue to bring tap into mass media with great respect and quality," she says, focusing on "reprogramming the minds of the general public on their perception of tap dance." (Dance Magazine 2017) Sarah has become one of the art form's pop culture ambassadors, thanks to her appearances in videos with *Scott Bradlee's Postmodern Jukebox*. Her videos with them (A *Star Wars*-themed tribute, "The Tap Awakens," & "Thriller", a *Michael Jackson* cover featuring *Wayne Brady*) have garnered millions of views on YouTube, all receiving rave reviews. She has toured the world with *Postmodern Jukebox* playing prestigious venues such as *Radio City Music Hall*, *Walt Disney Concert Hall* and the *Sydney Opera House* as well as a televised PBS special filmed in Las Vegas. Previously she was seen on *FOX's So You Think You Can Dance* under companies by *Chloe Arnold* and *Jason Samuels Smith*. With her own company, *Tap Music Project*, she has choreographed and performed at the *Ford Amphitheatre*, *UCLA's Jazz Reggae Music Festival*, *Blue Whale jazz club*, and the televised *LA County Holiday Celebration*. Sarah was also a performer at *Madison Square Garden* for the opening of the *NY Knicks 2013-2014* season. She was sought out to perform at *Jazz at the Lincoln Center* for a tribute to *Duke Ellington* in New York City in 2017. In addition to her vast international travels and countless television appearances, Sarah has had the honor to perform at some of the most prestigious venues back home in Los Angeles such as *The Hollywood Bowl*, the *Greek Theater* with *Mexican Pop-Star, Cristian Castro* and the *Dolby Theater* with the great *Herbie Hancock*. With her *Tap Music Project* intensives in various cities, Reich teaches tap dancers how to dance with more musicality, communicate with musicians and write music. Using a live band in class, she instructs students on how to "scat" rhythms or transcribe choreography with rhythm notation, among other skills. Sarah is developing new, and exciting works with her company *Tap Music Productions*, including her debut *Tap Jazz Album* titled *New Change*. This album is originally produced, composed from percussive tap rhythms, and performed by a great selection of musicians to create a unique sound. She hopes this is just the beginning: "I want to be the first tap dancer to win a Grammy Award!"





## CHARLES RENATO - VIRGINIA

Charles Renato was born and raised in São Paulo, Brazil. He began tap-dancing at the age of 6 mentored by his teacher Adriana Brunato. Charles has won several renowned awards throughout his career including Best Dancer of the Festidança, Joinville Dance Festival and also the winner of the "Tap in Rio Challenge" in 2007. On TV, he won the network TV Globo Challenge Show in 2009 and 2010. Renato was a member of the "KS Tap Company," directed by Kika Sampaio, which is responsible for bringing together the most sought after teachers of the nation. In 2010 he launched his international career joining the cast of the musical "Sinatra – Blue Eyes." in Lisbon, Portugal. After that Mr. Renato was invited to represent Brazil at the Rhythm World in Chicago. Ever since, Renato has been sought after to perform, choreograph, and teach in over many cities in the United States.

In 2018 Mr. Renato is going to perform in Mexico and United Kingdom. Charles started teaching when he was 14 years old and has since traveled throughout the world performing countless workshops and classes. Renato has taught in over 40 cities in Brazil and US including São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, New York, Los Angeles and Chicago. Charles' ever-ascending career has also led him to teach at the most tap festivals in America such as DC Tap Fest, NY Tap City, LA Tap Festival, RIFF, North Carolina Tap Festival, Portland Tap Alliance and many others. Since he moved to New York he has directing the Metropolitan Youth Tap Ensemble (MYTE), teaching at Steps On Broadway and he is on faculty at Broadway Dance Center. Renato has choreographed for the famous samba school Águia de Ouro Samba school, where he was responsible for the carnival float titled "The Biggest Festivals," which hosted some of the most distinguished performers in Brazilian music such as Caetano Veloso, Gilberto Gil, Rita Lee, Cauby Peixoto, and Angela Maria. In 2013, he was also invited to choreograph the hit TV show Chiquititas. In 2013 he was asked to choreograph a piece for the Chicago Human Rhythm Project Festival featuring students from all over the world. He directed the video "I'm not afraid" for Chloe Arnold's Apartment 33 which lead him to work with video production and editing. This season Charles was invited to be Artist Residence at American Tap Dance Foundation directed by Tony Waag. He is also launching in 2018 the CHR Project, a collaboration with young NYC tap talents which will be premiered at Rhythm in Motion in July/2018.



## ENRIQUE ROSARIO - NORTH CAROLINA

Born and raised in North Carolina, Enrique trained under Emily Shoemaker who herself was mentored by Gene Medler. Enrique began his performance career early with appearances at the Tap Kids show in Virginia, TAPN2TAP concert in Dallas, and the 70th Annual Emmy's Governors Ball in L.A. which honored Kenny Ortega. An alumni of Jacob's Pillow 2019, Enrique performed under the direction of Michelle Dorrance and Dormeshia Sumbry. That same year, he performed in a three-week run of The Nutcracker at The Joyce directed by Michelle Dorrance, Josette Wiggan, and Hannah Heller, and performed with Sarah Reich in Sarah Reich Live. Enrique has had an opportunity to showcase his choreography at the TAPN2TAP Concert in Dallas in 2016 AND 2021, Tap Kids in 2017, the Woodshed Experience in 2020, and a live streamed event titled "A Night with Ella" in 2021. Enrique's choreography received acclaim as a winner in the National Young Arts program. Enrique began teaching when he was 16 years old and currently is the head of the tap department at InMotion Dance Center in North Carolina. He has had the opportunity to teach at tap festivals such as RIFF Dallas and the Orange County Tap Festival. Enrique also travels and assists Sarah Reich in multiple festivals, conventions and her Tap Music Project.



## MADELINE ROSE - NEW YORK

Madeline grew up in Dallas, Texas and is a graduate of Pace University studying commercial dance. Summer of 2021, she worked with the tap company, Dorrance Dance, performing new works at Jacob's Pillow and Queens Theatre. Madeline made her Joyce Theater debut in The Nutcracker Suite with Dorrance Dance back in December 2019. Her credits include Jacob's Pillow 2019 tap program, Little Island Performance with Max Pollak, and working closely with Michelle Dorrance, Derick K. Grant, and Josette Wiggan. She grew up training in multiple styles of dance beginning at the age of 2, and was taught tap dance by her very own mother, Malana Murphy. Madeline is a Booker T Washington HSPVA alumni and a 2016 YoungArts finalist. Madeline is also on faculty at the RIFF Dallas tap festival, and the tap summer workshop, Woodshed Experience.



# MEET THE PRODUCER



## MALANA MURPHY - DALLAS, TX

Teacher/Creator/Producer, Malana Murphy has been an educator in the Dallas/Ft Worth area for over 30 years and has received The Tap Legend award from Dance Council of North Texas and Mentorship Award from Syncopate. As a Booker T Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts alumni, she has now come full circle in creating a tap program at the school, while also serving and teaching as the tap director at Next Step Dance in Frisco, attracting students from around the metroplex. In 2014, she saw a void in the Dallas metroplex and began planning and creating the city's first tap festival. Now, 10 years later, she is the creator and producer of RIFF Dallas Tap Festival, where she promises to bring the best of tap dancing

to the feet of Dallas. She accomplishes this by bringing dozens of teachers each year with the purpose and commitment to educating the youth of today. Her goal is to preserve the traditions of the past while challenging the next generation of tap dancers to continue the legacy of this innovative African American art form. In 2018 Malana created the Woodshed Experience which is a mentorship opportunity for select students where the focus is on learning the paths of their mentors, diving into technique and tradition, and finding their own voice as a tap dancer. She is the director of Next Step Tap Project, NSTP, a youth ensemble that focuses on the history, musicality, and improvisation of tap dance. She previously was adjunct faculty at SMU where teaching tap with a focus on technique, musicality, and tap history. Her love for tap dancing has inspired her to share her passion and knowledge with students locally and abroad.

Malana began her dance journey at a local studio under the direction of Sharon Todd Burris. She credits her for igniting a passion for tap dancing and giving her first opportunity of teaching. Malana was also heavily influenced by tap dancer/percussionist Tony Coppola and gives gratitude for his encouragement and for instilling a drive for innovation in the dance. She performed professionally in the DFW metroplex and Kansas City with musical theater shows for large corporations and had the opportunity to dance with The Monkeys, Fabian, Mitch Ryder and the Detroit Wheels, and more.

Malana has the support of her amazing family, husband Kevin, and children Maddie, Mia, and Charlie.

## RIFF DALLAS STAFF



MARY OHMAN



ERIC DECAMINADA



REBECCA CANNADAY



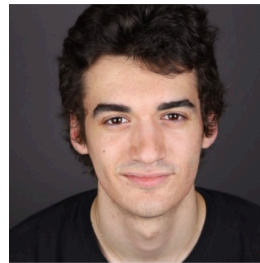
MIA MURPHY  
CHARLIE MURPHY



ASHTON CARTER



STERLING HARRIS

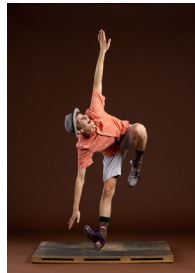


CASE PRIME

JENNIFER CARTER

SHELLY SANTILLAN

## RIFF DALLAS INTERN



DYLAN SZUCH

## RIFF DALLAS JUNIOR INTERN



AUDREY CHAPIN

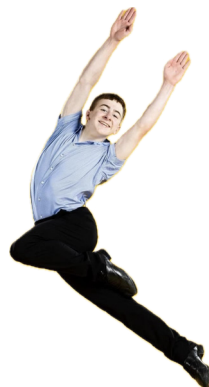
If you know Malana, you know that she is very passionate about supporting the next generation of tap dancers. This year at RIFF Dallas, she is welcoming to the TAPN2TAP Concert stage some of our best next generation tap dancers. Jacob's Pillow is a prestigious program that supports the performing arts under all genres of dance. For our 10th anniversary, we have invited these dancers to attend the festival and perform on our concert stage. Under the direction of **Sterling Harris**, these five young men will blaze across the stage; **Andrew Carr**, **Michael Dascomb**, **Owen Mar**, **Shreyas Rai**, and **Dylan Szuch**.



STERLING HARRIS



ANDREW CARR



MICHAEL DASCOMB



OWEN MAR



SHREYAS RAI



DYLAN SZUCH





*Michelle Stafford, Rita Allen and Russell Spearman opened Next Step Dance in August of 2008. There was no business plan, prospective, or financial proposal, just a desire to create a home for all dancers. Their goal was to provide professional training to both the experienced, talented dancer and to the new, beginner dancer. With this in mind, they have created a state of the art studio ..... a place to call home.*

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# BRIEF

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## FEATURED YOUTH ENSEMBLES

**The JaM Youth Project (JYP)** The JaM Youth Project is a pre-professional dance company based in Washington, D.C. providing young dancers with top quality training, performance, and multimedia opportunities. JYP believes in “JaMily” and the importance of a supportive environment that honors each student holistically and fosters a healthy culture for socio-emotional development in addition to top tier dance training.



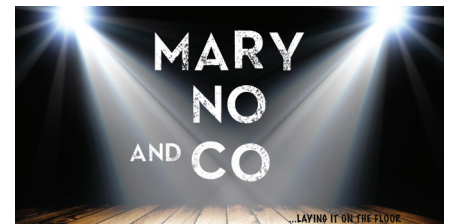
**Leap Tap Ensemble** was established in 2018 under the direction on Matthew Shields and Demi Knight and is based out of Leap Dance Center located in Katy, Tx. Leap Tap Ensemble is dedicated to training well rounded dancers who are committed to enhanced tap dance study and have dedicated themselves to being as versatile as possible in the field of dance. Leap Tap Ensemble is proud to present a new work in tonight's performance and is pleased to share the stage with such a diverse and talented group of young and established artists alike.



**Portland Youth Tap Company** was founded in 2023 by Artistic Director Kelsey Leonard. A home for all tap dancers, PYTC is a place for everyone who is passionate about tap to learn technique, historic repertoire, tap history, and the joy of tap dance.



**Mary No & Co** is a tap ensemble led by Mary No from In the Spotlight dance studio in Waldwick, NJ. The dancers train in multiple styles of dance, with a minimum of 2 hours per week of tap. Over the years, they have performed in benefit performances, showcases in NYC, and multiple regional and national competitions. The highlight of each year is producing their annual “Tappy Holidays” video. The tradition began in 2020 when a benefit performance was canceled, due to Covid.



This is their 6th time appearing on the Dallas stage and they are very thankful to Riff Dallas for the opportunity. Over the years, these dancers have been recognized for “flaunting a laid-back, yet confident vibe with a captivating sense of rhythm”. They are very excited to share their newest piece of work with the audience!



**RhythmiCLE Sound Tap Company** is a non profit organization comprised of youth ages 12 to adult who train and perform together throughout the Midwest. Members travel across Ohio and Pennsylvania, and under the direction of Torie Gray, they have classes in technique, learn choreography from master teachers, hold in-house intensives, and rehearse their own work to use for local performances. Members are given the opportunity to learn to teach, create their own choreography, and travel to tap festivals to continue their education and perform.



## **The Tap City Ensemble** from the American Tap Dance Foundation

**The Tap City Youth Ensemble** is a resident youth performing company of the American Tap Dance Foundation. These dynamic and talented dancers focus on learning classic and contemporary choreography with professional choreographers and working with master teachers and musicians in the field today. They perform in a range of New York area venues including formal concerts, educational school shows, free public events and television, and have been featured in articles in Dance Teacher Magazine, Dance Spirit Magazine and Time Out New York Kids and appeared on television on NY 1. and Nickelodeon's METV, and the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade on NBC. Members of the group have also traveled to perform and study to The Vancouver Tap Festival, The Chicago Tap Festival, The UK Tap Festival, and to Danza Escola Luthier in Barcelona, Spain.

# TAPN2TAP - A Tribute to Tap Dance



Videos of Act I will be available for purchase online.  
Subscribe to our mailing list through  
[www.riffdallas.org](http://www.riffdallas.org)  
for details on availability.

# *The Woodshed Experience*

*We're going back to Colorado!*



***July 21-28, 2024***

***Back where it all began, we are taking The Woodshed Experience back to Colorado!***

- 8 day experience in the Rocky mountains - Estes Park, Co
- Tap dancers mentored by leading industry professionals within the tap community
- Classes throughout the week with all Mentors
- Discovery classes in tap history, musicality, film, teaching tap, etc
- Performance sharing opportunity at the end of the week
- Time to explore National Rocky Mountains
- Variety of group activities
- Strong focus on improvisation and developing your own voice as a tap dancer
- Relationships and experiences that will last a lifetime

***This all inclusive event is by application only.***

**APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN**

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~Malana Murphy



# SAVE THE DATE



## January 17-20, 2025

Tap is the one original dance art form in America that transcends dance...it is music in motion. Tap dancers are passionate, creative musicians who view their art form as an experience to be shared, passed down to new generations, and enjoyed by a diverse audience. Tap festivals are a rare opportunity for this exchange to take place and be fostered. I created RIFF to bring this experience that every other large city in America has benefited from through the years, to Dallas, Texas.

I am delighted that you will be joining me in this journey to explore this African American art form, expand the opportunities of local and abroad tap dancers, and to be an integral part of the history of moving tap dance forward in our community and beyond.

Our RIFF Dallas family is committed to giving the best festival experience, complete with personal attention, along with a desire to bring the best of tap dancing to the feet of Dallas.

Thank you very, very much for your support.  
Your RIFF Family

### Special thanks to...

*There are so many people I would like to thank for their hard work, dedication, sacrifice, and passion for this amazing event. First off, I am honored by the support of our sponsors and their belief in tap dancing as something that should be supported, nurtured, and given opportunity to shine: So Danca, Ruben Sanchez Dancewear, Crossroads Audio, O'MARA Sprung Floors, 5678 Dancewear Defined, The Dance Shop, and Next Step Dance. Our tireless staff have given more of themselves than we ever could have imagined. I would especially like to thank Mary Ohman, my right hand. I have the absolute best staff in the business: Rebecca Cannaday, Ashton Carter, Jennifer Carter, Eric Decaminada, Sterling Harris, Mia Murphy, Charles Murphy, Case Prime, Shelly Santillan, and Dylan Szuch. The following people have become family to me and I couldn't do all of this without their support: Shelly Santillan, Jennifer Carter, Michael Thoele, Michelle Stafford, Nick Gomez, and Rita Allen of Next Step Dance, Dennis Hanson, Shane & Kristy Hendricks, and Robert Martinez. From building tap floors, donating their time, energy and resources, to always looking for creative ways to help, these amazing people are so very special to me and make my world go round! A heart-felt thanks goes to all our youth residency dancers and families for their support and dedication. I'd like to thank our vendors for participating and supporting RIFF. A special thanks to my family; Kevin, Charlie, Mia, and Maddie for being so understanding of my time away from them. And lastly, much gratitude to our amazingly talented all star faculty for believing in us and for sharing their gifts with us so generously.*

[www.riffdallas.org](http://www.riffdallas.org)