
Mission Statement

To teach traditional and innovative dance techniques within a safe, structured, nurturing, and fun classroom environment.

With our roots firmly planted in the teachings of Dorothy Thomas, we strive through continuing education and more than 100 years of combined experience to provide the best dance education in Northeast Kansas.

"I hope you know how grateful I am for all that you've done for me, especially getting me started on this path."

Tommar Wilson
2009 Tony Award
Hair the Musical - Broadway
2011 Tony Award
Book of Mormon - Broadway

Young artists are the future of this world. It is our desire to help them find their own special place in it.

To Live

Is To Dance

To Dance

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*Dorothy Thomas
School of Dance and Theatre Arts*

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*Dorothy Thomas
School of Dance
and Theatre Arts*

Studio Information

*Sixty-nine years of
tradition in Northeast
Kansas*



The Dance School of
2009 & 2011 Tony Award Winners
Tommar Wilson and Jeff Kready

We put you in the Spotlight!

Classes Offered



Dorothy Thomas School of Dance and Theatre Arts offers classes in a variety of dance styles for students ages three to adult with classes for both recreational and aspiring professional dancers.

Our teachers help students develop proper dance techniques, strength, agility, teamwork skills, and build confidence while encouraging personal expression.

Classes offered include ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop, theatre arts, contemporary, lyrical, and pointe.

“DTSODTA is the best studio in Topeka for those seriously considering a career in theatre performance!

The teachers there gave me the tools I needed to be a part of a Tony Award Winning Broadway Production.”

Jeff Kready
2009 Tony Award
Billy Elliott - Broadway

*Dance as if
No one is watching!*

Meet the Staff Our passionate instructors work together to achieve a superior standard of excellence within a supportive, family-like atmosphere.

Carolyn Glassman grew up in her mother’s dance studio at Eighth and Anderson Terrace. She traveled to New York City at the age of thirteen to study tap and dance with choreographers from the June Taylor Dancers and the Radio City Rockettes. Mrs. Glassman studied dance and theater at Denver University in Denver, Colorado. Her continued education includes classes with Debbie Dee (Tradition In Tap), Ofer Ben and Avi Miller (BDC), and Gregg Russell (Tap Sounds Underground).

Sally Glassman has studied with renowned artists including Dorothy Thomas, Steven Boyd, Bill DeRicco, Sam Fierello, Abron Glover, Frank Hachett (BDC), and Mia Micheals (SYTYCD). She has choreographed numerous musicals for high schools and community theaters in and around the Topeka area for more than twenty years. Ms. Glassman has received awards for choreography in theater, tap, jazz, and lyrical dance.

Susan Weber received a Bachelor of Arts with an emphasis in music, drama, and dance and a minor in psychology from Friends University in Wichita, Ks. While in college, Mrs. Weber traveled to New York City to study under jazz icon, Luigi and perform with the Manhattan Philharmonic. She has studied with talented artists including Dorothy Thomas, David Howard (Steps, BDC), Jo Rowan (Bolshoi, OCU), Finis Jung (BDC, Ailey), Michael Vernon (Royal Ballet), and Carolyn ValSchmidt (Julliard).

History

After a successful dance career on the Vaudeville Circuit, Dorothy Thomas returned home to Topeka, Kansas to begin a family. Her early days as a dance teacher began at the Lee Bruce Nursery School where her daughter, Carolyn attended. In 1943, Mrs. Thomas began teaching classes in her home. Within one year, she and her husband, Lawrence Thomas had transformed their basement into a thriving dance studio.

Mrs. Thomas shaped the futures of thousands of young people. We are determined to continue the great traditions and ideals of this truly amazing woman.

Facility

Large windows at the front of the building allow for natural light to permeate the fully mirrored and barred dance room. A Harlequin dance floor gives dancers a resilient and non-slip surface. Our waiting area allows parents to view dance classes with adjacent male and female restrooms / changing rooms for your convenience.

Travel

Wonderful opportunities to study throughout the United States and abroad exist for middle and high school students.

