

Winter 2012 Y-Dance Teachers

Rochelle is originally from Massachusetts where she took dance tap, jazz, ballet, and pointe for 14 years. Between the ages of 8 and 16 she performed in the Albany Berkshire Ballet's production of "The Nutcracker" as a clown, angel, and mouse. She put her passion of dance on hold to attend college and graduate school in New York and Ohio in plant biology. Rochelle is currently working for the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources at Purdue University. She has danced with Y-Dance since 2006, joined the teaching staff as an assistant in 2010, and is looking forward to teaching tap this year.

Lindsay has been dancing with the YWCA since its inception in 2003. She taught Y-Dance from 2005-2008. After taking a sabbatical to get married and become a mother of another future dancer (Sofia), Lindsay came back to teaching last year. She is very excited and eager to begin another session and cannot wait for September when Y-Dance will begin again. Lindsay also danced at McCutcheon High school for three years where she danced at football and basketball games and competed throughout the state on their competition team. Her senior year she was a member of Dance Distinction a competing studio team under the direction of Deedra Newby. She is also a stylist at EvanTodd Salon and Day Spa.

Brittany is a recent graduate of Purdue University with a degree in Social Studies Education. While at Purdue University, she was Head Choreographer as well as Vice President of Higher Ground Dance Company, a student-run company which holds a recital every semester and donated all of the proceed to the Andrea Rizzo Dance Foundation. While in high school, she danced with Prima Dance Academy as well as the Merrillville High School Dance Team and won an IHSDTA state championship in 2005. Brittany's future aspirations are to be a high school social studies teacher as well as a dance team coach. She is from Merrillville, Indiana and is the youngest of two daughters.

Emily is a senior at McCutcheon High School. She has been on the dance team for three years and has been taking Y dance classes with Ms. Newby for the past two years. She began dancing as a child, pursued other extra-curricular activities during middle school, and came back to dance after realizing how much she loved and missed it. Emily was on the McCutcheon Varsity team last year which brought home a state championship in Advanced Jazz. Emily is looking forward to graduating in 2012 and hopes to become a Pediatric Nurse. She is really excited about teaching Y-Dance and cannot wait to meet new faces!

Allie is in her 2nd year teaching dance at the YWCA. She has been dancing with Mrs. Newby since 1st grade. She has been on the McCutcheon Varsity Dance Team all of her high school career, and she will be a junior this year. Her freshman year the Dance Team won two state championships in Intermediate Hip-Hop and Jazz. Her sophomore year, the team won state in Advanced Jazz, and placed 3rd in Advanced Hip-Hop. Allie loves painting, dancing, singing, cross country, animals, and watersports. She also loves adventure, volunteering, and just having fun. She hopes to pursue a career in Nursing or Medicine. This year she is excited for another great season on the McCutcheon Dance Team and at Y-Dance!

Ali is from Fort Wayne, IN. She has been dancing since the fourth grade and has taken jazz, lyrical, ballet, and hip hop classes. Ali attended Carroll High School and was on their competitive dance team all four years. She is a junior at Purdue and was on the Hip Hop team "Dance 2XS" for a semester her freshmen year. Ali looks forward to continuing her passion for dance this year at Y-Dance!

Deedra, Y-Dance teacher and director, began her formal dance training at age four. During that time Deedra studied ballet, jazz, tap, and pointe. Upon entering junior high and high school, drill team became her passion. In 1995 Deedra founded the McCutcheon High School dance team and after eight years, four state championships, and two state titles she began Y-Dance in 2003. (Y-Dance began with 3 classes and 15 dancers and this session offers 26 classes!) After helping the McCutcheon Varsity Dance Team secure two state titles in 2010, she took back the team last year where they one another State title. In March, she was invited to coach the Purdue Dance team. Deedra truly loves all her dancers and looks forward yearly to not only competitions but to the Y-Dance recital which has become to be known in the community as “a show”.

Alyna is a Sophomore at McCutcheon High School. She began dancing when she was four years old. She moved to Lafayette in 2005 and was the youngest member of Lafayette Ballet Company. She has performed in five Nutcracker performances and yearly spring recitals with dance studios she has attended. Alyna was on the McCutcheon Varsity Dance Team as a freshman and received a State Championship in Advanced Jazz with her team, 3rd in State in Advanced Hip Hop, and 3rd in State in a large ensemble. Alyna is currently on the McCutcheon Varsity Team which will be competing in the Elite Division this year. Her favorite form of dance is ballet because it is what she has practiced most of her life. She has six siblings and loves spending time with them. When she graduates she plans to continue dancing.

Sarah is entering her seventh year of teaching English at McCutcheon High School and her second year of teaching in McCutcheon’s Freshman Center. In addition to her teaching responsibilities this year, she will be completing her Principal Internship at McCutcheon during the fall and the spring semesters. Sarah is currently finishing her Master of Education Degree in School Administration from Indiana State University (where she also received her Bachelor’s degree) and she will graduate with honors in May of 2012. At McCutcheon, Sarah served as Varsity Dance Team Director for two years, assistant track coach for three years, and assistant cheerleading coach for two years. Her dance background includes dancing with the Harrison Raiderettes and the Indiana State University Sparkettes. This will be her fourth year with the Y-Dance program. In her spare time, Sarah serves on the Tippecanoe County 4-H Queen Committee, and she enjoys reading, art, and watching her youngest brother play baseball.

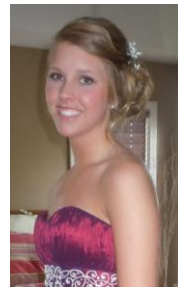
Shelby is currently a senior at McCutcheon High School. She began dance instruction at age five, joining the Y-Dance program in 2003. She was the youngest member of Dance Distinction (2005-2006), followed by two years on the Southwestern MS Dance Team. Last year Shelby joined the McCutcheon Dance Team, winning a state title in the Varsity Advanced Jazz, third in Hip Hop, and third in the large ensemble category. This year she is the Senior Captain of the Varsity team. Shelby is really excited about another new semester and lead teaching in the Y-Dance program.

Amanda is currently a junior at Purdue University where she is studying speech, language, and hearing sciences for her undergraduate degree. She plans on attending grad school to become either a Speech Pathologist or an Audiologist. Amanda has been dancing since age four and was a Lake Central Centralette for four years and multi-state champion during that time. She also achieved a National Champion ranking on the Indiana Danzforce Pro Team. She is currently on the Purdue Dance Team with the goal to further her dance career. Amanda was also an assistant coach to the Indiana Danzforce Junior Preps, and Juniors for a year before she left to attend Purdue. Her family is very important and words cannot adequately express the appreciation she has for them. Amanda adores dancing, teaching, and expanding her horizons with new students, teachers, and families. She is very excited to be a part of Y-Dance!

Haley is a junior at McCutcheon High School. She has been dancing with the Y-Dance program for nine years. She is a member of the McCutcheon Varsity Dance Team that won two State Championship titles in 2010 (Intermediate Jazz and Hip Hop) and one State Championship title in 2011 (Advanced Jazz). Haley is also a captain for the 2011-2012 McCutcheon Varsity Dance Team. She is also mentor at McCutcheon High School for underclassmen and new students and plays on the McCutcheon soccer team in the fall.



Rochelle



Emily



Lindsay



Allie



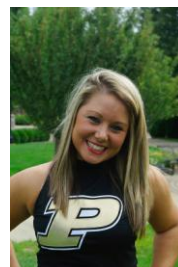
Deedra



Allison



Sarah



Amanda



Shelby



Brittany



Haley



Alyna