

Brenda Didier, Artistic Director/Owner

Ms. Didier's passion for dance began at an early age. Her professional career began at 16 with lead dance roles in a variety of musicals, theme parks & industrials.

In 1999, she founded the Lincolnshire Academy of Dance and in 2006, co-founded the Kenosha Academy of Dance with partner Annie Hackett.

Ms. Didier received her training (receiving many talent scholarships) in all styles of dance from Elizabeth Campbell, Bentley Stone, Walter Camryn, Ruth Page and studied on a full dance scholarship at the University of Illinois, Champaign/Urbana.

As a dance educator, she has over 20 years experience in the areas of ballet, jazz, pointe, tap, and musical theatre. Ms. Didier has served as a guest teacher/choreographer at studios throughout the Midwest as well as Columbia College, The University of Illinois/Champaign, the University of Wisconsin/Parkside, Carthage College and Northwestern University.

At the high school level, Ms. Didier has choreographed 3 mainstage shows for the International Thespian Festival, all world premiere student editions on behalf of Bradford Theatre Arts: Aida, Rent and the National High School cast of Thoroughly Modern Millie, which earned her and LAD tap teacher, Christie Kerr, the 2007 National Youth Theatre Award for Best Choreography.

She also served as the technique coach for Stevenson High School's Varsity poms squad the year they took 1st in state for kick and dance.

As a freelance choreographer, credits include The Miss Illinois Pageant, the Kenny Rogers Christmas Tour, Mayor Richard Daley's Millennium campaign for the City of Chicago, media events for the 2016 Olympic Committee on behalf of the City of Chicago, mainstage shows and parades for Six Flags and Busch Gardens theme parks, industrials and over 80 musicals. She had the good fortune to work alongside Grammy award winning Dennis DeYoung of Styx fame this past Spring on his new musical The Hunchback of Notre Dame which received its Chicago premiere at the Bailiwick Repertory Theatre. Ms. Didier is a 6 time nominee of the Joseph Jefferson Award and is the recipient of 2 choreography awards from the Academy of Theatre Artists and Friends, 2 After Dark Awards and 2 Joseph Jefferson Awards for excellence in choreography.

She traveled to China in the Spring of 2007 and 2008 to set choreography on Cirque Shanghai, Bai Xi and Cirque Shanghai, Gold. They played to sold out houses all summer at Navy Pier's Skyline Stage and at the Tropicana Resort and Casino in Atlantic City.

Ms. Didier loves to give back to the students and the community through her continued scholarship efforts and hopes to inspire and educate in the world of dance.