



WATERBURY - SATURDAY

COURTYARD WATERBURY DOWNTOWN

WATERBURY, CT NOVEMBER 21, 2026

Saturday Schedule Overview

CHECK IN: 1:00 – 2:00PM

DOORS OPEN: 1:00PM

TIME	JUNIOR Schedule (12 AND UNDER)	SENIOR Schedule (13 AND UP)
2:00 – 3:00PM	Jazz with Angela	Ballet with Jill
3:00 – 4:00PM	Ballet with Jill	Hip-hop with Maria
4:00 – 5:00PM	Hip-hop with Maria	Jazz with Angela
5:00 – 5:30PM	DINNER BREAK	
5:30 – 6:30PM	Contemporary with Gabby	Musical Theater with Jordan
6:30 – 7:30PM	Musical Theater with Jordan	Contemporary with Gabby
7:30 – 8:30PM	Contemporary Improv Competition and Awards	

CLASSES AND INSTRUCTORS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

WORK IT

Dance Challenge

Convention

STAFF

Ballet



Jillian Foley Cusano

Jillian Foley Cusano grew up training and performing with Northeast Ballet Company, based in Schenectady, NY. She attended the Hartt School, where she traveled to Amste Festival and graduated with a BFA in Ballet Pedagogy, and two minors in Psychology and Performing Arts Management. Since graduating, she has performed professionally w Company and worked closely with companies like Schoen Movement Company and Dance Devise Lab. Jillian has had the pleasure of instructing the students of Joffrey Balle Community Division, Steffi Nossen School of Dance, and as an Adjunct Professor in the Hartt School's Theatre and Vocal Divisions. Jillian has choreographed and performed Opera in Iowa and Portland Opera in Oregon; in 2018–2020, Jillian was affiliated with the American Guild of Musical Artists. Most recently, Jillian directed and choreographed productions of Hansel and Gretel and Street Scene and choreographed She Loves Me. In 2024, she joined the Board of Directors of David Dorfman Dance, to help connect the Jillian is the Chief Operating Officer and founding member of Parkville Sounds, a multi-faceted performing arts studio space in Hartford, CT and co-produced The Parkville S CPTV/PBS in October 2018. At Parkville Sounds, she has had the pleasure of working on projects for Amazon Prime, American Ninja Warrior, The Allman Brothers Band, All Center, SiriusXM, The Hartford Symphony, Ashley Jayy and so many more. Jillian founded the Hartford Dance Collective in 2017 to be a space where females in dance would roles and to expose a wider range of audiences to professional contemporary dance with unique performance locations. Since the inception of this group, she has curated over the annual Hartford Dance Festival— hosted hundreds of adult community classes, and collaborated with artists from companies like David Dorfman Dance, The Limon Comp Rockettes, Merce Cunningham Trust, Doug Varone and Dancers and many more. She is honored to work with the inspiring artists of Hartford & beyond every day.

Hip-hop



Maria Cherniske

Maria took her first dance class at the age of 3 and has been hooked ever since. She has worked with choreographers such as Lisette Bustamante, Dana Foglia, Rhapsody James, Luam Keflezgy, Kelly Peters, Derek Mitchell, James Jackson Jr. and Tanisha Scott. She has performed at Carnegie Hall, Radio City Music Hall, on national television, in commercials, and has done work for Nike and Adidas. Maria was the assistant choreographer for Rob Thomas' music video "I Trust You". She was the assistant choreographer for the New Jersey Lotto "Cash Pop" commercial and co-choreographed for the Off-Broadway hit "La Cancion." Maria is passionate about dance education and loves helping dancers build their confidence and find their voice as an artist. As a leader for the program Creating Opportunities, she had the opportunity to mentor many aspiring dancers in NYC. Maria has taught dance to students of all ages for the past 24 years. She is on guest faculty at Broadway Dance Center in NYC, and in 2021 became a member of the staff at Acrobatic Arts as a course conductor and adjudicator.

Contemporary



Gabby Dominguez

Born and raised in Connecticut, Gabby Dominguez has always been a lover of movement. After graduating from Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts High School, Gabby went on to attend AMDA College + Conservatory of the Arts in Los Angeles for two years. She later moved on to train at professional studios around LA and worked as a company member for three seasons with Geometry Contemporary Dance Company. Gabby also spent her time in LA working with Chehon Wespi-Tschopp as the Mentorship Program Coordinator for IAF Studios, assisting on several dance film and photo projects while mentoring younger dancers. Her music video credits include Donovan Woods, Duomo Musik, and Red Jesus. She has also had the pleasure of taking part in several live performances and dance films around LA including Capezio ACE Awards, Choreographer's Carnival, Club Jete, and more. Since moving back to the East Coast, Gabby has presented and performed work at the Hartford Dance Festival, Garet & Co's Ephemeria, New Britain Museum of American Art, and more. She is currently a resident artist with the Hartford Dance Collective and continues to produce work for film and stage while sharing her passion of finding authenticity in movement with students.

Jazz



Angela Dumont

Angela has over 30 years of teaching and choreography experience, and has spent the last 15 plus of those years focused on the competitive side of dance not only being a teacher and choreographer but also as a professional adjudicator on the east coast. She has been fortunate to have a successful career in choreography and performance, helping to guide dancers to achieve their goals well after their time with her in the studio. Ms Angela loves being a role model and promoting self love and mind/body positivity to all dancers. She continues to add to her own training with classes and certifications, which include her certification in Levels 1, 2, and 3 of the Progressing Ballet Techniques Method. As well as her most recent certification in Competition Judge mental awareness training. When she's not in the studio Angela works as a healthcare worker, spends time with her two children who are also dancers, as well as their dog Goliath.

Musical Theater



Jordan Pelletier

Jordan Pelletier has dedicated 22 years of her life to dance and is currently a director, teacher, and choreographer based in Massachusetts. She graduated from Dean College with a Bachelor's degree in Musical Theater, with a strong focus on dance performance and pedagogy. During her time at Dean, she trained with industry dance professionals and continued to develop her artistry and teaching foundation. Jordan also gained valuable professional experience working in New York City with Scantic River Productions, where she assisted in producing two stage shows. With an extensive background in musical theater, she brings a unique blend of performance quality, storytelling, and technical training to her work. Committed to lifelong learning, Jordan has traveled to New York City, Nashville, and Las Vegas to continue her dance education and expand her knowledge for both herself and her students. Jordan is passionate about inspiring the next generation of dancers through education and artistry.