

MEET YCD'S 2017 TEACHING TEAM

Miss Jane – Studio Director... Miss Jane starting ballet at age of 5 when her mother's Aunt said she had amazing feet & should go to ballet!! She went on to train in all facets of the Performing Arts & had an extensive performance career for nearly 20 years from the age of 17 – this allowed her to travel all corners of Australia performing along side many of our countries most accomplished performers. She has danced live TV a multitude of times “HG and Roy”, “The Footy Show” & “The Midday Show with Ray Martin” with stars of the time like Julie Anthony, performed in film clips, commercials & assisted acclaimed Illusionists. Jane was a part of many theatre restaurant casts in the Sydney CBD & performed alongside an incredible number of cabaret & corporate acts with various performance companies & singers (Stephen Fisher-King, Fiona Gage Dancers, Jane Scali, Peter Kay, Popset Dancers, Liz Taylor, Lucky Starr, Phill Cass, 2WS Jukebox Saturday Night Live, ZZTop Live, Tina Turner Tribute show, Neil Diamond Tribute show, Vegas to Broadway...the list is endless!) Her dance career took her to fabulous destinations Aus wide - Noosa, Alice Springs, Adelaide, Cairns, Melbourne, Perth, Hobart, all corners of Sydney, regional NSW & beyond - to huge venues such as the Sydney Entertainment Centre, Sydney Olympic Stadium, Melbourne Crown Casino Ballroom, every major Convention Centre in Australia, Parliament House, even private homes of the wealthy & to places as small as the local RSL! She has choreographed several production shows, been a dancer/suit character at Australia's Wonderland, done countless promotional gigs & for several years was an NRL Cheerleader for Panthers, Tigers, and the NBA's Sydney Kings, Wollongong Hawks & Canberra Cannons. While performing professionally & teaching dance in many studios across Sydney she put herself through tertiary studies & gained a Bachelor of Teaching qualification & took a fulltime position as a Primary School Teacher. She implemented a Dept of Education dance program which saw her teach in many high schools as a guest artist, was head judge for Wakakirri's NSW Story Dance competition for 3 consecutive years & has adjudicated at many dance eisteddfods/competitions... she continued to take as many classes at Sydney Dance Company mastering her craft, continuing to grow as a dancer & knowing there was always something more to learn! These are all cherished memories & experiences that have allowed her to work in a field she loves for her whole life.

In 2002 she resigned from full time school teaching & combined her love of Dance & Teaching & YOU CAN DANCE was born. The studio moved into their own premises in 2004 with 2 other teaching staff. She continued performing professionally just weeks after her twin boys were born in 2006 & officially hung up her chorus shoes shortly after her 3rd child arrived in 2008! In 2014, Jane took on a personal challenge of attempting her Intermediate RAD Ballet exam, donned a pair of pointe shoes for the first time ever & under the careful guidance of Sharyn Constable in 2015 (at the tender age of 40) gained a 93% in her exam! In 2015 she became an accredited Nurturing Pathways® Instructor – one of the only in Australia – travelling to Seattle to gain certification & education on the positive impact movement has on the mental development/well being of infants, then bought this unique & incredible program back to YCD. In 2016 Jane was invited to attend the ‘Inspiring Brilliance Educators Summit’ in Disneyland – a select group of only 20 people across the globe were invited! A huge honour & incredible opportunity to work with some of the most brilliant leaders in our wonderful Performing Arts teaching industry! Jane's two favourite mottos are ‘The time is NOW’ & ‘be the best version of you’... She believes you are never too old to achieve a goal or take on a new challenge - life is short - so JUST GO FOR IT! And never underestimate what you can achieve!

Miss Julie – After training locally at Ross Hutchison Academy of Performing Arts in Penrith, Julie further trained at Pineapple & Danceworks Studios in London. Julie has performed, choreographed & taught dance in Australia, Asia & Europe for over 25 years. Julie has specialised in early childhood dance tuition over the past seven years at YCD. She gained accreditation to teach Angelina Ballerina Academy classes in 2014 and has done brilliant work with our Adult ‘Brightstars’ class over the last 4 years!

Dance & performance career highlights include performing at Sydney Entertainment Centre (1987) & Sydney Opera House (1994), performing on CTC Cruise Liners (1995), performing at Jupiters Casino, Qld (1997) & playing Janet in the Rocky Horror Picture Show, (UK touring production, 1998). Choreographic highlights include staging & choreographing the Zee TV Music Awards in Mumbai, India (televised worldwide), choreographing & producing the production to open Zhongshan Fantasy World - China's first Western style theme park. (1992).

Julie has also worked as a children's entertainer with television characters including Garfield, Fat Cat & The Simpsons & hosted children's dance parties across London. And has been lead Party Host for YCD's DISCO DANCE parties for several years bringing fun, dance & excitement to our partygoers!

Miss Sharyn – Sharyn studied Classical ballet, Flamenco, Jazz & Contemporary 1961-1973 with further studies in all disciplines until 1975 under the guidance of Ex principle dancers from the Australian Ballet - Estella Nova & Geoffrey Kovel. She became a qualified R.A.D Ballet teacher & successfully ran her own Performing Arts Studio for 20 yrs between 1979 – 1999. Sharyn continued freelance teaching in many of the most reputable schools in Sydney & went on to become an R.A.D examiner in 2003 – she has examined in many countries across the globe – London, China, Mexico, France, Spain, Italy – the list goes on! Sharyn has lead many coaching seminars for the R.A.D & private schools throughout Australia. Her incredible quest for knowledge has seen her further studies in Pilates, body conditioning, pointe work, diet & nutrition & she holds Diplomas in Anatomy, Dance History, Child Psychology & Development. Sharyn has assisted guide many thousands of dancers reach great heights with their careers!



Miss Karlie – Karlie began dancing at the age of 4yrs & has taught dance at various studios for over 10 years.

Karlie has traveled near and far to perform professionally including International Cruise contracts – she even made her home New Zealand & America to further her dance training for several years. She accomplished much as a performer in Australia also! Karlie is trained in Jazz, Tap, Ballet, Contemporary, Breakdancing but her favourite style is Hip Hop! Karlie also has a degree in marketing, has previously managed a Dance studio, has worked in the corporate arena & currently studies child psychology with the aim of building programs for children in an unfortunate environment. In 2015 Karlie reached her biggest personal goal to travel to Seattle to become a qualified Nurturing Pathways® instructor – a unique program for babies from 3 months old which focuses on children's brain development and how this can be enhanced with movement/music & dance - a program now exclusive to YCD Australia wide! Karlie is an incredibly compassionate teacher & wants to inspire people to live their passion. Favourite motto - "Never miss a chance to Dance!"

Miss Alicia – Alicia began as a student at YCD in 2004. She has done much study since then to become a knowledgeable & versatile coach/teacher! Alicia is now a Level 4 USASF accredited coach in Cheer, Tumble & Stunt & also has qualifications through Gymnastics Australia. She has led many stunt groups and YCD cheer & dance teams to win State, Nationals & Grand Champion titles. Her style strengths are Cheer, Pom & Hip Hop! Her choreographic talents have seen her choreograph for huge events eg: The Schools Spectacular. Alicia has achieved a Masters of Teaching (Primary Education) & a Bachelor of Health Science & by day is employed as a classroom teacher with the Department of Education. In 2014 she achieved her USACF Safety Judge certification alongside only a few esteemed coaches in Australia & has been a performance judge with UCA, WCCD & UDA competitions travelling Australia wide to judge & rub shoulders with many of the top judges in the country & beyond! Alicia has also studied Special Education & has worked with our 'Brightstars' students with great care catering for their unique needs. Alicia is also our longest serving staff member at YCD!

Miss Kati – Has been dancing since the age of 3yrs - she is a born performer & optimist! She has trained extensively in Ballet, Jazz, Tap, Funk, Hip hop, Contemporary, Lyrical, Theatre, Broadway Jazz, Break dancing & Acrobatics. Kati attended Newtown Performing Arts High & Studied at 'Brent Street' Fulltime completing Certificate IV in Performing Arts 2010. Kati's passion for All Star Cheer, lead her to become a USASF coach credentialed in levels 1, 2 & 3 in Cheer, Stunt & Tumble. She added to her qualifications further by becoming accredited in 'Acrobatique' (Acro-dance) & is also a qualified Zumba instructor! Kati has toured America performing in New York & L.A, at various corporate events, supported cabaret performers & also has professional (character) suit work experience! Kati's has been a cheerleader for the Penrith Panthers NRL team 2010-2014 & is currently a Cronulla Sharks Mermaid & performed at the 2016 NRL Grand final, also appearing on the Grandfinal Footy Show live. 2016 also saw her successfully audition for the Sydney Kings Harlequins as a Dancer/Cheerleader and she will continue to wow crowds with her talents at live games in 2017!

Miss Kylie - Kylie has been a professional aerial performer for 5 years & started in dance at a young age. As a dynamic & adaptive aerialist, she has performed on trapeze, tissue/silks, doubles trapeze, Spanish web & lyra, & in 2016 toured China in LaLuna Cirque performing her lyra act & choreographing the opening & finale of the show. She has also performed for Corporate Events, Barangaroo Casino (for DebonAir Entertainment – choreographed by Sarah Boulter & Steven Watson), Mardis Gras, Music Festivals, Sofitel Hotel & the Sydney Olympics Opening Ceremony (Tap Dogs "Eternity"). Kylie trains extensively in the area of aerial & tumbling skills & currently works and trains along side some of Australia's most acclaimed & talented artists in this field. Kylie has trained with leading international coaches including Olga Sidorova (Cirque du Soleil) from 'Dancing in the Air' and taught classes for Wild Spirit Productions & Aerialize. Kylie has also just finished filming for the feature film Dance Academy: The Comeback & Golden Globe-winning TV series 'Top of the Lake'. Kylie has a Bachelor's degree in Exercise & Sport Science (University of Sydney) & over 15 years of teaching experience specializing in tumbling. She has been able to offer expert level feedback producing improved performances in tumbling, dance & aerial acrobatics.

Miss Kim – Kim began dancing at age 3. She carries many happy memories of her childhood dance classes & believes all children should be able to experience the joy of dance regardless of ability or disability. After becoming a Registered Podiatrist & having a family, Kim returned to ballet as a mature aged student completing Grades 6,7 and 8 & Intermediate RAD Exams. She then completed her studies achieving her Certificate in Ballet Teaching Studies & became a registered teacher of RAD Ballet. Kim is passionate not only about sharing the love of dance but that it is done in a safe manner ensuring that children are taught correct technique & progress as their individual bodies allow. She is a member of the International Association of Dance Medicine & Science & endeavours to stay up to date with the latest research & best practices to ensure her students get the best possible training

Miss Hannah - Hannah began dancing at a young age & trained at YCD from 2004 for several years. Her professional career lead her to the guidance of Urban Dance Centre with Sydney's most prestigious choreographers & dancers. Her stage & theatre credits include, Sydney's Luna Park, 'LOCREADO' contemporary dance company by Loreado Malcolm, FOX Production 'The Russian Coachman Show' with Veronica Beattie & Juliet 'Jett' Verne, MC Hammer Live performance, So You Think You Can Dance top 100 Finale with choreographer Kelly Abbey & various work For SALT Entertainment! Hannah has danced her way through the studios of London U.K & graduated with a certificate of Excellence from Broadway Dance Centre in the heart of New York where she gained further knowledge in all aspects of performance & choreography. With a strong passion to inspire others to live life with love and light, she aims to help others to achieve their dreams & bring extensive knowledge of the professional dance world into our studio! Hannah has come full circle with her journey as a part of our YCD family!



Miss Brittanie - Brittanie completed a Diploma of Musical Theatre at NIDA in 2016 & is a rising star in Australia's entertainment industry! Brittanie's performance on The Voice Australia 2014 had all four chairs spinning, with Kylie Minogue exclaiming she "could walk onto Broadway tomorrow!" and Ricky Martin saying her rendition of Les Miserables – 'On My Own' was in his 'top 3 of all time performances'! This catapulted her into the Top 40 of the hit show! After a successful string of sold-out performances of the one woman show 'Broadway Baby', Brittanie gained admission to the most prestigious Method Acting School in New York -The Lee Strasberg Institute of Theatre and Film! Brittanie's stage credits are numerous with leading roles in Grease, Beauty & the Beast, The Taming of the Shrew & recently in 2016 she directed the Blue Mountains Theatre Society's production of 'Joseph and the Amazing Techni-Coloured Dreamcoat'. Such an amazing talent & accomplished young performer to be amongst our 2017 team! Brittanie can't wait to work with our Musical Theatre and Singing students once again this year!

Miss Holly – Holly's love for dance began at age 2 where she began training at her Aunt's dance studio! She trained in Jazz, Tap, Ballet, Musical Theatre, Hip Hop & Acrobats! Holly discovered All Star Cheer at YCD in 2009 & this has become her great passion ever since! She has won numerous NSW State & Australian National titles with her YCD teammates - both as an athlete & as a coach. While coaching at YCD in 2016 she remained part of our Open's team to keep learning, remain fit but mainly because she loves it so much - she also competed in one of YCD's first ever level 4 stunt groups in 2016 & continues to gain as much hands on experience as she can to be the best coach she can be & further her own personal journey. Holly is a USASF accredited Cheer, Tumble & Stunt coach up to level 2 & will be furthering her qualifications to be a credentialed coach up to level 4 in 2017! She is also an 'Acrodance' certified instructor. She has taught classes at her Aunt's studio for the past 3 years providing instruction & expertise in various dance forms. Holly is also currently half way through her Bachelor Of Education degree & brings great knowledge, enthusiasm & years of experience into our school once again this year.

Miss Karina – Miss Karina has been apart of the YCD family since it's first year of cheerleading in 2005! Since then she has travelled the country with the studio, winning National titles, banners & bids - both as an athlete & coach. Karina is an USASF accredited coach in levels 1-4 of Cheer, Tumble & Stunt & she continues to train at YCD in Cheer & several styles of dance because she loves it all so much! Her biggest achievements include competing at AASCF Pinnacle for Hip Hop, winning AASCF Nationals titles in level 1 and 2 Cheer, and coaching a Grand Champion and Hawaii bid winning team in 2016. Karina is currently studying a Masters in Education after gaining her Bachelor of Arts degree in 2016. Although many amazing accomplishments, Karina still follows the studio belief that no prize should overcome the goal of creating a positive & nurturing environment for the students. Karina has always called YCD her second home & always does her best to ensure others feel the same.

Mr Adam – Adam has been training in all areas of dance since a very early age. Although very talented in much of the arts Adam found his niche in the dance world – Tap! Adam had been teaching Glenn Wood Tap (GWT) for 10 years & was taught by Glenn Wood himself! Adam's professional performance experience ranges from national tours with Nickelodeon, International cruise ship contracts with Norwegian Cruise Ships, numerous musical theatre credits including Cameron Mackintosh 'Oliver', and has performed in many productions with Blue Mountains Theatre...even proposing to his wife at one of their performances!! Adam brings incredible enthusiasm, talent & excitement to his tap classes & has gained exceptional results with his students in exams over the time 7 years he has been teaching at YCD. He can't wait for the next year to begin!

Mr Cameron – Cameron began his Performing Arts training in Canberra! He studied a Diploma of Performing Arts at Ed5 International in Sydney & graduated in 2013. He has performed at the Senior Premiers Concert (2013), Nicole Fitzsimmons Charity Gala (2014), Short and Sweet Festival (2014), Australian Hotel Associations Award Gala - Star City Casino (2016). Most recently he completed his 2nd Princess Cruise contract travelling all over America & Alaska. Cameron has been a cast member & Dance captain in several big scale Packemin Musical productions & aspires to getting his big break in Musical Theatre in Australia! He continues training & extending knowledge of his craft at every opportunity. Cameron has 8 years teaching experience & offers a wealth of knowledge in all areas of the Performing Arts. His work was lucky enough to win Best Jazz choreography at AASCF Winterfest in 2015. He teaches at many schools Sydney wide & loves bringing his experience & knowledge as a professional dancer to all his students!

Miss Beth – Beth has been part of the YCD furniture since it opened in 2004. Her gentle spirit, dedication & hard working ethic has seen her accomplish great things in dance – in particular classical ballet! Currently in her 2nd year of study to gain her Certificate of Teaching through the Royal Academy of Dance (R.A.D) she has aspirations of becoming an R.A.D registered ballet teacher & inspiring the next generation of young ballet dancers. Beth is simultaneously completing a second degree in a Bachelor of Dance at the Wesley institute with a Contemporary Major! Proof of her conscientious ethic! She achieved exceptional results in all her ballet exams, allowing her to study and become a ballet educator & be accepted into both tertiary degrees she is working toward. Beth is an Angelina Ballerina accredited teacher, completing training in 2014 and works professionally as a model & dancer at the Star Casino's 'Marquee'. Beth has worked with our graded ballet classes & Pre-school program for the past two years & is very excited to continue to doing so in 2017.



Miss Ellie - Ellie began dancing at age of 6 at YCD & has been dancing ever since! Ellie has done everything...cheerleading, singing, acting & all forms of dance – with an exceptional flair for Hip Hop! She attended Nepean Creative & Performing Arts High School, majoring in dance & was accepted to the Callback performances for her major work-only a selection from the highest ranking works from the entire State! In 2016 Ellie successfully auditioned to gain a role as a dancer/performer in 'Phly Crew 2.0' show, her first professional dance experience with a series of shows at N.I.D.A She performed alongside some of the best in the Aussie Hip Hop industry, wowing crowds with great reviews! Ellie was selected as a featured dancer in The Schools Spectacular as a member of the Urban Crew in 2016! This year Ellie joins ED5 International to begin her journey to gain an Advanced Diploma in the Performing Arts! She is a young & rising talent who will bring current choreography & exciting flair to some of our hip hop classes in 2017 & another whose journey began at YCD! Ellie will be working closely with Miss Karlie to assist in her development as a new teacher at YCD.

Miss Abby – Abby started at YCD in 2007 & has trained in all facets of Dance & Cheer – with particular focus on classical ballet! Abby achieved a Distinction in her RAD Intermediate examination in 2015 & continues to work hard on her ballet education. Abby trained as an Angelina Ballerina Academy instructor last year and has become a great asset to our pre-school teaching team. Abby is a positive, professional & dedicated team member who loves to pass on her passion for dance to our younger generation hoping they too will love the gift of dance as much as she does.

Miss Katie – Katie danced at YCD for 10 years & has been a cheered for 6! Cheer has become her number one passion and she dreams of making a World team some day. She moved on from YCD to train at higher levels than we can offer & her hard work, determination & talent will see her competing in a Level 5 team in 2017! Katie has achieved multiple National titles for both cheer and dance- many of these alongside her YCD teammates! Katie has 4 years experience as an assistant coach at YCD & has been a great help to her leading coaches, gaining more confidence & skill with each year. 2016 saw Katie achieve USASF Cheer, Stunt & Tumble credentials up to level 2 & is very keen to continue her training to achieve credentials well beyond level 2! Under the guidance of our more experienced coaches at YCD Katie is destined to be a superstar coach!

Miss Siobhan – Siobhan has been dancing for 14 years & started competing at eisteddfods at age 9. Siobhan has trained in all facets of dance for 15 hours a week because she loved dance so much!! Siobhan has been a student of YCD for 3 years and has been an invaluable student assistant teacher for the past 2 years showing great leadership and care for the students she has worked with. She has been a part of our competition teams at YCD giving 100% commitment & wholeheartedly embracing YCD's 'team' philosophy! In 2016 Siobhan received the overall award for outstanding achievement in ballet/contemporary & is super excited to transition into a teaching role under the careful guidance of Miss Jane.

Mr Oliver – Mr Oliver is a well-known face at YCD & is really excited to transition into a teaching role under the careful guidance of Miss Jane in 2017. Oliver begun his Dance journey at the age of 3 in 2004 as a YCD baby bopper & has excelled in all genres of dance ever since - with particular excellence & outstanding results in Tap! Oliver received YCD's highest ever Tap result in 2015 where he scored 100% in his level 10 exam; 2015 also saw Oliver receive YCD's highest award - the Senior Scholarship. Oliver has become an exceptional role model to our younger male dancers in particular, paving the way for them to give any class a go & to believe in themselves! While he lives for dance, he has also achieved amazing results with YCD's All Star Cheer program too – in 2016 becoming one of our first ever members of a Senior level 4 stunt team Oliver is a high achiever...he's also very humble and caring.

Miss Elizabeth – Elizabeth has been dancing for 13 years, 10 of these at YCD! She has trained in Tap, Pom, Jazz & Hip Hop – one of her favourite styles & particular strengths is in Tap!! Elizabeth has participated in 8 Glenn Wood Tap exams at YCD & for quite a while held the title of highest ever-scoring exam results with a 99.5%. She has received several Gold Awards (98%) showing incredible mastery of her all her grade work. Elizabeth has been a class assistant in Tap classes for the last 3 years & is this year transitioning into a teaching role under the careful guidance of Miss Jane! Elizabeth was awarded YCD's highest achievement in 2015 – the Senior Scholarship Award. She has had much success in her time as a student at Nepean Performing Arts High School participating in many school productions, showcases out of school performances eg: Schools Spectacular. She was also a part of 2 YCD AASCF National Champion Hip Hop teams in 2012 & 2014 & will compete again in 2017 alongside her YCD team!

OUR DEDICATED TEAM CAN'T WAIT TO WORK WITH YOUR CHILDREN IN 2017!!

