**Karly Walchli**



Karly starting dancing at a young age studying and performing jazz, tap and ballet in numerous local dance studios. While in high school, her interest in different dance styles grew into an exploration of techniques such as hip hop, lyrical and contemporary. As head pom pon coach and Orchesis troupe member at Maine West High School, Karly led, danced, choreographed and performed at numerous shows and events including Columbia College Chicago (CCC). While working with Dj companies, studios, dance teams and pom pon and competition organizations, her teaching skills and philosophies started becoming her own. After being accepting into CCC’s dance program, she broadened her knowledge of various modern techniques as well as African, Tai Chi and yoga while continuing to study ballet, tap, jazz and hip hop with the highly respectable CCC staff. She performed each year with her students and peers and began auditioning for tv shows such as the *Wade Robson Project* and *So You Think You Can Dance* as well as local dance companies.

Karly starting teaching outside of college at numerous dance studios and schools around the Chicagoland area. She became a modern director, preschool dance director, and taught children from the age of 2 to adults to the age over 50. Her abilities gave her opportunities to become an independent choreographer-- choreographing for dance teams (in which one came 2nd in state), first wedding dances, 50th anniversary dances, quinceaneras, birthday parties and brought her to calibrate with instructors involved with UDA, The Luvabulls and Hubbard Street.

After many years of teaching all around Chicago, she is now proud to bring all her extensive experience together as the Director and owner of the NEW dance company: Karisma Dance Company/KDC. She hopes that her dancers not only share her love for dance but also bring a positive outlook while attending rehearsals, classes and competitions.