

Amanda Hennessy

Amanda Hennessy began dancing at Plié Groove 'n' Shuffle at the age of 7 years old. At Plié, Amanda was trained in all styles of dance including ballet, jazz, tap, lyrical, contemporary, hip hop and musical theatre. Amanda began her teaching career in 2009 at Plié and she currently holds a Cecchetti Associate Certificate in teaching Ballet.

Amanda has toured Australia with "Girl Express", been a Cheerleader for the Warringah Rats and Manly United Soccer, starred in the music video "My Killer My King"- Ciaran Gribbin, and performed at many events. Amanda has been dancing professionally since the age of 18 and is currently dancing for 'The Creative Affair'.

Q & A's

What is your proudest teaching moment?

My proudest teaching moment was when I had a student in tinies ballet that didn't dance for a whole term! Her dad asked if he was wasting his time bringing her to dance and I encouraged him to keep bringing her because I could see that she was just a very shy kid that just needed to break out of her shell. Finally, after weeks of trying to get her to join in she started doing everything in the class! I was so happy and relieved that all that patience was worth it!! As she got older, she went on to do ballet exams and performed in stage class!!

What is your proudest dancing achievement?

My proudest dancing achievement was receiving my Cecchetti Ballet Teaching Qualification. I was trained in RAD Ballet so it was a big transition to Cecchetti. Cecchetti has made me fall in love with ballet and has given me a passion for teaching. Not only do I use what I learnt for ballet, I also use the techniques for teaching jazz, tap, modern and musical theatre!!

Do you still perform?

Yes, I still perform! I am a part of the Creative Affair, Senior Company and Open Stage classes! I love performing with the people that I love! Plié has always been family and I have made life-long friends from dancing at Plié!

What is your favourite performance?

My favourite performance was the Creative Affair Launch Party. There was such an amazing atmosphere that night because no one knew what to expect! Even us!! We were so focused on putting on a flawless show, that when we were finished we were all so pumped and proud of ourselves for all the hard work we put into the show!!!

What do you love to do in your spare time?

I like to spend time outdoors going to the beach and walking! I also really like boxing in the mornings at Chocolate Box!

What is your favourite musical or ballet?

It's so hard to choose just one! I love going to the Opera House to watch the Australian Ballet. I went to see Symphony in C and the piece by Christopher Wheeldon, 'After the Rain' really inspired me! I also love going to musicals!! My favourites so far are 'The Lion King' and 'Aladdin'.

Who is your favourite dancer?

My favourite dancer would have to be Brooke Lockett. She is now retired from the Australian Ballet but whenever she would appear onstage her face would light up the whole theatre. My eyes are always drawn to her!!

Who inspires you?

Miss Vicki inspires me. I have known Miss Vicki since I was in Kindergarten. If it wasn't for her, I would not have found my passion for dance! Not only is Miss V my boss, she is also my mentor and great, great friend. I look up to her like an older sister and I know if I'm ever going through hard times she would be there for me no matter what! No matter how busy Miss V is she will always be there for you!

Favourite memory of growing up at Plie?

Miss Vicki took me to see the ballet 'Romeo and Juliet' with a few other students. It was that night that I met my very close friend Sacha! Since that night, we were inseparable at dance! We always wore matching outfits and did everything together! She is still one of my closest friends!!

What was your first Plie routine you danced?

The first dance I learnt from Miss Vicki was 'Video Killed the Radio Star' at Narraweena Public School in kindergarten! I still have the costume from it! It's so tiny!!

Funniest moment on stage?

Funniest/most embarrassing moment onstage was when I was about 13 years old and I was performing at Plié Open Day (which is now the mid-year concert). It was my big solo from the corner and I did a hitch kick and landed on my bottom!! I still cringe every time I think about it.

What is your career goal?

I hope to be 70 years old and still teaching ballet!

Favourite holiday destination?

I love anywhere with a beautiful beach!