



Jackie Pederson-Kriens

My name is Jackie Pederson-Kriens. I'm one of the 19 teachers here at Dance Gallery, and I am also the Director/Owner of the school. Although you would think I spend my day waiting for class to begin, in reality I am working on studio responsibilities nearly 90% of my waking hours! It's an exciting, but busy life!

All about me...My background in dance is probably much like what your child is experiencing, but in a smaller school called South Dakota School of Ballet with Carolyn Westphal and Lynne Campion here in Sioux Falls. I was a member of a small dance company in my dance studio for a short time. After SDSB closed, I danced at K'Dance studio with Christine Kirk. During that time, I went to Augustana College to pursue a degree in Elementary & Special Education. I taught in the Sioux Falls School District as well as in the Bridgewater School District.

After 10 years of teaching in a traditional school, I opened up Dance Pavilion (now known as Dance Gallery). I trained as a Cecchetti teacher from 1999 to current, and I am now an examiner with the Cecchetti Council of America in which I get to exam in different parts of the the U.S.

I love teaching ballet, and I absolutely love watching kids figure out what kind of person they want to be. I also love training teachers, producing ballets, and getting kids ready for exams! I have a great job!

All About Dress Code...I know that coming to dance in the appropriate attire and hair up in a bun may seem mundane and silly, but in reality we are instilling discipline. And...discipline is the name of the game when it comes to dancing. If you are unsure of what to wear, visit Amanda in the office for details or go to our website for information on what to wear. My LNL 6 class will wear all pink! My Cecchetti classes will wear a black leotard, pink footed tights, and pink ballet slippers.

Classroom Etiquette & Behavior...In all of my classes, I insist that my voice is the voice that they hear at all times. They should not be distracted by others, nor should they distract. I insist that kids listen and work hard. If they do this, we will get a lot accomplished! For younger kids, I may use "timeout" to get the kids on track, but generally I just insist on quiet kids that work hard. They seem to understand that!

Also, I expect respect from my students and I expect them to show respect for other students and the Dance Gallery property. If I find that we are having issues with respect, I will have a private conversation with the student (and parent) about the issue at hand.

Recitals...Dance Gallery has three different types of recitals - Lower School Recitals (held at Dance Gallery on May 18th with dress rehearsal on May 17th after school). The Intermediate and Upper School Recitals held at the Orpheum Theater. The dress rehearsals and performances will be held from May 29th to June 1st. For more information, go to our calendar on the Dance Gallery website.

Studio Communication with You...Our studio tends to communicate mostly through email, website, and Facebook. If you get something from info@dancegallerysd.com or register@dancegallerysd.com these are probably important pieces of information. Please read them. If you have questions about if we are open, or workshops...go to our website. That will give you a lot of information about upcoming events.

Sleeping Beauty 2019...This is a special year...we're doing the Sleeping Beauty ballet! If your child is in the ballet, please stay on top of the rehearsal schedule. It is important that students do not miss any rehearsals during Sept through January. If your child is not in the performance, PLEASE consider attending the performance! It will be wonderful!

I'm so happy to have your child in my class. If you have any questions, please email info@dancegallerysd.com and Amanda in the office will forward your questions to me.

Thank you!

Jackie Pederson-Kriens