

KARLIE GRACE JOHNSON

OWNER & PRINCIPAL OF KARLIE GRACE DANCERS - BERWICK VIC

QUALIFICATIONS: Certificate IV & Diploma of Arts (Dance & Performance), Licentiate of Cecchetti Ballet Australia (L.C.B.A -C.I.C.B). Certificate IV in Dance Teaching & Management. Winner of the 2012 Maestro Enrico Cecchetti Advanced 2 scholarship.

“Karlie has a wealth of knowledge and a passion for dance. Her mission is to pass on this love of dance and skills to a new generation of young performers”.

Karlie Grace Johnson has a comprehensive background in dance education, having taught across Melbourne (metro and regional), interstate and overseas at specialised full-time performing arts schools, as a highly regarded teacher and choreographer. She began her dance journey at the age of five, learning all facets of dance and performance before moving on to study full-time at the renowned Dance Factory in Richmond, where she received a coveted scholarship for two consecutive years.

Outside of arts education, Karlie has a previous life of being a professional dancer and has an extensive resume of achievements and performances to her name. Some examples of her work ranges from involvement with production companies (Moulin Rouge, Jean Ann Ryan Productions, Joanne Adderley promotions, Kerrie- Hayes Productions, Adrenalin Events, Grayboy Entertainment, Gr8 Eventz, FX Entertainment, Showtime Attractions, Entertainment Store), Australian TV; The Singing Bee, The Footy Show, Mornings with Kerri-Anne, The Today Show, Australia’s Funniest Home Videos, It Takes Two, Dancing With The Stars, Neighbours and The Ultimate High School Musical), TV Advertisements (Just Jeans, National Bank, Goulburn Valley), back-up dancing (Danni Minogue, Rhonda Burchmore, Irene Cara), cheerleading for NBL South Dragons and Dubai Rugby 7s, fashion parades for Loreal, Luxe and Myer, corporate shows for Crown casino and events across the country and overseas, appearances at the Grand Prix and the Grand Final, appearing in The Merry Widow with the Melbourne City Opera Company, dancing on the Tahitian Princess for Princess Cruises, and even a Bollywood movie “Salaam Namaste”. Karlie has also choreographed many award-winning routines at high level dance competitions throughout the state.

In 2010, Karlie decided to open her very own school to pass on her passion and love for dance, running classes one night a week at the local town hall. In 2011, Karlie Grace Dancers was officially born, and by 2013 classes had proved to be so popular, the

school relocated to their current studio in Berwick. Today 14 years later, the school is thriving with over 300 students, and is one of the leading up-and-coming dance schools in Melbourne's south-east. With their ever-popular KGD KIDZ Pre-school program, in-house Reformer Pilates studio with a specialised program for her dancers, classes on offer in all facets of dance and performance, Karlie enjoys sharing her passion for all things dance with her dedicated students and watching them thrive in the warm, nurturing atmosphere she has created.

Over the years the school has had many successes and student achievements, some of which include numerous Cecchetti Awards and events, Ballet Teachers Workshop accolades, Australian Ballet ITP programs, acceptance into numerous Full-Time Performing Arts schools throughout Melbourne and Sydney and having students go onto pursue careers in dance.

Karlie looks forward to watching her students 'find their inner grace' and become the very best versions of themselves for years to come.