

Mary Jo Leatherbarrow

Mary Jo (MJ) was born and raised in Buffalo, New York. She began dancing with Miss Patty in 1979, the year of Dance Spectrum's birth, studying tap, jazz, ballet, and hip hop. At the ripe, old age of ...17, MJ was asked to teach her first dance class as a substitute. A new passion had emerged. Over the next few years, she taught classes and choreographed award-winning routines.

To further her dance education, MJ moved to New York City to study at

Broadway Dance Center and STEPS on Broadway under such greats as Joe Lantieri, Mia Michaels, and Leslie Brown to name a few.

MJ's performance credits include "The Wiz", toured as a back-up dancer for a local recording artist, and many performances at charity events, parades, and grand openings. She has also recently danced in and choreographed the half-time show at the Phoenix Suns home opener this past year. Her choreography was recently selected and featured in the 2016 Arizona Dance Festival and a music video for a Phoenix Indie/alternative band to be released soon, where she is also a featured dancer. MJ is also the creative director of Tap Fusion, an all adult Tap troupe, with an age range of 25 to 85!

MJ left Buffalo in 2012 to move to Arizona to be with the love of her life. In her short time in AZ, she is already a well-respected, in-demand instructor all over the valley. MJ attributes her life-long passion for dance and successes to her humble beginnings and education at Dance Spectrum. Thank you Miss Patty! Hammer!

