

Meghan Rose Murphy is a cum laude graduate of Marymount Manhattan College, where she received dual degrees in Dance with a focus in technical theater and Communication Arts. Ms. Murphy is currently the production stage manager for Complexions Contemporary Ballet, directed by Dwight Rhoden and Desmond Richardson, and Stephen Petronio Company. In addition she was a part of the production team for Vail International Dance Festival and is Marymount Manhattan College Dance Department's Production Sound Designer. She has worked at Lincoln Center on the Clive Barnes Awards, SAB Workshop and Buglisi Dance Theatre's *Table of Silence Project*. Previously she was the stage manager for Peridance Contemporary Dance Company as well as production and house manager of the Salvatore Capezio Theater at Peridance. Ms. Murphy has stage managed for additional performances and companies including Laguna Dance Festival, APAP, Azul Dance Theater, Synthesis Dance Project, and Pushing Progress.



You memories from the Dance Spectrum.

What year did you "graduate"?

I graduated from Dance Spectrum in 2008 when I graduated high school. So many memories but I would have to say some of the best was performing in the dance off at ADA competition with "Come Look at the Freaks" and performing at the gala at NYCDA Nationals for "Drum Beat" and "Keep Breathing" in 2008 my senior year. As always every years studio rehearsals and recitals were some of my favorite memories and weeks every year. From the annual Senior Tap joke, to dressing room fun and performing in the beautiful Shea's to all the summers spent in NYC and weekends away for competition/conventions I couldn't imagine my life in buffalo without DS.

What is your first memory in a performance?

My first performance memory was probably onstage at Shea's in "boom shaka laka" my first acro dance. I think I took about 12 steps for each great vine but I rocked my bridge probably held it too long just to prove I could.

What drew you to dance?

My mom put me in dance at a young age as was my sister and I am more than happy she did. It was only meant to be an activity but I loved how I could just loose myself in the studio and onstage. Dance there is never an end point or a correct answer you can always improve, learn something and challenge what you already are working on. As I got older it was also a way to channel my emotions and express myself

What is your funniest memory dancing in class or on stage?

On stage one of my funniest memories was running onstage at the recital and tripping and falling flat on my face before getting to our opening positions. I was so serious about that run on. The best or maybe worst part is you can still watch it on the video and we definitely did this at a party or two.

What dance was your inspiration growing up?

There were so many so I am just going to make a list I think - Dream Team (acro), Arachnophobia (Contortion), When Dove's Cry (Jazz), Back in Business (Jazz), Hearts and Flowers (Contemporary).

Do you remember the color of your first costume or a description of it?

My first costume was a white tutu with bunny ears and was called "Wanna buy a bunny?" I am pretty sure Ms. Lynne taught this class. Year 2 though was by far the most memorable and I can still do the dance if you want "I like bananas because they have no bones" - obviously that costume was yellow.

What is your favorite part of coming to the Dance Spectrum and Buffalo?

Buffalo is my hometown it is my roots and where I learned and began my career in this arts industry. Dance Spectrum has always pushed me to be the best I could in every way and it allowed me to explore the arts and to find the world that I couldn't imagine not being a part of.

Where did you go to college and what was your major?

I went to Marymount Manhattan College (MMC) and double majored in Dance and Communication Arts. I received a BA in 2012.

What's next? (Brief synopsis of what you did in college/after/how you got involved in what you currently doing)? MMC Dance Dept has a concentration in Dance and Media, which was wonderful for me. While in the program I began focusing in technical theater. I worked on several school productions as a Sound Designer and Assistant Stage Manager. This led me to job at Peridance Capezio Center. There I was the Theater Manager of there black box theater as well as did video and media design/editing. I am currently working for Complexions Contemporary Ballet and Stephen Petronio Company as Production Stage Manager. I also continue to work on several dance productions across the US including Vail International Dance Festival (including performances from Lil Buck, Tyler Peck and Robbie Fairchild) and Laguna Dance Festival (included performances from Misty Copeland) among many others.

How do you think dancing at the Dance Spectrum prepared you for your future?

I learned a great deal through my years at DS. I think what sticks the most is the work ethic and constant drive to become better. We always were also working as a team and helping one another which has turned to be a major part of my job as a Production Manager. It wasn't necessarily about dance that Ms. Patty, Ms. Stacey, Ms. Sue, Ms. Lynne and the rest of the faculty always stressed but to make ourselves the best we could be. Specialty class was also once of the most beneficial classes, I didn't know it at the time. It showed us the past of the industry of dance as well as what other parts there are.

What's up next for you?

I am currently enjoying touring the US and the world with dance companies and helping making some wonderful productions happen. I hope to continue to work on new and exciting dance productions. Let's hope one takes me back to Buffalo to share with you all!