

# *i*DANCE

MAGAZINE



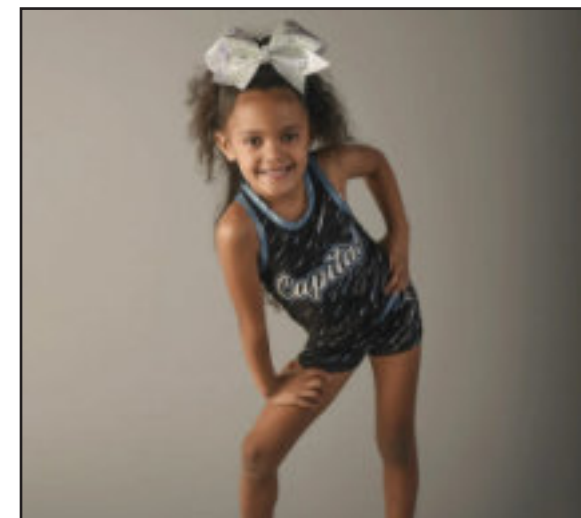
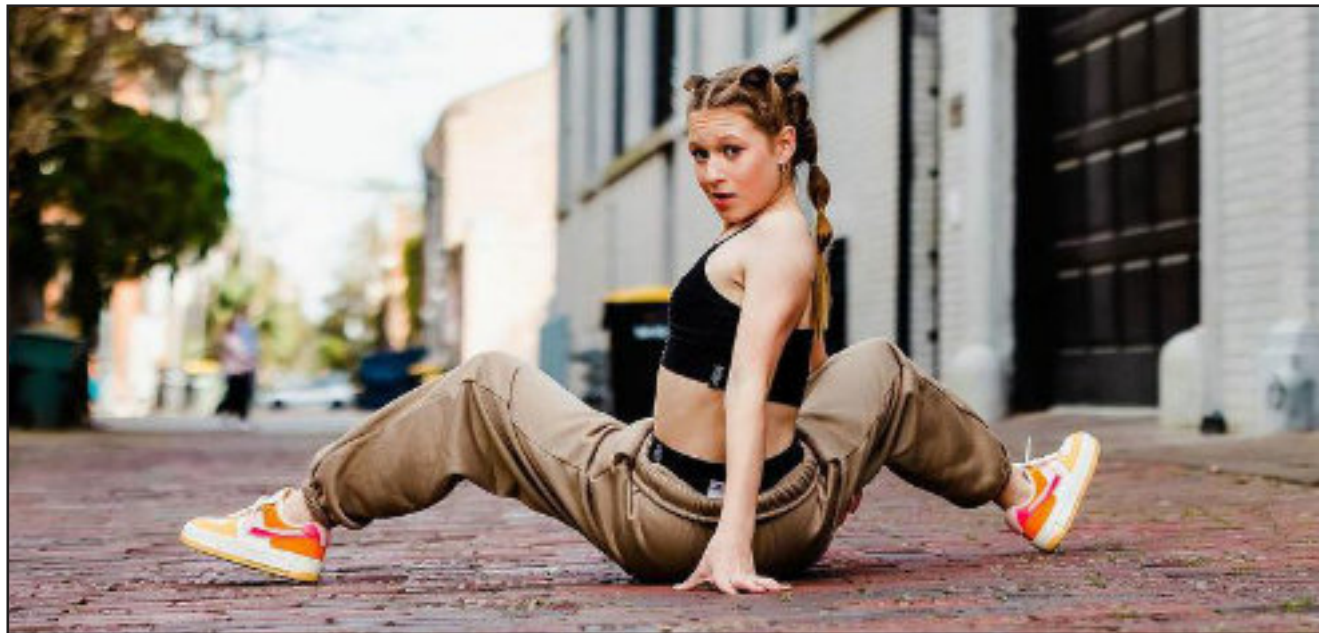
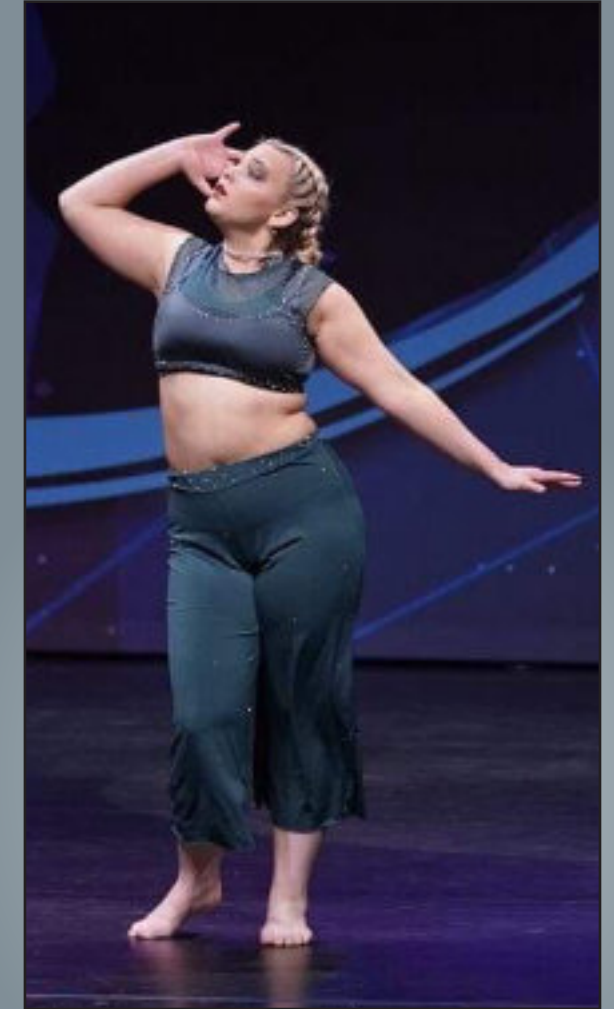
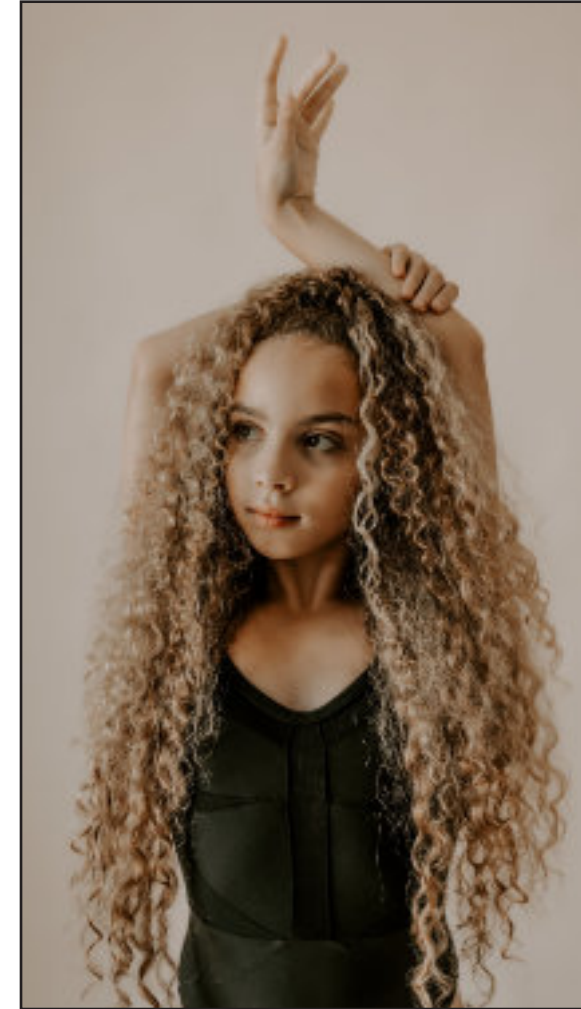
**Ariana  
Amador**

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# Content Preview



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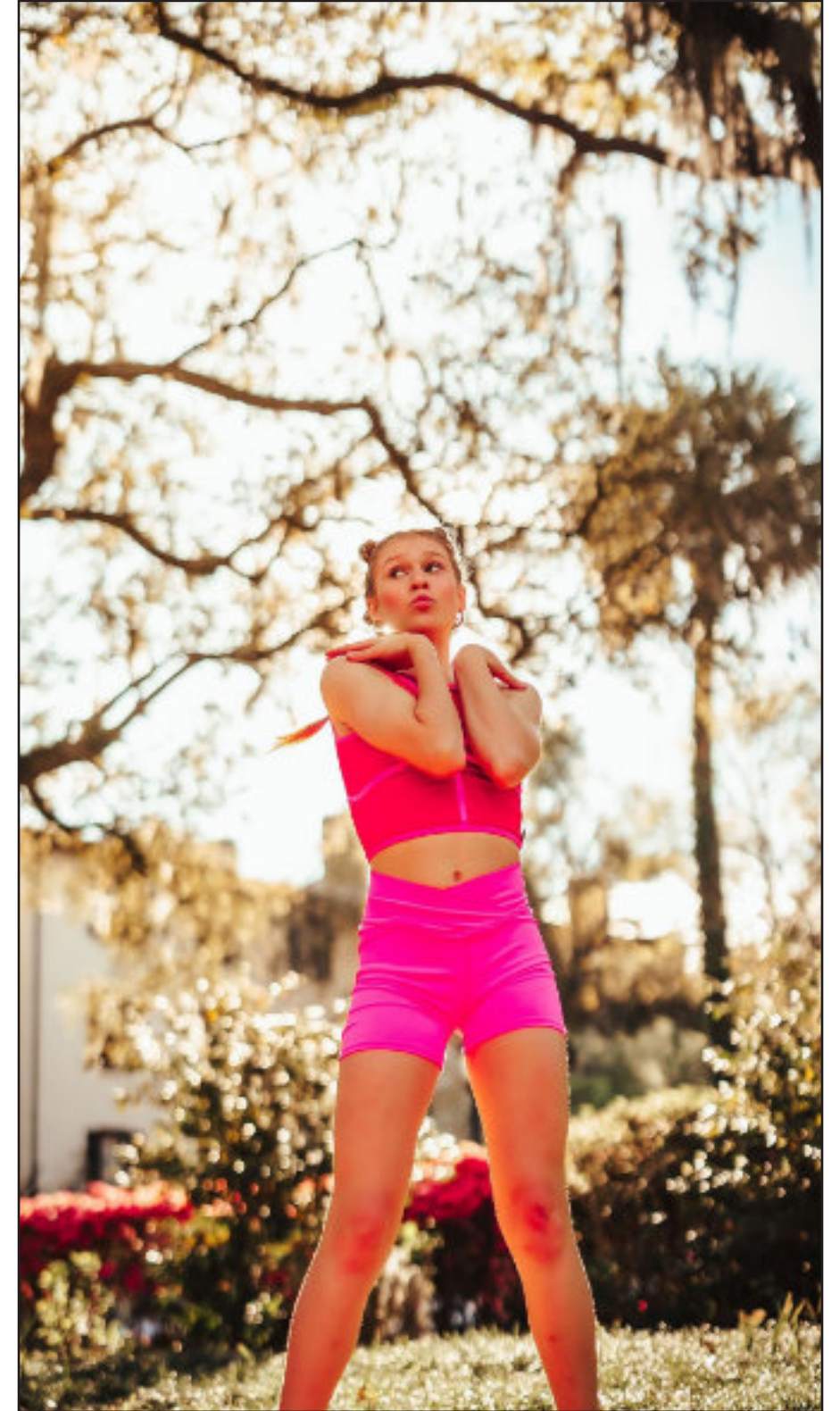
# Amelia Thomas



I have always dreamed of becoming a dance teacher. I struggle with ADHD and Dyslexia and dance is a place that actually feels comfortable and not like I'm struggling. I want to be that light for

other kids who want to express themselves and be confident. I would love to dance in a music video or on tour one day as hip hop is my forte!



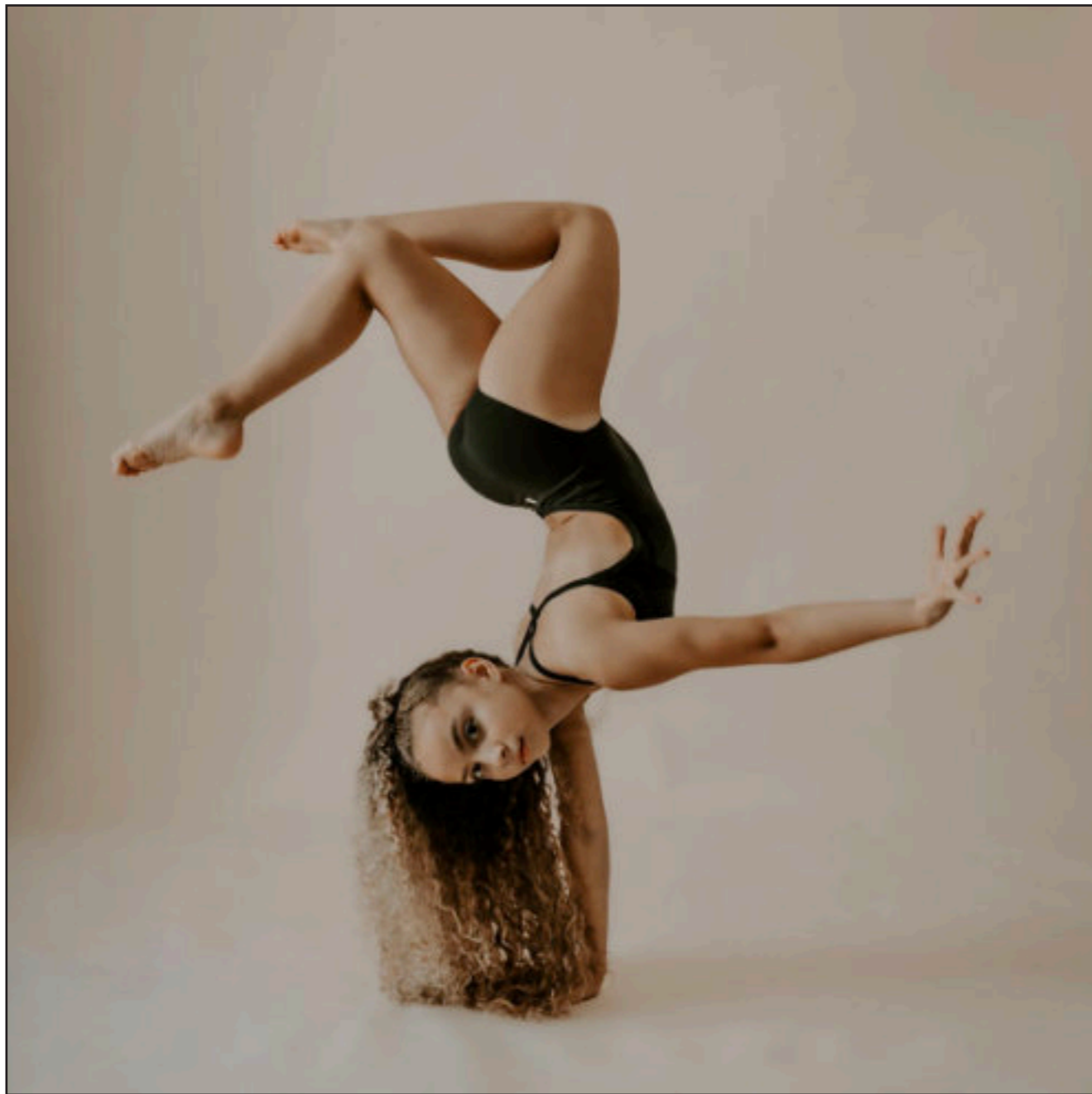




# Ariana Rosemarie Amador

My Name is Ariana Rosemarie Amador and I dance at The Southern Strutt almost every day of the week. My mom says that I dance since I was in her belly, but I guess officially I started my training at 18 months. I love dancing and everyone at my school knows that because I'm always tumbling in the hallways. I participated in "GOT TALENT

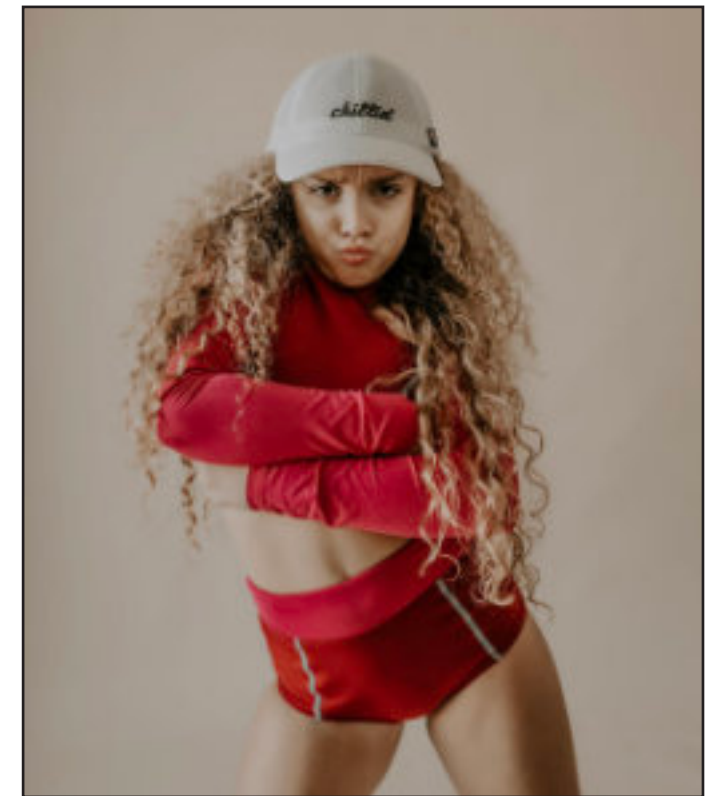
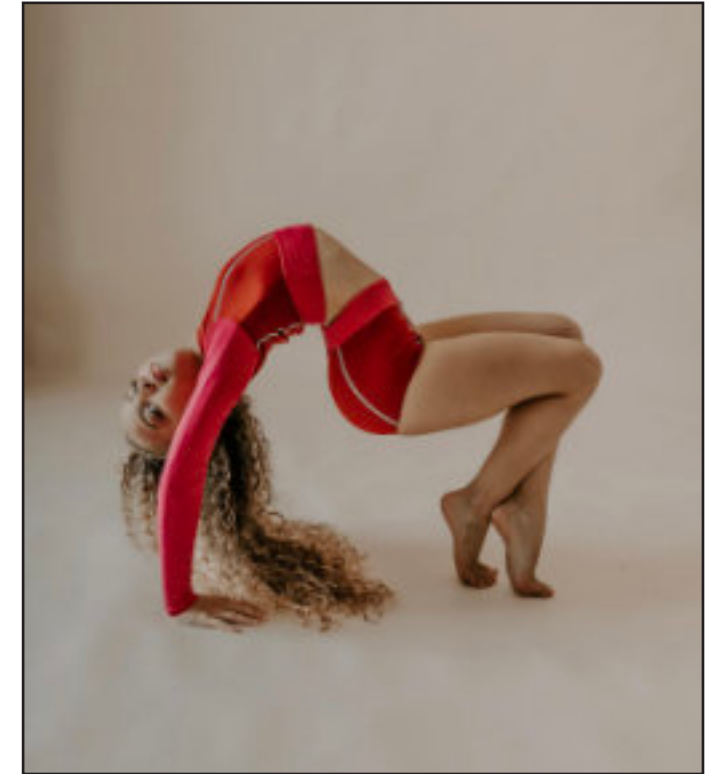
Spain" two years ago and I gained the "Yes" of all 3 judges and earned a pass to semifinals but I told my mom that TV was not exactly what I thought and definitely not my thing. What I love most about dance is that it allows me to express different emotions and tell a story. I have been taking ballet, jazz, tap, musical theater, acro and



gymnastics since I was 3 and I love all of the styles so much it's hard to pick my favorite. I started Ballroom about a year ago too because my parents want me to also learn Latin dances because it's part of my heritage. I love my studio and my teachers because they challenge me each day to become a better dancer. I also love my dance friends so much! When I grow up I want to be an acro or a jazz dance teacher because

everyone says those are my strong styles and that I have a big personality. I also want to be a therapist like my mom, to help teenagers because I have 2 teen siblings and I always give them advice. At dance and at school my friends come to me to listen and support them too.

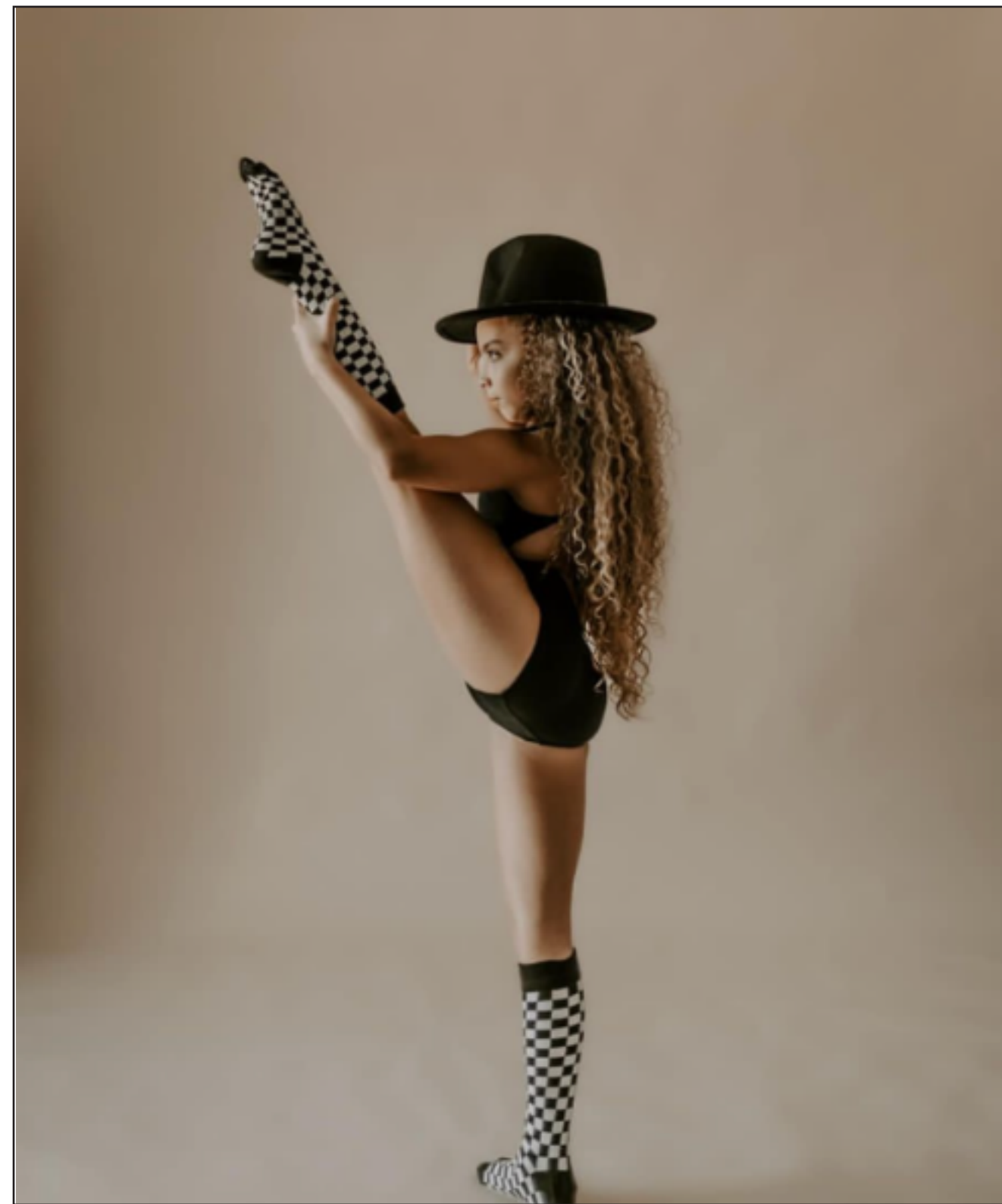
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# Brenna Jackson



My name is Brenna Jackson. Thank you so much for giving me this opportunity to get published. I am 9 year old dancer. I dance along with my studies. It is such a joy to be able to do both of these. I am also a photogenic person who is

always ready to take pictures. I have also participated in many dance tournaments including one in Richmond, Canada. I want to represent my dance club in the nationals.





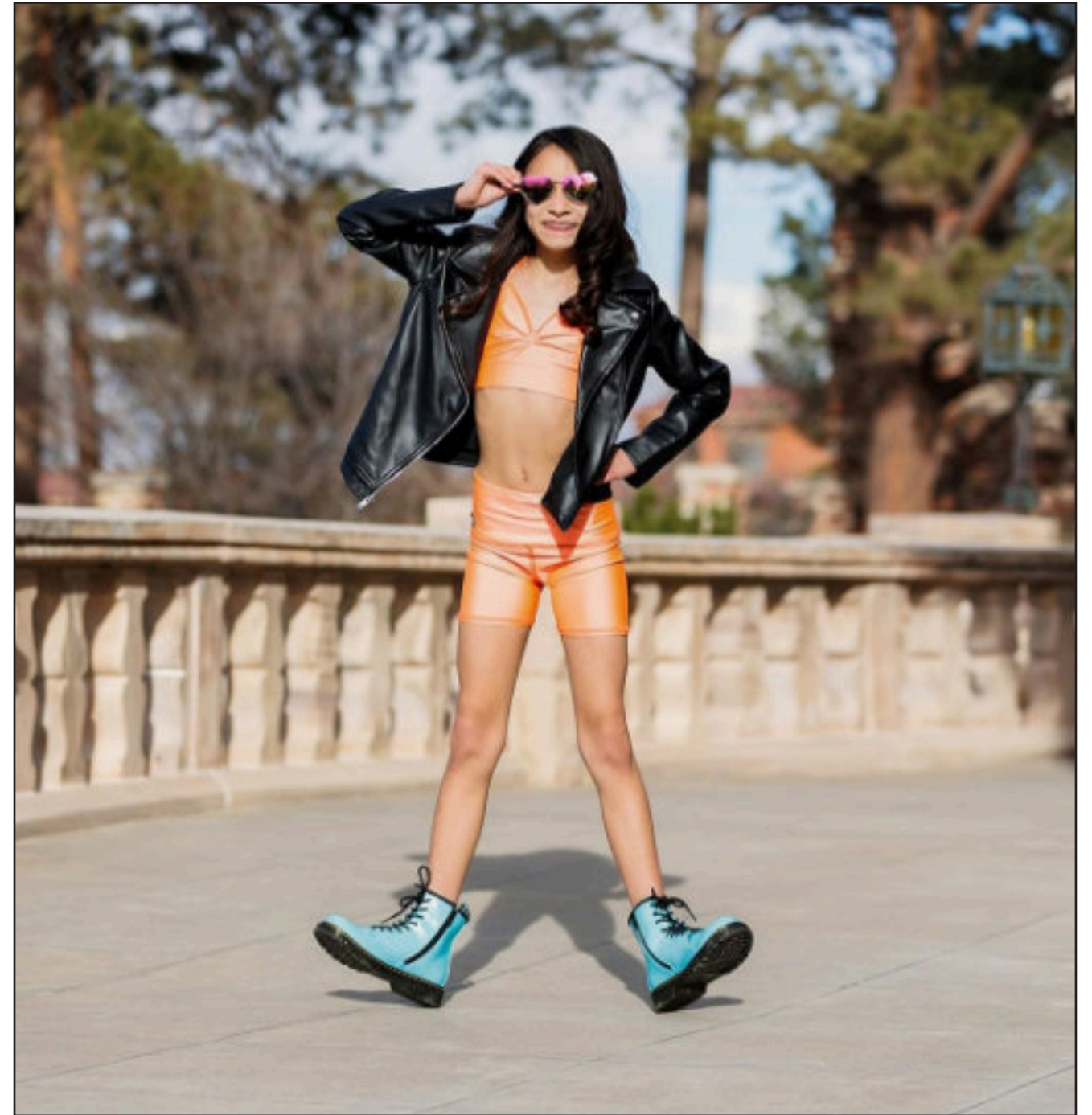


# Brielle Aubry



My name is Brielle Aubry. I am always in a mood to dance. There's no good time to dance. Everytime I am ready to dance. Anything else can exhaust me but not dance. Hitting the stage is something which I always look forward to. I love dance and I

enjoy dance and therefore dance dreams . I want to compete in every dance tournament I can. There is no such challenge in terms of dancing. I just want to continue doing this.











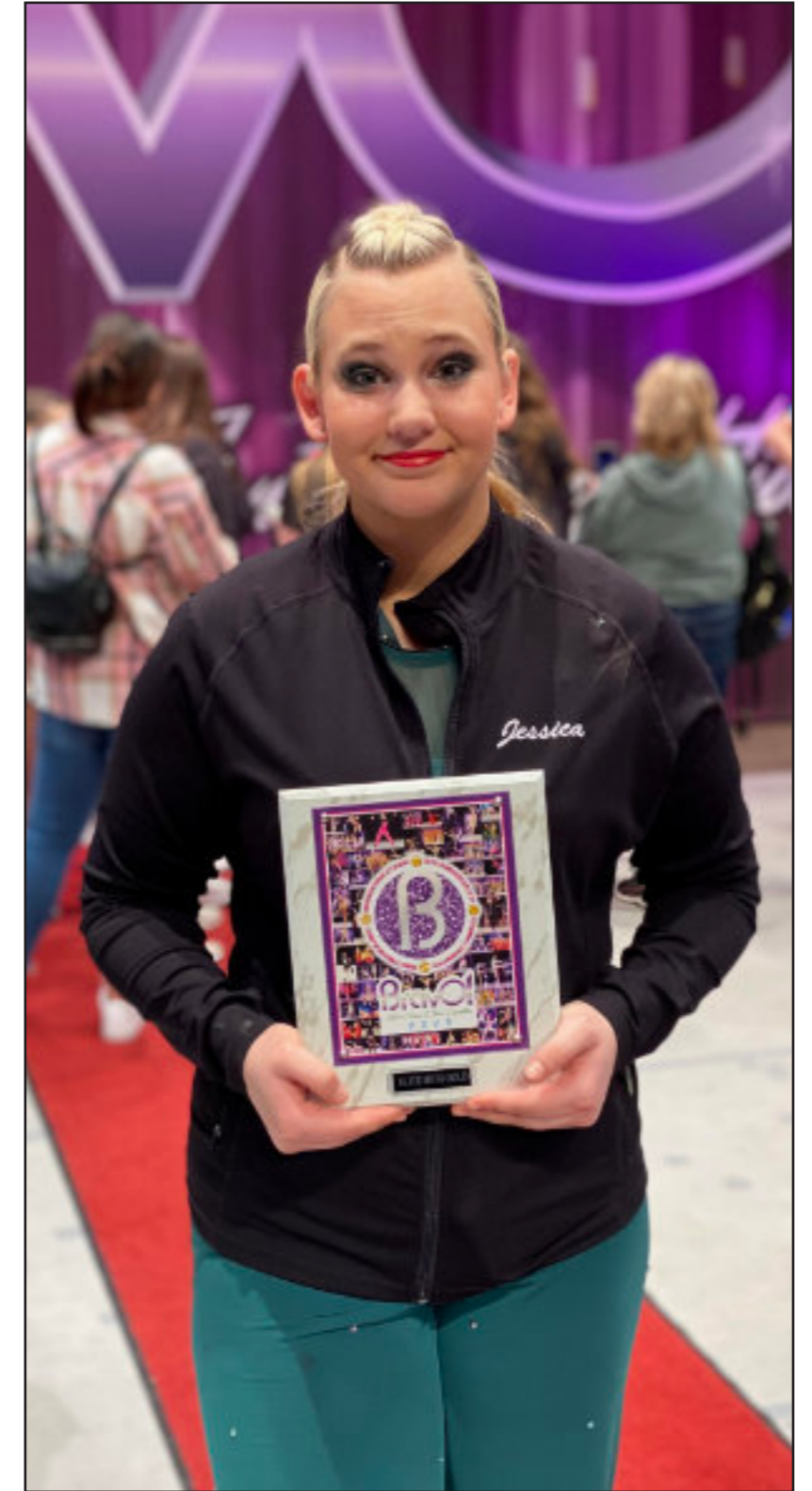


My name is Jessica Pelkey. I am currently holding the title of Miss Kansas Jr. Teen. I am normally a competitive dancer through The Dance Spot in Burlingame Kansas but recently stepped out of the box and competed in pageantry. I currently speaking about the mental health crisis in teens around my age. I feel there is still a huge stigma about this. I more focus on ADHD, depression, anxiety, and suicide.

I find dance to be therapeutic. Dancing on a competitive level can be super challenging but you can find it to be therapeutic on many levels. My coaches inspire me to work harder and do better. I have been dancing for many years but just this year I was moved up from novice level to intermediate after getting some pretty high scores. They knew it was time to move me up. Although this gave me great anxiety and still does, I do find myself working on centering myself so I can relax before I perform. My coach tells me "it is what it is." She has also reminded me when I do my solo that "the judges don't know if you forgot parts of your routine, so you improv." This really does help.

What I want to say to other dancers: keep moving, keep dancing. If you're new, you're going to be great! Keep working, and keep trying new moves. If you're a seasoned dancer, remember there are new kids watching you and want to be like you. Be a good example. Also, keep up the amazing work!

Photos Credits: Tommy Peterson T.H. Photography, Dance pics (Prestige)









# Kate Millar

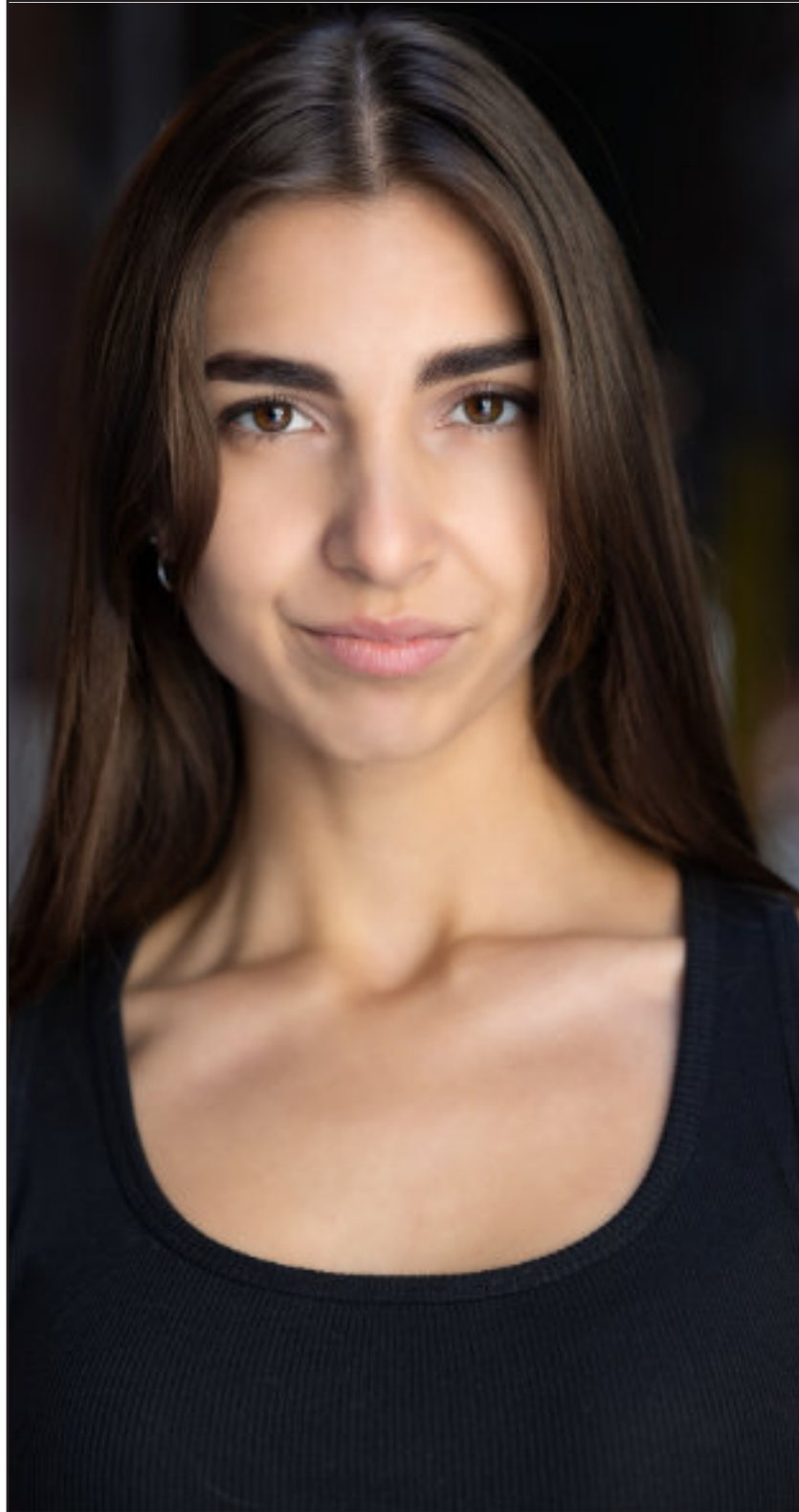
My name is Kate Millar. I am a professional dancer based in New York City. I moved here from the west coast of Canada to study dance at the prestigious Ailey School. Now that I have completed my studies, I have been working as a dancer here in New York!

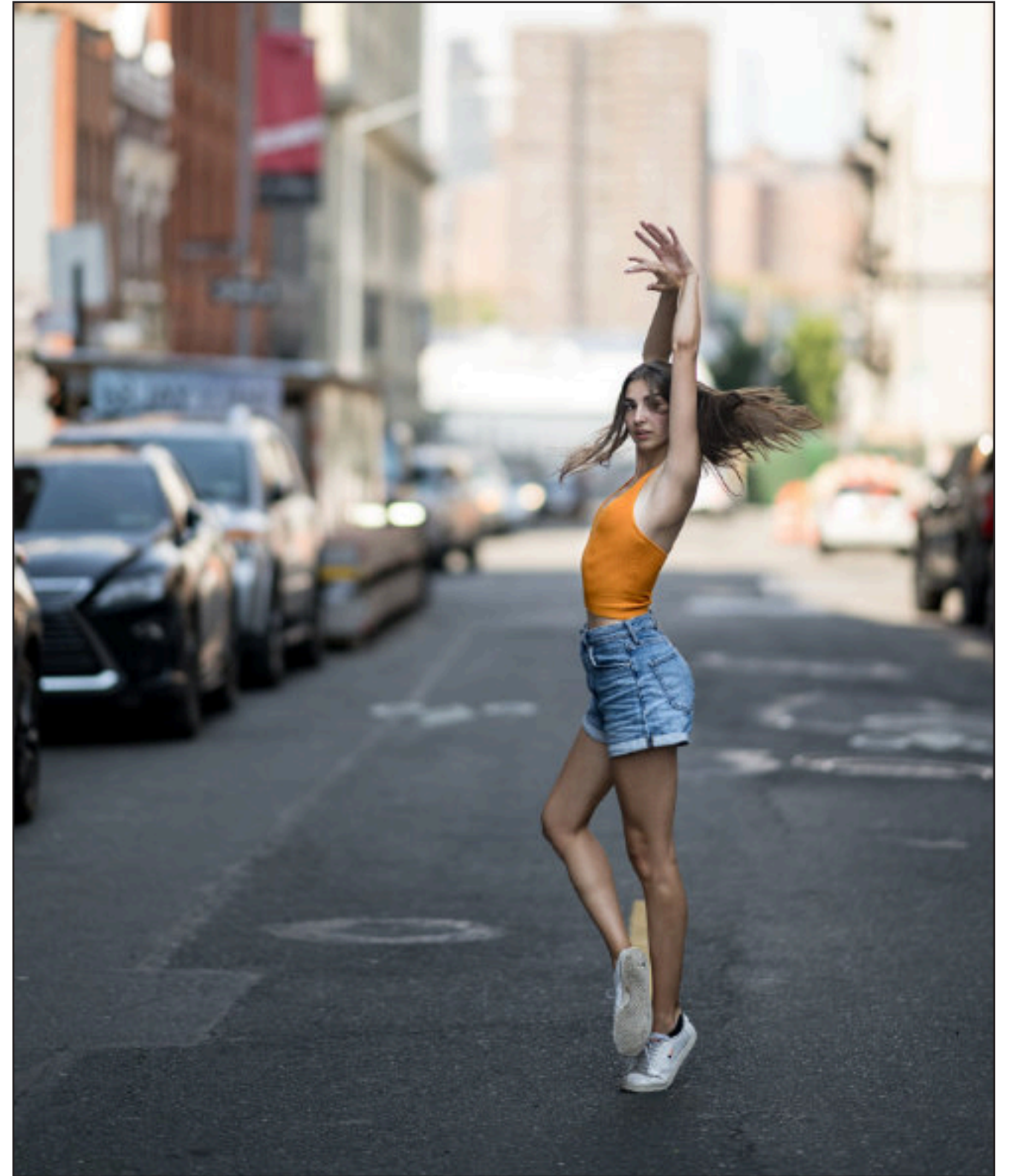
The experiences I've had could only be possible in a city as crazy, and thrilling as this one! I've been embracing the hustle and been involved in many projects since graduation, including a National Tour with a recording artist, several music video projects and most recently the opportunity to perform alongside the one and only Doja Cat!

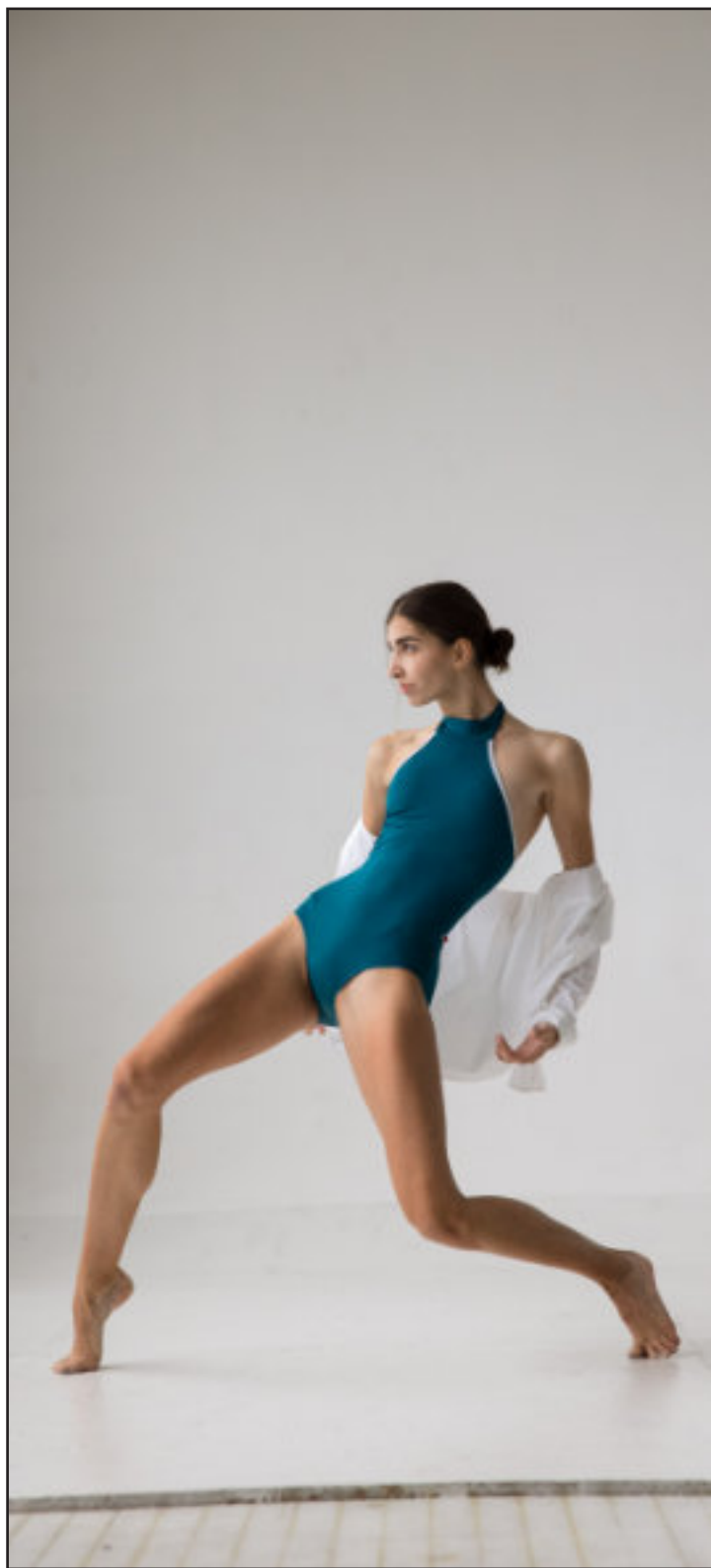
Although I have done well so far, there is still so much to learn about the industry and what it truly means to be a working professional. Everyday, I am humbled albeit deeply inspired by fellow dancers in the community as I take classes, and continue to meet some of the most talented performers I have ever known. It really is an honor to get to grow as an artist, and a person, in a city as extraordinary as this one.

I can't wait to see what my future holds as I continue on this challenging, yet profoundly rewarding trek to discovering who I am as an artist, and how I am meant to fit into this world.

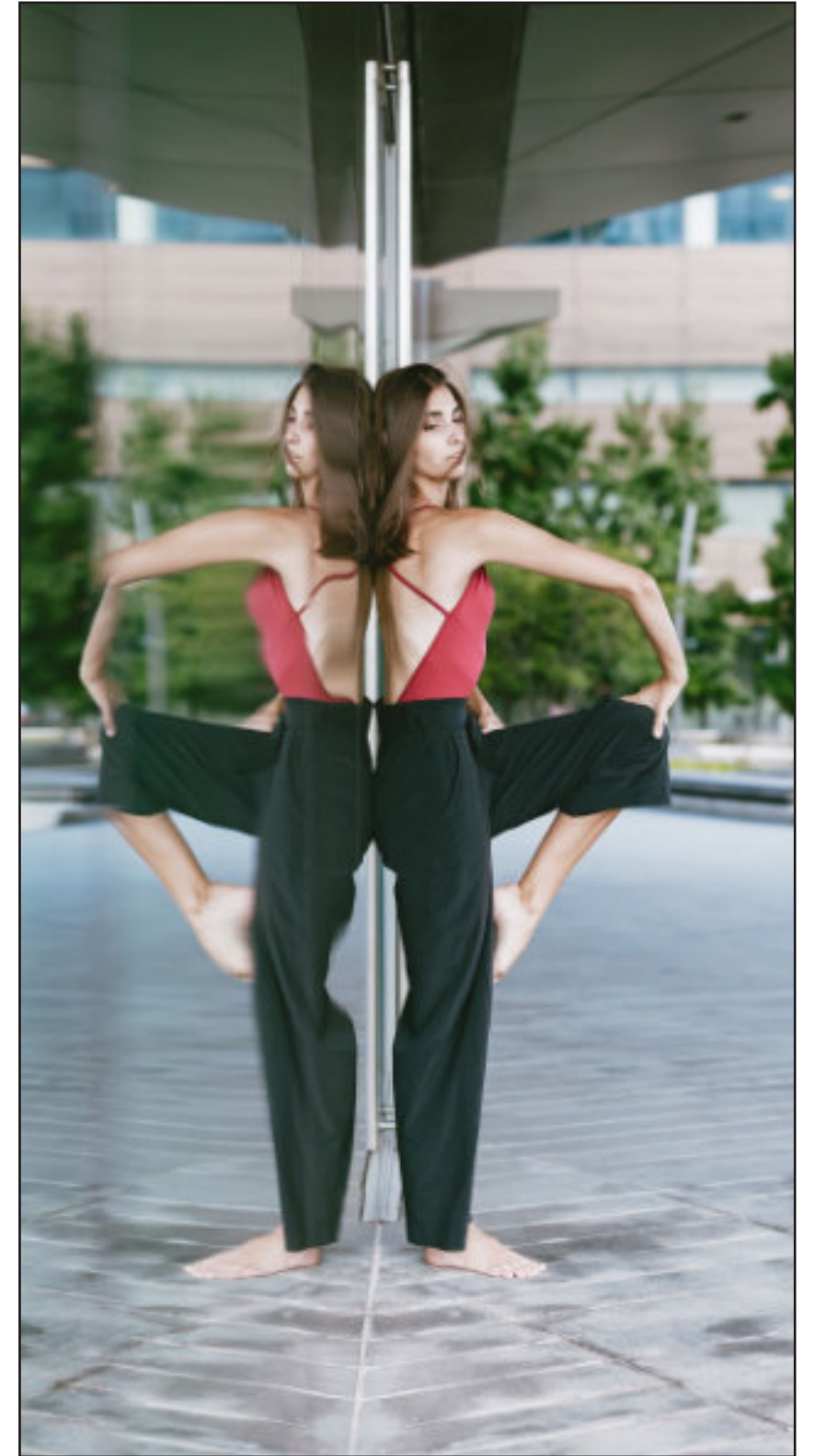
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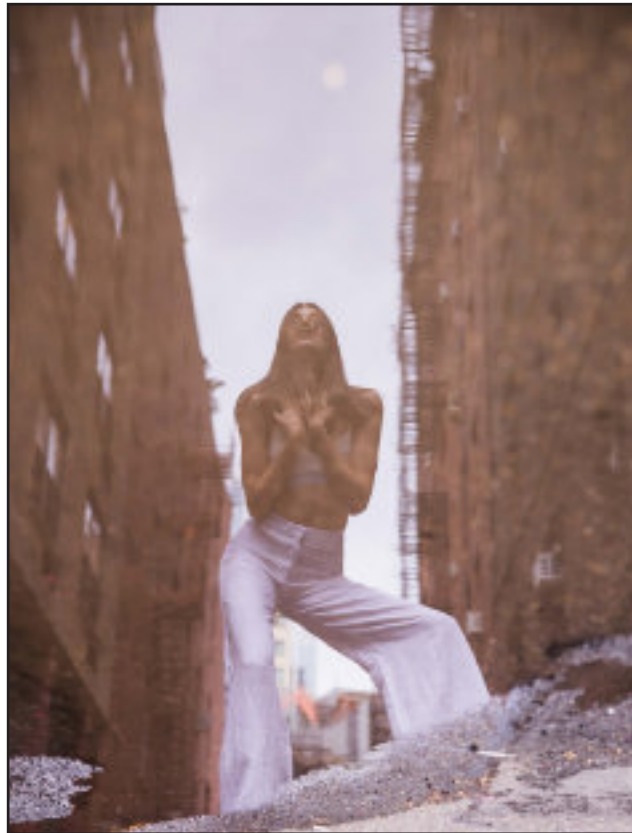
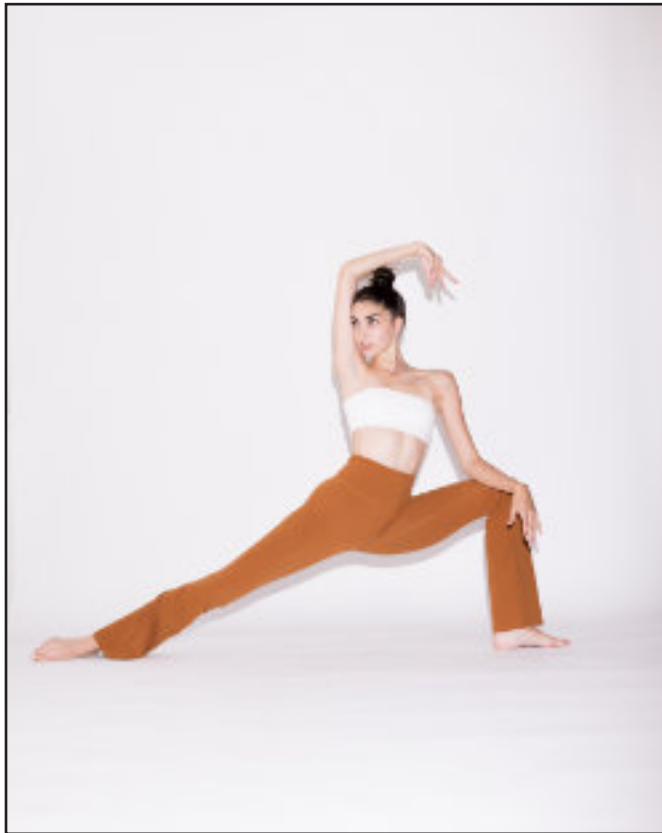












# Michelle Davis



My name is Michelle Davis and I am a dance teacher with over 17 years of experience. I began dancing when I was 3 years old with a dream of becoming a professional ballet dancer. In addition to my extensive years of training in ballet, I also trained in contemporary, lyrical, jazz, tap, hip hop, and musical theatre.

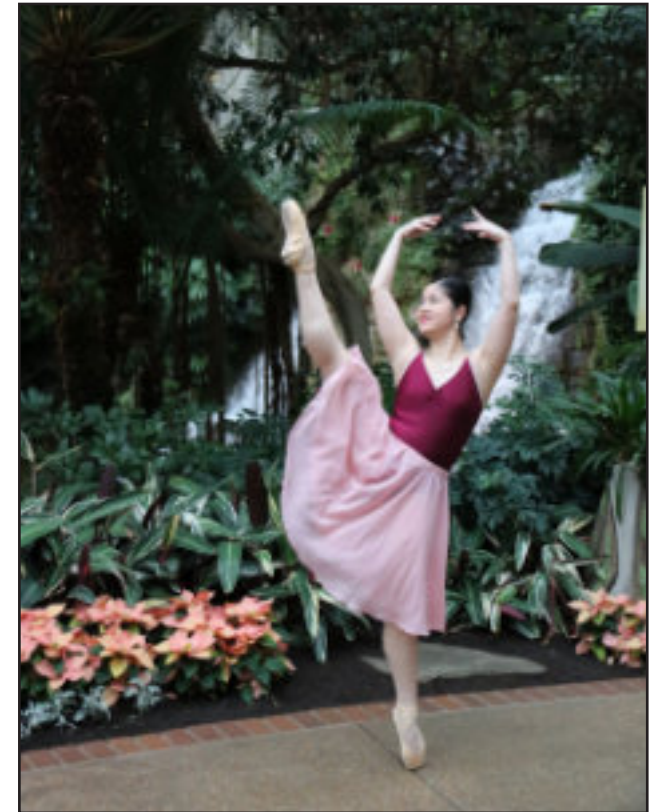
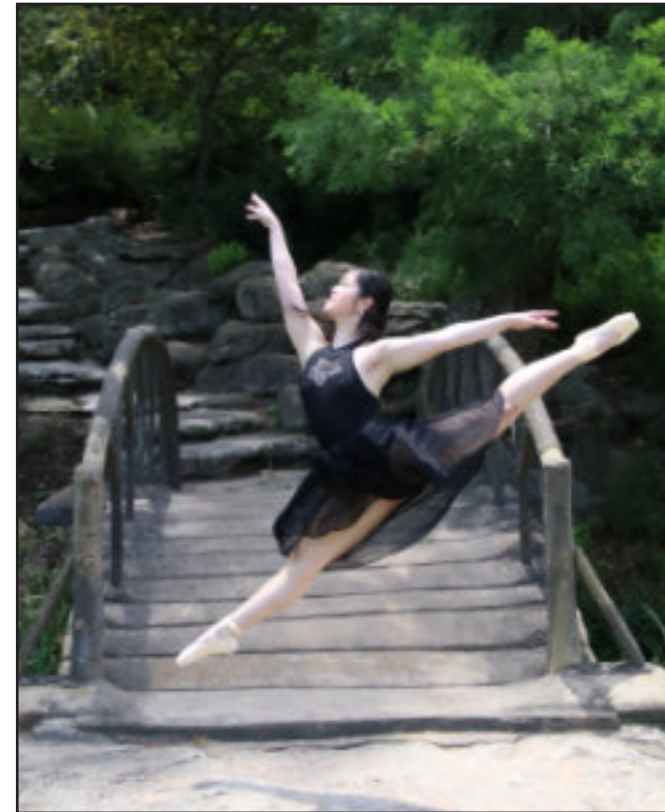
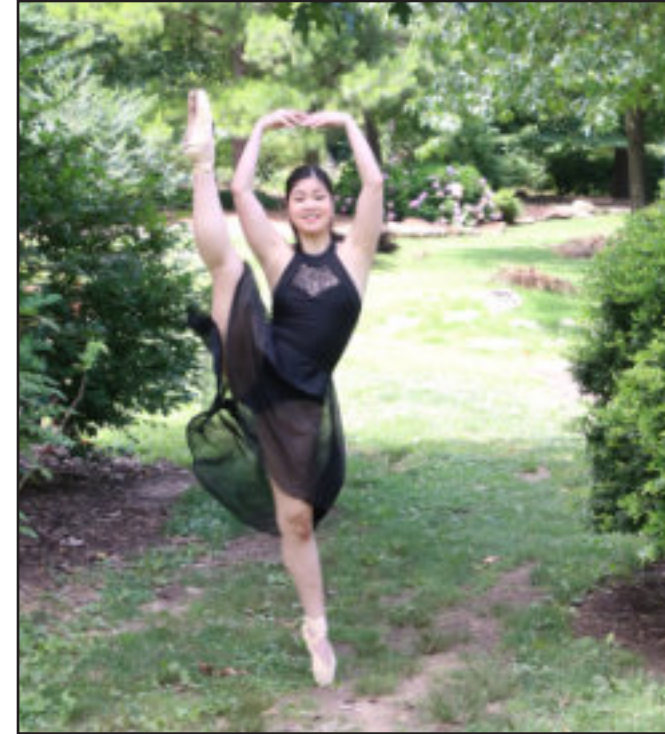
My performance experience includes principal and soloist roles in *The Nutcracker* (Sugar Plum Fairy, Snow Queen, and Clara), *Sleeping Beauty* (Aurora and Lilac Fairy), *The Dream Scene* from *Don Quixote* (Kitri/Dulcinea), and *Les Sylphides* (Mazurka Soloist). My competition dance experience includes award winning and judge's choice award winning solos, duets, and group pieces.

My original goal was to join a professional ballet company and then transition post-dance to becoming a professional stage manager. However, my career path changed and here I am as a recent college graduate with an Associate's in Arts - Theatre (emphasis on Stage Management). My recent achievements include being chosen as the Assistant Director for Theatre West's production of *Pride and Prejudice*, becoming a dance teacher with Kay's Dance Movement, and receiving a Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival merit award for Stage Management for Tulsa Community College's production of John Ciani's romantic comedy play, *Love/Sick*.

Photos Credits: Chris and Angie Davis



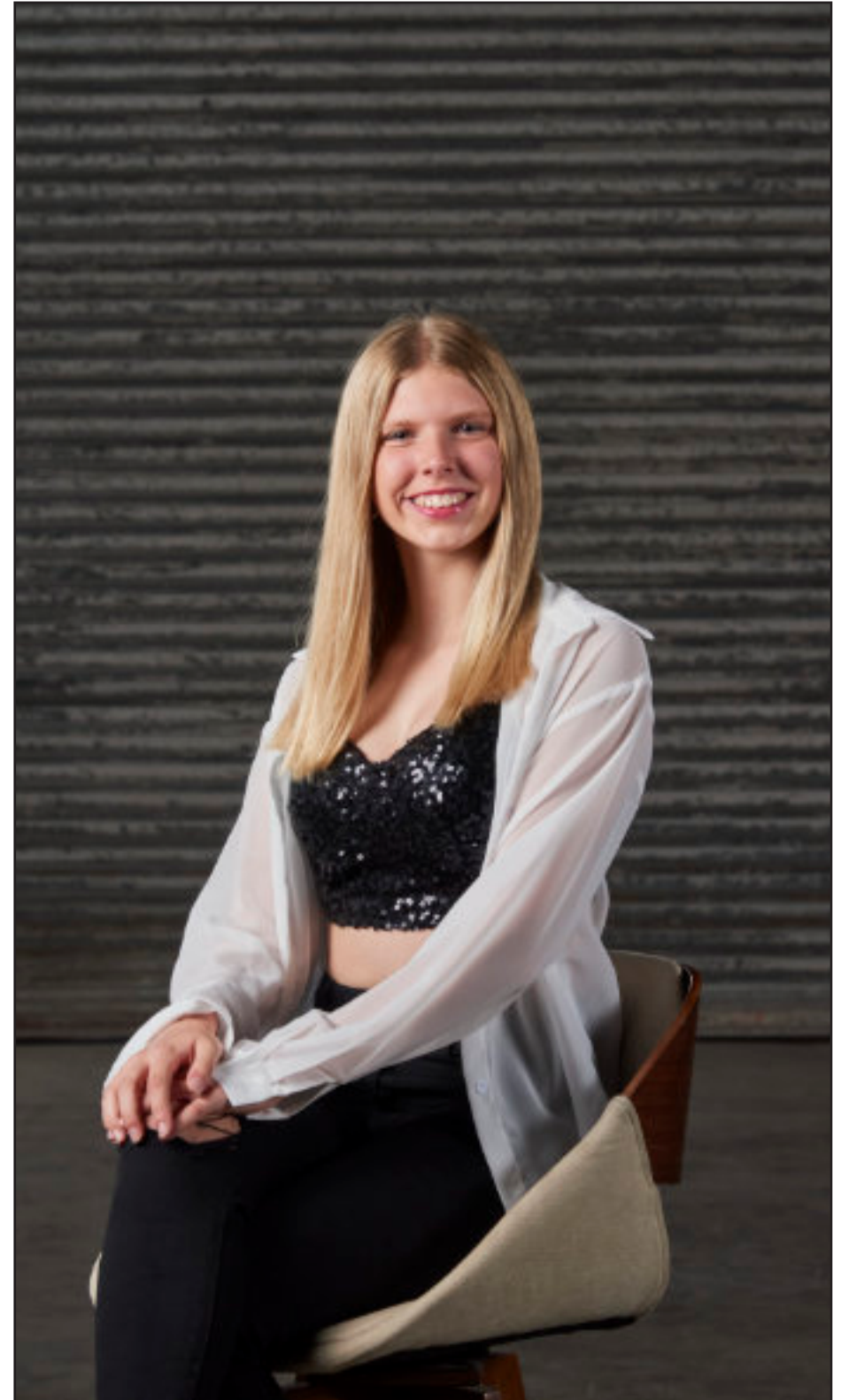


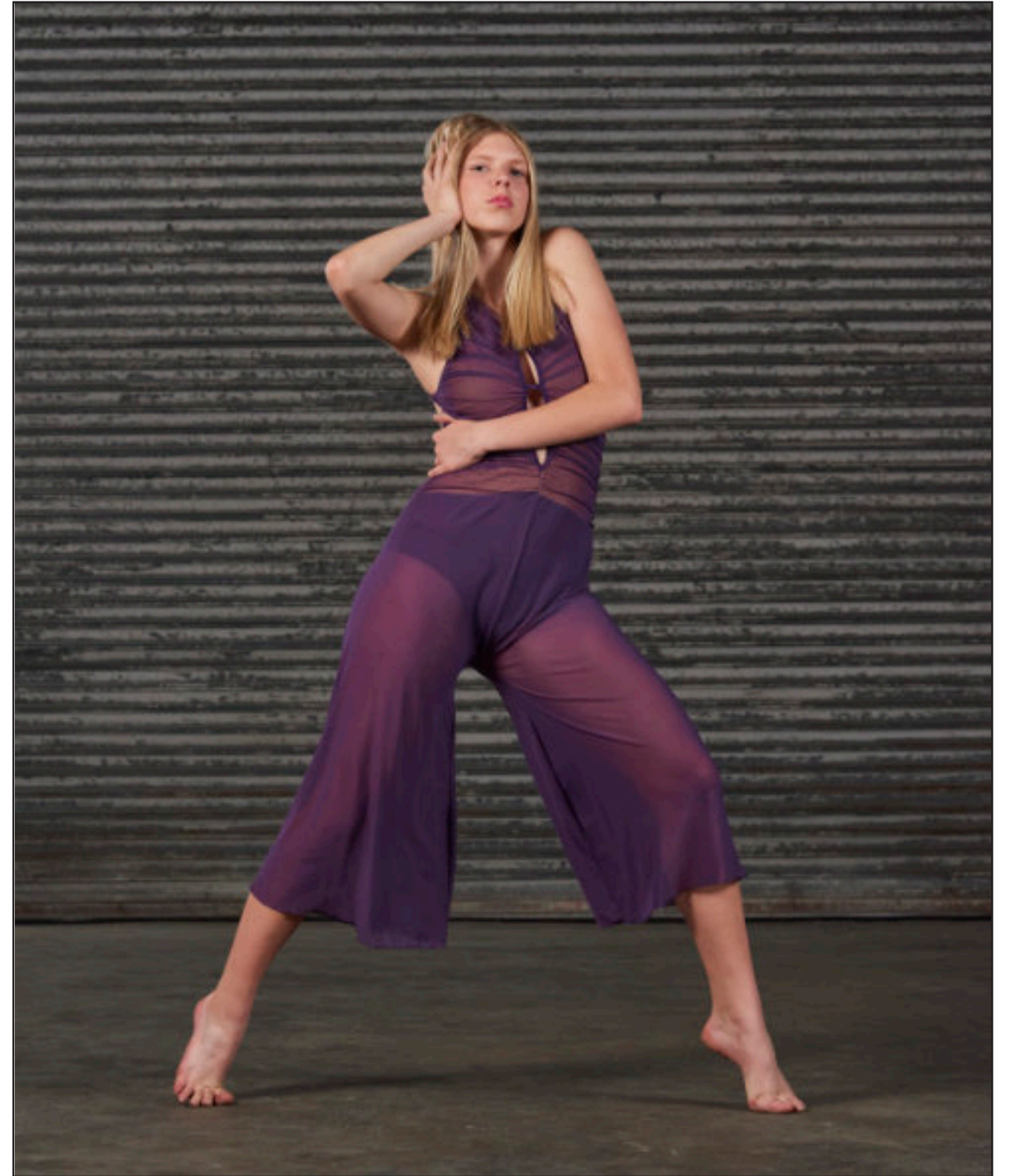
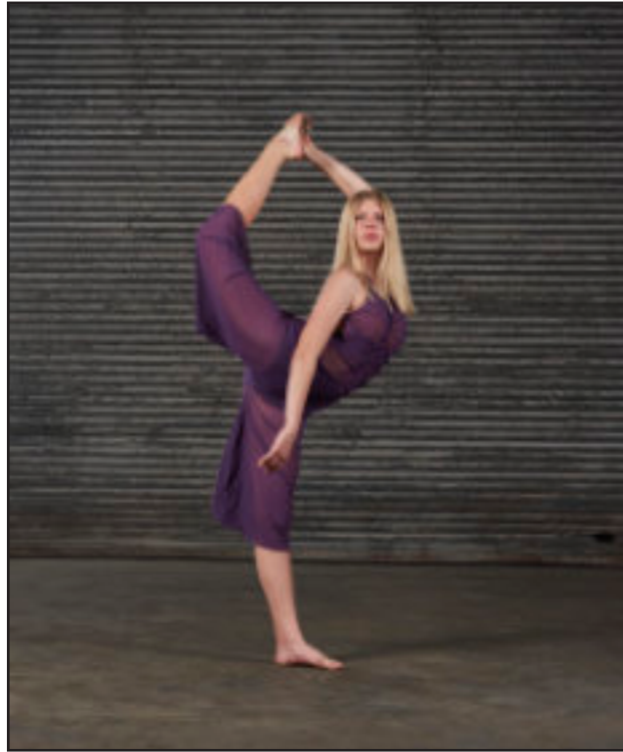




Hello everyone my name is Sophia. I am 14 years-old and dance in Canfield, Ohio at EPIC Dance Complex. I dance all genres but three of my favorite are tap, contemporary and hip-hop. My dreams are to attend college as premedical and eventually go to medical school. I have had many self achievements throughout my dance years but my two greatest achievements have been winning nationals with my best friends in Pensacola, FL year one at EPIC and receiving a 5 star elite adjudication and placing in the overalls with Tap, in my first year as a teen at nationals. Some of my goals are to continue to challenge myself over these last few years of dance. Dancing is not always seen as a sport, however dance has shown me how to be disciplined, humble, and confident! All of that on top of the physical demands, as it is a true art and sport. I have encountered the same challenges as most dancers do over the years. The important thing is any challenge I have faced have only encouraged me to improve! I cannot thank my dance teachers enough for all they have done and continue to do for myself and our team. I cannot wait to see what my last few years have in-store!

Photos Credits: Emmy Baker @emeraldeyes (Instagram)









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## Kate Millar



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