



JoAnn East  
Dance Educator & Artistic Director of JEDEC

Miss JoAnn began her dance training in 1979 at Michelle Goodwin's School of Dance, where she studied Ballet, Pointe, Tap, and all styles of Jazz. Through this school Miss JoAnn earned many achievement awards and scholarships. Her love and interest in teaching began in 1983 when she became a volunteer student teacher. After successful completion of the Dance Teacher's Club of Boston's Dance Educator's Training Course, Miss JoAnn graduated Magna Cum Laude which lead to her appointment as an assistant teacher for one year, advancing to become a dance instructor at MGSD in 1986.

Since becoming a dance educator, Miss JoAnn has, and continues to enjoy, sharing her love of dance and dance performance productions with students of all ages, levels and aspirations.

In 1989, Miss JoAnn became certified by, and an active member of the Dance Teacher's Club of Boston incorporated with the American Society, achieving Summa Cum Laude honors on her entrance exam. Since becoming an active member of the DTCB/AS she has now served two terms as a chair on the Board of Directors. The prestigious Dance Teachers Club of Boston is, like its members, committed to the highest standards in dance education. All active members continually hone their skills by studying from national and world renowned dance educators and dance industry leaders. Two of Miss JoAnn's students have won the esteemed and celebrated "Dance Teacher's Club of Boston Award".

This award is given to the student who is graduating the Dance Educator's Training Course, where the faculty composed of distinguished dance educator specialists and professors, choose one student from each graduating class whom they feel exhibit the most promising skills and aptitude to become a dance teacher and educator.

In 1990, Miss JoAnn attended the Gus Giordano Dance Center in Chicago, Illinois where she vigorously studied Ballet, Tap, Modern and all styles of Jazz including Hip-Hop at the professional level. Miss JoAnn also attended and trained with the dance

professionals at Dance Center South of Atlanta, Georgia.

In 1991, JoAnn East opened the JoAnn East Dance Education Center of Winchendon, founding the education of performing dance arts in the area. In 1992 Miss JoAnn instituted the non-profit JoAnn East Dance Co. & scholarship program. Since its beginnings, hundreds of students from the communities JEDEC serves have enjoyed the local and national opportunities this charitable non-profit program provides. The JoAnn East Dance Co. is proudly open to any JEDEC dancer, ages five to adult, who wishes to participate. In 1999, 2001 and 2006; the JoAnn East Dance Company and members of JEDEC performed at the Magic Kingdom in Disney World, Orlando. As part of the performance tour, JEDEC students have the opportunity to take a behind the scenes specialized dance convention and seminar from the dance and casting professionals at Walt Disney World.

In 2002, JEDEC added the JoAnn East Competition and Touring Team expanding upon its recreational competition program which began in the 96-97 dance season. This elite and elective program is catered for the serious dance student who wishes to challenge themselves by competing at the highest of caliber dance competitions and conventions. Through this program Miss JoAnn's dancers and choreography have earned silver, second regional placements and most recently gold medal honors; also earning first and second regional titles. The team also won the prestigious WCDE Judges Entertainment Award for the whimsical: "Bug Ball" in 2003. Members of the team have also enjoyed and benefited from winning full scholarships through an audition process.

The JEDEC dance program, JoAnn East's choreography and the JEDEC teaching faculty and students have received numerous local and national accolades and dance achievement scholarships. Miss JoAnn is equally proud of the JEDEC alumni who have gone onto accomplish not only professional employment and success in the dance and entertainment industry, but also to the JEDEC alumni who have achieved incredible success and achievement in their college studies and chosen

careers. JoAnn feels honored and privileged to have been a part of these former students lives as they grew up studying dance and sharing memories and milestones at JEDEC.

Miss JoAnn has additionally enjoyed working throughout her career as a dance instructor and or performer for the Dance Teacher's Club of Boston, Groton Center for the Arts, Michelle Goodwin's School of Dance & Dance Company, Cushing Academy, Winchendon's Clark Memorial Community Center, The Winchendon Public Library, The Winchendon School and Mount Wachusett Community College.

In 2004, JEDEC expanded by opening a second location in Ashburnham, MA. Since, the JEDEC dance educator and administrative faculty, as well as the students and parents of JEDEC have so enjoyed the many benefits; a second location offers.

Miss JoAnn's philosophy in part is to *"never stop learning, never stop training and never stop having fun doing so!"*. It is through this conviction and Miss JoAnn's commitment to continual education and training that JEDEC students enjoy the finest in dance education. JEDEC dance studies hold the integrity of classical, technical training combined with the fresh modern feel of contemporary choreography and evolving up to date material.

JoAnn East's hobbies include taking college classes at Fitchburg State College where she proudly has earned a Summa Cum Laude GPA, but what she enjoys and treasures the most is spending time with family and friends. Miss JoAnn and her husband Michael are the proud parents of four beautiful children.

Miss JoAnn looks forward to continuing to share her experience and love of dance with students of all ages, levels and aspirations. She welcomes all of you to the JoAnn East Dance Education Center. *Dream, Dance, Achieve.*