

Classical Ballet Theatre - CBT Academy Faculty

CBT educational programs have contributed to performing arts schools in the south bay, Private Hickory Tree school, RPV Portuguese Bend Nursery, Nativity Catholic School, Torrance Memorial Medical Center Holiday Festival, Children's Hospital of Los Angeles.

Parents, child psychologist, Ph.D., and graduate students actively support CBT programs.

Ballet Master, Mansur Kamaletdinov,
Academic Advisor, Keith Dubrovin
CBT education founder, Rich Kim, MBA, MD

Pilate Teacher, Maria Shafranovich
Assistant to director, Rachel Tosney
Stage and studio supervisor, Francis Quigley
Artistic Director, Kotomi R. Matsuda



Kotomi R. Matsuda,
Artistic Director

Kotomi's teaching method is focused on the need of the individual student and developing talents with music and choreography. She received awards from the California State Senator. Students learn to express their originality through expressive French, virtuous Italian, energetic Spanish, and harmonious Russian. She directs ballet performances in Palos Verdes Performing Arts and school events. She performed with Chiara Ajkun Ballet Theatre and masters from Moscow City Ballet, New York City Ballet, and Vaganova Academy in Europe and New York.

Classical film diploma, University of Copenhagen, Denmark
Bachelor of Arts, Fine Arts, California State University of Long Beach
Master Ballet Teacher Certification, Kamaletdinov Ballet Academy



Maria Shafranovich teaches enjoyable stretch & conditioning class. She improves technique and stage presence by strengthening the body's core while developing coordination, balance, and alignment and optimizing flexibility. The result is more lift without tension, deeper plies, higher jumps with less effort, tighter turns, and improved extension and turnout. Body conditioning prevents injuries and hugely vital for rehearsals, competitions and stage preparation. With a healthy body, practicing as well as performing the choreography becomes easier. Maria has a Master's degree in physical education at Moscow Pedagogical University. She has taught ballerinas and competition teams nationwide.



Rachel Tosney is a ballet dancer and a teacher. She received scholarship training in Mansur's Russian Ballet Academy. Rachel started taking ballet classes with Kotomi when she was in elementary school. Though at first she was timid and did not think she could stick with ballet, Kotomi encouraged her and pushed her to improve, and she has been dancing ever since. Throughout middle school and high school, Rachel danced with CBT and was able to meet many other wonderful dancers and teachers, perform many of her favorite classical ballet roles, take part in summer intensives, and even learn things like ribbon dancing with Le Cirque. These years in CBT not only inspired my passion for ballet, but also taught her how to be a stronger, more disciplined, and more confident person, which are skills that have aided her in all aspects of her life. After high school, she moved to Philadelphia to attend the University of Pennsylvania, where she soon became a director of the school's ballet company and utilized all that she had learned at CBT to help build the company. she now works in economic consulting in Washington, D.C., where she continues to attend ballet classes and take part in as many ballet performances as she can.