



PAYTON MCATEE, Music Theatre Director

Payton began her dance training at Kansas Dance Academy, at the age of 3. At KDA she became part of the company allowing her to attend competitions and conventions where she received many awards and scholarships. At the age of 14 she auditioned for and was accepted into the Rockette Summer Intensive where she learned and trained with the prestigious Radio City Hall Rockettes. Payton has attended this program for several summers including being accepted into the top week, Invitational Week, which is only awarded to 40 girls. After graduation she continued her training and passion for dance by moving to Oklahoma City to pursue a Bachelor of Performing Arts Degree at Oklahoma City University.

During her time at OCU Payton performed with Silvertree Productions at Frontier City for their summer season and their annual Fright Fest Halloween shows. She loved performing in these high energy dance and singing shows as well as being featured as a magician's assistant. She was also a member of the Spirit of Grace Liturgical Company, OCU Pep Dancers and American Spirit Dance Company.

Payton's love for teaching and choreographing began at an early age. She has had extensive experience with choreographing for High School/College level dance teams, solos and small group numbers at local studios in Kansas and Oklahoma, district wide musicals and for larger fundraising events, like her work with the Paul Mitchell Earth Day Fashion Show "Salvaged Attraction", in which all proceeds benefited Children's Miracle Network. Payton is excited to be on the staff at Midwest Dance Mechanix and hopes to inspire younger generations, in dance, and in life.

INSTRUCTS: Music Theatre, Tap, Jazz