

## **TRUDY SOUBA, Ballet Director**

Trudy (Cunningham) Souba, Director of the Ballet program at Midwest Dance Mechanix, began her dance training at the age of six in her hometown of Wichita, KS. Her passion for the art form led her to train specifically in classical ballet in the pre- professional program at Rogers Ballet under the tutelage of Sharon Rogers. At the age of 15, Trudy was the only high school student invited to apprentice with the Friends University Ballet Department, under the direction of Stan Rogers. Attending academic high school classes in the mornings, apprenticing in the afternoons and continuing her ballet classes evenings and nights, she maintained her 4.0 GPA and graduated Valedictorian of her class.

Trudy spent her summers at ballet intensives such as The Joffrey Ballet, Ballet Austin and San Diego Ballet. She attended Friends University on both dance and academic scholarships, where she earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Ballet and an English minor, graduating magna cum laude. Trudy's professional dance career began at the Wichita Ballet Theatre and continued with San Diego Ballet. Some of her favorite roles include Snow Queen in The Nutcracker, Siren in Prodigal Son and Princess in The Firebird. Original contemporary ballets and roles were created for her by the choreographic mastery of Stan Rogers and Javier Velasco.

Through these wonderful roles and experiences, God was preparing her for her favorite, and most important role, that of a ballet teacher. She believes that no dancer, nor dance teacher, is ever done training, and she continually seeks to better herself alongside her dancers.

INSTRUCTS: Ballet, Pointe, Classical Variations, Partnering & PBT | Certified Progressing Ballet Technique™ Instructor