

## TESTIMONIALS FOR BVI

"By way of introduction, I am both a former ballerina with American Ballet Theatre and a tenured Assistant Professor of Dance at Kansas State University. I am currently Artistic Associate of Director Dennis Nahat's Ballet San Jose, as well as a ballet instructor in New York City ... at both The Joffrey Ballet School and Ballet Academy East.

For the past nine years, I have been invited to be a guest teacher for Ballet Virginia International. I consider it a privilege to work with ballet students who are not only respectful and disciplined, but also have an excellent work ethic. In these times, that is an unusual combination, indeed!

It is my extreme pleasure to rate Ballet Virginia International as a first-rate pre-professional academy, as well as a pre-professional performing company of delightful and amazing capabilities. Expertly directed by Janina Michalski Bove and Suzanne Lownsbury Long, it adheres to the highest levels of teaching standards and performing esthetics.

In my book, Ballet Virginia International has created a mold which should be replicated again and again in this twenty-first century of pre-professional ballet education and performance. Needless to say, many of its students and alumni have been accepted for summer intensive study at prestigious ballet companies on an international scale. Some have subsequently been invited to remain."

[Roni Mahler](#)

"Teaching at BVI is such a pleasure, the students are very well mannered and creativity is always abuzz in the studios"

Guest Artist and Instructor Todd Fox

...Sarah...puts on shows for me and her dolls, which is a hoot as she improvises! I just wanted to thank Janina, Suzanne, Ms. Lisa and Ms. Helen for providing such a wonderful experience for her. I know you remember how very shy she was when she began ballet. Over the months, with her instructors' patience, kindness and expertise, she just blossomed. She is very confident and outgoing now, as well as graceful, and ballet contributed greatly I feel.

Carol Baden

“We worry about what a child will become tomorrow, yet we forget that she is someone today.” (Stacia Tauscher) -- not so with Ballet Virginia International (BVI). As parents we constantly are trying to provide all the life tools to ensure that our children have a strong foundation to carry their passions through life. For academic successes, we research and find the highest caliber programs to spark their curiosity; in social situations, we expose our children to solid, moral individuals that will teach and guide when we are unable; and culturally, we try to open the world to all its wondrous possibilities. All of these life lessons are embraced with the direction and professionalism at Ballet Virginia International. My daughter has been a part of the Ballet Virginia family for over 7 years. Within those years, I have had the opportunity to watch as the instructors have molded her from the tiny tot twirler into a beautiful, graceful ballet dancer. They have done this by encouraging her hard work, setting the professional tone and, most importantly, embracing her as an individual and teaching her uniquely. Many places can teach someone to dance. There are very few places that can provide the professional technical training with creating a holistic dancer. Ballet Virginia International does just that!!

Lisa Vesely  
Bryanna Vesely's mom