

~**Sherri Urkow**, L.I.S.T.D., A.I.S.T.D., R.A.D. ~
Ballet Specialist
2020 NIFPA Ballet and Modern Adjudicator



Sherri Urkow received her training in London, U.K at the Ivy Baker School of Dance, Grandison College and Bush-Davies, under some of Britain's top instructors. She holds her Licentiate and Associate Teaching Diplomas in Classical ballet, Modern Theatre and Tap. And also holds major examinations in National, Classical Greek, Ballroom and Drama. She has also trained extensively in Musical Theatre, lyrical, modern & contemporary.

Sherri appeared in the Oscar winning movie "Oliver", as well as various theatre productions, including "Carousel", "Camelot" and "Under Milk Wood" to name a few and has performed for Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth and Princess Margaret at the Royal Albert Hall. She has performed extensively with top names in the British entertainment industry.

After a successful professional career, she taught at all 3 of her former schools and in 1975, accepted the position of Senior instructor at the St. Albert School of Dance, Alberta, where she taught for 18 years, eventually becoming Artistic Director. In 1993, she opened her own studio, The Art of Dance in St. Albert and also founded the Stardust Dance Company, a semi-professional group, whom have performed world-wide. She has won numerous awards as a choreographer and has choreographed for many functions, including the Alberta Winter games, the Opening of the Special Olympics, the Senior Winter games, Legends Gala and a special performance for the Premier of Alberta.

Sherri's students have gone onto prolific careers in dance, including Chicago's Hubbard St, Azure Barton & Artists, Les Ballet Jazz du Montreal, Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Stuttgart Ballet, Cirque du Soleil, Princess, Disney, Royal Caribbean and Carnival cruise lines. A firm believer in giving back to the community, her students performed regularly at local functions and special charity and fund-raising events.

Sherri has been a member of the Alberta Dance Educators Association and served in all of their executive positions, as well as serving on various cultural boards. She won the Mayors Excellence in Teaching of the Arts Award, as well as Small Business of the year. Sherri decided to close her studio in 2013 to focus on other projects and family. She is still in great demand as an adjudicator, judging competitions and festivals across Canada as well as a freelance choreographer and guest instructor and is looking forward to being part of this event. She wishes all participants good luck and remember to have fun!