

**Lisa Van Mechelen, BFA**  
**Artistic Director & Teacher**  
**Member of the Alberta Dance Educators Association**

Lisa Van Mechelen has been sharing her knowledge and passion for dance with students of various ages and levels for an incredible 18 years! At the age of four, Lisa found her passion for dance at the Sandra Gray School of Dance in Edmonton and has never looked back. Her dance training includes Tap, Jazz, Ballet, Lyrical, Modern, Hip Hop and Musical Theatre. During her years of dance training, Lisa was given many exciting performance opportunities. She has had the pleasure of performing in The Canadian Finals Rodeo (2002), The 2001 World Games Opening Ceremonies, Tanzommer Dance Festival in Austria (2000), Broadway Melodies Dinner Theatre (1999) and Magical Moments from Disneyland during Klondike days (1997).

She began her dance teaching career as an assistant teacher at the Sandra Gray School of Dance and then went on to teaching at Dance Dynamics in Edmonton. Lisa opened up her own Dance Studio, Dancin Dance Production Company in 2006. Lisa is the Artistic Director at Dancin and also teaches at the studio full time. Lisa's students have had the opportunity to perform in the A.D.E.A Spectacular at the Winspear (2018, 2019, & 2020), the Festival of Trees (2016 & 2018), Dance the Magic in Disneyland (2016), the Oil Kings Flash Mob (2013 & 2014), Dance Power Summerfest (2013), Ellerslie Parent Group associations year-end BBQ (2012), Cineplex Fame Opening Performance (2009), as well as many exciting dance competitions in Edmonton and surrounding areas. Her dancers have won awards such as 3<sup>rd</sup> Overall junior duet/trio (Bottom of Your Soul) at Fever Edmonton (2019), High Score Level 1 Soloist (Evil Like Me) at Dare to Dream Edmonton (2019), and Overall Trio (Invincible) at Candance Red Deer (2018).

Lisa obtained her BFA in Technical Theatre at the University of Alberta in 2005. Through this program she gained behind the scenes experience with positions in Scenic Carpentry, Stage Carpentry, Sound Design, Live Mixing, Lighting Operation, Props and Scenic Painting. Throughout her University career she had the pleasure of working on Media Room Productions such as Emigrants, Boston Marriage, Faust, and Trojan Women as well as Studio Theatre Productions of A Midsummer's Nights Dream, A Doll's House, Moving Pictures, Electra, and Beaux Stratagem. Her experience in technical theatre and dance has allowed her to provide her students with the opportunity to perform in a professional year-end show held every year at the Citadel Theatre in Edmonton. Lisa is currently working towards certification in the IDTS (International Dance Teaching Standards) program. She is excited to announce that she obtained her certification in the PBT (Progressing Ballet Technique) program in July 2020! Lisa looks forward to many more exciting years of teaching and choreographing!