



## Alums “Making a Difference”

Lisa Wolfsberger  
St. Thomas Aquinas Class of 1974

Lisa Wolfsberger was born in St. Louis Missouri. Her dance background is extensive and impressive and has taken her to many places in the US and Europe. Lisa has been a teacher of Classical Ballet for over thirty five years. Her early Ballet training came from Alexandra Zaharias. As a member of St. Louis Dance Theatre, she was also greatly influenced as a child by Michael Simms and Nathalie LeVine.

Her professional career began with Missouri Concert Ballet (now St. Louis Ballet) where she danced as Principal for over ten years with Ludmila Dokoudovsky and Antoni Zelewski. Her numerous roles included “Snow Queen” from the Nutcracker, where she performed annually with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra at Powell Hall, and “Pigtails” from Graduation Ball. During her tenure, St. Louis Ballet was chosen to perform Graduation Ball and it was filmed for posterity to be archived in the Smithsonian Institute. She also performed professionally with St. Louis Muny Opera.

While working toward a Bachelors Degree in Dance, she studied with Gary Hubler at Webster University in St. Louis. Throughout her professional career, Lisa has spent many summers in New York City where she had the privilege of studying with Vladimir Dokoudovsky, Nina Stroganova, Igor Schwezoff and Madame Darvash. She has taken countless Master classes with renowned teacher such as Robert Joffrey, Leon Danelian, Joe Rowan and Edward Villela.

Lisa began her teaching career for Berkley Evans in St. Louis. When she moved to Columbia Missouri, she became Ballet Director at Dancers’ Alley in Jefferson City and was also Guest Artist Teacher in residence at Stephens College in Columbia Missouri. She performed for and studied with Haclyone Perlman’s Mid-Missouri Dance Theatre as well as with Michael Simms at Stephens College. She also lived in South Bend Indiana, where she also taught Ballet at Notre Dame University. At that time, she also taught Ballet for Debbie Werbrouck’s School of Dance and for St. Mary’s College. Lisa was on Chicago National Association of Dance Masters’ faculty many times and judged National Competitions in addition to teaching Ballet.

Lisa lived in England for three years where she enjoyed freelance teaching both in the North of England and in the London area. Her Choreographic background is extensive. Many of her students have gone on to Professional Ballet Careers, Colleg Dance programs, Summer Ballet Scholarship programs, and teaching. Lisa continues her summer programs at various schools all over the country. She is presently teaching exclusively for St. Louis Ballet School, which is also the home of St. Louis’ only Professional Ballet Company.

