## VERMONT CENTER FOR DANCE EDUCATION FACULTY



**Stefania Nardi** Artistic Director, began her dance training at the age of 9 in Italy. At 19 she became a member of the Balletto Apuano, where she studied the Legat Russian ballet system and she took exams of the Russian Ballet Society.

During that time she also had the opportunity to study with Russian teachers of the caliber of Natalia Krassowska, Alexander Stanov, Boris Brevagdze, Svetlana Osiyeva.

In 1992 Ms. Nardi was accepted in the Teacher Training Program at the prestigious National Academy of Dance in Rome, Italy. Upon earning her teaching degree in 1995, she moved to Vermont where she became a member of the Vermont Chamber Ballet and later became a faculty member of the Adams School of Dance. She often traveled to New York City to study with master teachers of the Limón Dance Company and attended dance intensives held by the Limón Foundation. In 2011 Ms. Nardi took over Adams School of Dance and founded Vermont Center for Dance Education.

In the summers of 2013-2015 she successfully completed a certification program with American Ballet Theatre, becoming an ABT® Certified Teacher in Pre-Primary through Level Seven of the ABT® National Training Curriculum. She has since continued to further her knowledge by regularly attending continuing education workshops for teachers at the JKO school of American Ballet Theatre in New York City, and the "Ideas Exchange" for teachers at Canada's National Ballet School in Toronto. In April 2019 Ms. Nardi became certified to teach Progressing Ballet Technique, a revolutionary method to enhance ballet technique. Her known passion for costuming brought Ms. Nardi to start her journey in the fascinating world of professional tutu construction, by attending seminars with Claudia Folts starting in 2019. More recently Stefania attended several pedagogical webinars for teachers with Franco DeVita and Raymond Lukens, co-authors of the ABT® National Training Curriculum as well as webinars hosted by the Royal Ballet School in London.



**Zoë Marr Hilliard** is a dancer, teacher, choreographer, visual artist, mother of three, and born-and-raised Vermonter. She earned her B.A. from Smith College with a double major in Dance and Sculpture and has been working in the arts ever since. Zoë has been teaching dance, choreographing, and performing professionally in Vermont since 2009. In addition to performing her own choreography at various venues around the state, she has also danced professionally for Ballet Vermont, the Vermont Opera Project, Cradle to Grave Arts, and Vital Spark North. Zoë teaches art

camps for kids at the Carving Studio and Sculpture Center and leads workshops in dance and art at local arts organizations, schools, libraries, and recreation centers. She has choreographed for Marble Valley Players, Rutland Youth Theater, and Castleton University and also helped to create and now teaches and choreographs for the Stone Valley Dance Collective. Zoë began the position of part-time dance faculty at Castleton University in August 2022. She has been teaching and choreographing for Vermont Center for Dance Education since 2011.



Alycia Hollister began her dance career at the age of 5. She danced throughout high school with the Adam's School of dance that later became the Vermont Center for Dance Education. After high school Alycia continued her dance education throughout college at SUNY Potsdam while she studied to receive her BS in Business Admin and a minor is dance. During her time at SUNY Potsdam she participated in many student choreographed productions. After Undergraduate school Alycia attended Castleton University to receive her Master in Accounting. Since graduating from

Castleton University Alycia has participated is a number of performances in the area including Castleton University Collaborative Arts at Castleton University, Platform VT at Stone Valley Arts, Dance Performance: Works-In-Progress: Island Of Awareness at Stone Valley Arts, Bees and Friends with Ballet Vermont, Fall for Dance with Stone Valley Dance Collective. When she is not dancing she works as a CPA at Mary P Hollister CPA PC.



**Tegan Waite** has been dancing since the age of three. She danced at Adams School of Dance, now Vermont Center for Dance Education since 2008, where she has studied and trained in ballet, tap, jazz, contemporary, and modern. Tegan first started teaching at VCDE in 2013, and has enjoyed being a part of the creative team. She first started choreographing within the community in 2011 for Rip Jackson, and has since worked as a local director and choreographer for musical theatre projects. Tegan has a passion for working with youth and young adults to bring the stage to life through movement. Outside of the studio, Tegan enjoys traveling, hiking,

baking, and is currently working to obtain her doula certification.