

KIRA BARTHOLOMEW

Kira has been dancing since the age of three. Ever since the age of 6, she has danced competitively on the competition team for 12 years up until she graduated with South County Dance. She trains in numerous styles of dance and has been trained under choreographers such as our very own Clarisse Takemoto, Kelley Guise Palin, Nicole Hagen, Sara Gentile, and Vickie Roan.

During some of her time competing at South County Dance, Kira has performed at The Choreographer's Carnival under the direction of Jerome Alexander and was the 2016-2017 Company Dancer of the Year. She has won many titles, scholarships, and awards, such as being recognized as the 2015-2016 Die Heart Dancer at the NUVO Dance Convention from Travis Wall, 4th runner-up Miss Elite Dance America at KAR Nationals in 2021, and being named 1st Overall Teen National Champion at MOVE Nationals for her jazz solo choreographed by the company director, Clarisse Takemoto. During her time still training and competing, Kira has assisted our very own, Marlena Bartocci at the DanceAtak convention in 2019 and also queued lighting for Nicole Hagen piece "Equivocal Synchronicity" at McCallum Choreography Festival in Palm Desert, CA. Kira has been assisting with dance classes at the studio since she was nine years old, and she started teaching when she was 16.

Kira has attended many conventions and intensives to keep up her training throughout the years while she was at the studio and after graduating. These include NUVO Dance Convention, 2 Days in the OC, SoulEscape The Winter Event, Entity Contemporary Dance's Winter Intensive, and LA Contemporary Dance Company's (LACDC) Summer Intensive.

After graduating from high school in 2021, Kira has decided to pursue her love of dance in college. Kira currently attends Chapman University in Orange, CA on a B.F.A degree track in Dance with a minor in psychology. Her plan after graduating is to pursue a professional dance career in Los Angeles. At Chapman, Kira currently trains in dance technique classes of modern, jazz, and ballet while also learning about dance history, culture, anatomy/physiology, choreography, and improvisation through her academic dance classes. She is apart of the student run organization and dance club, Chapman Dance Alliance and a member of the award-winning Chapman University Dance Team, that has won 14th consecutive national titles at USA Nationals in Anaheim, CA. She gets the chance to be a part of numerous faculty and student choreographed concert pieces throughout the many dance shows the dance program has over the course of each semester. Overall, the Chapman dance program keeps her passion for dance alive.

Kira loves performing and has a strong passion for dancing as well as teaching. She is so excited to share her passion and love for dance to her students here at South County Dance!