

DREW GLIWA

Drew Gliwa started dancing at Stacy's Dance Factory at the age of 3 in Bloomington, Illinois. He took classes recreationally until he was 11 and moved to Art in Motion Dance Studio in Champaign, Illinois and began to train seriously in Jazz dance. His love for the art grew the more he experienced it thanks to the direction of Tricia and Chad Trimble. He was exposed to more styles and choreographers like Jared Baker, Chris Jacobsen, and Brooke Pierotti that influenced his style. When he was 15, he had the opportunity to travel to Corona, California to train with Mandy Rogers and Terry Schulke at Just Plain Dancin'. Drew graduated high school a year early to attend Chapman University at the age of 17. He worked with choreographers like Will Johnston, Alicia Guy, and Jennifer Backhaus. He joined the Chapman University Dance Team and was a member all four years of his college career. He served as the team's Co-Captain and led them to their 11th consecutive national title. Throughout his time, Drew served as a three-year board member of the Chapman Dance Alliance. He was a rehearsal director for Complexions Contemporary Ballet Repertory set by Desmond Richardson. He was awarded freshmen of the year, a choreography award for his collegiate choreographic debut of his piece titled, "Sunder," and the Donna Cucunato award for his outstanding contribution to the department over his four years. He is thankful for all of the inspiration and positive encouragement he received from his peers throughout his time at Chapman and he looks forward continuing his growth through his love for learning.

Most recently, Drew also was a guest for the Entity Contemporary Dance premiere "TRANSPARENT/SEE" choreographed by Marissa Osato and Will Johnston. He is now a company member of Justin Giles' SoulEcape after performing with them at the Red Rocks Dance Festival and being a part of the Giving Tree... in Dallas, Texas.