

NICOLE HAGEN

Originally from Rancho Santa Margarita, California, Nicole Hagen grew up training and competing at South County Dance under the direction of Clarisse Takemoto. Here, she fostered her undeniable passion, curiosity, and enthusiasm for dance, which led her to Chapman University where she graduated with a BFA in Dance Performance and a minor in Business Administration. During her time at Chapman, she received the Fannie Kalis and Donna Cucunato awards and scholarships in recognition for her outstanding contribution and achievement in dance and presented her own research at the Performing Arts Medical Association conference in New York City.

Nicole is currently a faculty member at Loyola Marymount University, AMDA College, South County Dance and a certified mat Pilates instructor. Choreographically, Nicole's work has been seen on a multitude of stages throughout southern California. She has been featured as a two-time finalist at the McCallum Choreography festival in Palm Desert and has been commissioned by Mt. San Antonio College and AMDA College.

As a dancer, Nicole has danced with L.A. Contemporary Dance Company and MashUp Contemporary Dance Company. Alongside her concert career, Nicole has had the privilege of dancing alongside Paramore at the Teen Choice Awards, in episodes of NBC's This Is Us, a Banks Music Video, in Netflix's Dear White People, with Anaheim Ballet, and the LA Follies. She has furthered her training with companies such as Complexions Contemporary Ballet, Alonzo King Lines Ballet, BodyTraffic, Rockettes, Gaga Los Angeles, Entity Contemporary Dance, and attended the One Body, One Career Countertechnique Intensive with Anouk Van Dijk. Nicole participated in the Ann and Weston Hicks Choreographic Fellowship at Jacob's Pillow with choreographers Madison Hicks (2021) and Gianna Burright (2022).

As a long-time resident of Southern California, Nicole has been exposed to a wide variety of artists who have helped shape her own distinct and expansive artistic vocabulary. Nicole is thrilled to share her passion and knowledge for dance with all of her students here at South County Dance.