

Why Bellan?

Anjanée N. Bell Jean-Denis is profoundly creative and she knows her craft. She is very passionate about putting her dreams/vision in motion and sharing them with her students and audience. She has a love for working with people and bringing out the best in them. She teaches her students to use dance as a forum to express themselves. I have known Anjanée to be very professional, loving, hardworking, graceful, dedicated, and ambitious. Anjanée saw something very special in my daughter that I didn't even know existed and from that I have learned to appreciate the art of dance. When her creative juices flow there is no stopping her and you should know that hard work, dedication, and long hours will follow. She will give 110% of herself and I feel very fortunate to know her. I believe that the sky is the limit for "BELLAN ARTS".

—Robin, *Bellan Dance Mom*

The Bellan experience is truly like no other. I have danced at many different studios for years, but I never felt at home until I began dancing at the Bellan Performance Centre. Training at Bellan has made me a stronger and more confident dancer. The serene atmosphere promotes artistic expression and an open, free-thinking environment. My time training at Bellan was short, but I am so lucky to have had the opportunity to participate in such a wonderful program.

—Kendyl, *Bellan Alumni, Age 18*

Working with Anjanée has truly been a blessing to me. I have learned to branch out, learn new things and grow as a dancer, let alone a person. I first met Anjanée while auditioning for my middle school dance team. Out of all the girls, she saw something special in me that I didn't know existed. She taught me how to work for the part you want to do. From that conversation, I perfected my small part as well as other performers' parts. With that being said, for my first Bellan performance my small part became many parts. Before working with Anjanée I didn't have as much passion for dance as I do now. Another thing I learned from her is that "never fade to the back but always be in the front; and even if you are in the back, dance like you were meant to be in the front". I love how Anjanée is very professional, loving, hardworking, dedicated, inspirational and much more. I know from working with her that she is only tough on you because she sees greatness, and she wants you and the world to see it also.

—Alayjah, *Founding Bellan Performer, Age 16*

At Bellan, I have found a place where I can dance, free of worries, fears, and limitations. I never had dance classes as a child, and I'm happy to have found a place as an adult where it's not about competition or intimidation, it's just about enjoying movement. I love dancing at Bellan!

—Jessica S., *Bellan Mover & Performer, Age 32*

As a lifelong dancer and exerciser, I have enjoyed attending classes at Bellan. It is unique to find classes that are fun and effective for both beginning and experienced movers alike!

—Meredythe, *Bellan Mover, Age 69*

As someone who has never taken dance classes before I'm thoroughly enjoying my Bellan experience with Anjanée. Anjanée is whole-heartedly committed to teaching people of any age, level of experience or body type the joy of moving. Her approach to teaching is spirited and thoughtful – it's not just learning to dance, it's learning self-expression through movement. There's a fantastic sense of camaraderie and relaxed fun among all the students. I always leave her classes feeling invigorated and confident and I carry that throughout the rest of the week. I highly recommend Bellan for anyone – whether you have years of experience or have never stepped into a dance class in your life.

—**David, *Bellan Mover, Age 55***

I absolutely love to attend the Bellan performances! The power, the passion, incredible choreography and artistry----I am never disappointed!

—**Viki, *Bellan Observer & Audience Member***

My parents, who were born in the late 1800s, sent me to dance school so that I could have the benefits and refinements from exposure to the arts. I know that Bellan has been chosen to help people find themselves through the freedom and discipline of dance. I am 67 years old, but Bellan makes me the new 40 years old. Bellan is inspiring for all people. It focuses on the individual and helping him or her to find the confidence to stretch their boundaries and perceived limitations to be the best that they can be. Bellan encourages individuals to define their own reality and not be limited by what people tell them that they cannot do. Bellan teaches discipline and the pursuit of excellence. They teach you to compete against yourself by leaving it all on the floor. This discipline and excellence flows over into an individual's personal experiences, whether they are education or family achievements, deferred dreams or a lack of self-confidence. Through movement, Bellan encourages all movers to pursue excellence, achieve their dreams and to compete against themselves to be the best that they can be.

—**Judith, *Bellan Mover, Age 67***

I have taken various exercise classes over the years including martial arts, Zumba, and yoga. None of them compare to my experiences at Bellan - it's everything I could ever want and more! I feel like I'm "coming home" when I walk into the Centre and see all my fellow movers!

—**Paula, *Bellan Mover, Age 46***

Dancing has always made me happy. I've taken years of ballet, competed in Ballroom Dancing and was looking to continue dancing as a part of my life. What I found at Bellan was more than I ever expected -- an incredibly talented, motivating instructor and warm, encouraging fellow movers in a welcoming and energetic space. Being part of the Bellan family has enriched my life by allowing me to be a part of a group of people that want to bring the joy of movement and expression to everyone in all walks of life. And having the opportunity to perform again isn't bad either 😊

—**Melanie, *Bellan Mover & Performer, Age 46***

Bellan Bound is a wonderful program dedicated to helping others reach for their dreams not only in dance, but in the world altogether. Anjanée Jean-Denis, the artistic director for the program is a very wonderful person to work with. She is well disciplined and well trained. She is a very good people person and has outstanding communication skills. Mrs. Jean-Denis is very patient and tries her best to work with other movers to reach their needs. I must admit she is very inspiring as a choreographer. Everyone in the program is like a very close knit family. We work to help each other and I believe that stands as a good foundation for us as individuals when we leave the Performance Centre. We leave feeling cared about and more confident than ever to reach for our dreams in dance. However, we do work very hard and are getting the training of an actual professional dancer in my opinion. I love this experience so far and hope to incorporate it into my future as a choreographer.

—**Brianna, *Bellan Mover & Performer*, Age 18**

I love Bellan! I was nervous about trying dance classes as an adult – both the idea of being terrible and being in class with people much younger – but the classes really surprised me. It's a wide range of people coming to class; men, women, older, younger, and everyone is there to have fun and move. It's gotten to the point where I am sad if I have to miss a night. I'm really happy I found this group!

—**Jessica P., *Bellan Mover*, Age 31**