

Mrs. Tricia Graf Founder and Artistic Director, Mrs. Tricia Graf (pictured middle), has a BGS in General Studies with a Minor in Dance from Indiana University-Purdue University, with 3 years of education in Child Development and Elementary Education from Concordia University. Mrs. Graf has also been an LTL at both the University of Saint Francis (in addition to providing Internship Opportunities through the University here at Studio 149) and IPFW where she has taught classes that include: Dance History, Ballet, Jazz Styles, Teaching Dance K-12, and Dance Appreciation. Mrs. Graf has over 30 years of dance experience in classical ballet, jazz, tap, lyrical, and pointe, with over 25 years in performance and teaching not only in dance, but also in Theater, and Voice. She has worked with professional schools, in addition to various studios across the country while teaching Master Classes with Master Teachers from around the world. Mrs. Graf put into place our Teacher Training and Internship Program in 2003, creating opportunity for students to mentor their peers and younger students, creating Discipling Relationships, with University Curriculum and Exams to grow and nurture a Faculty of Teachers with a unified education in alignment/muscle and bone development/syllabi/and positive discipline in the classroom, mission, and vision, for Studio 149 to continue keeping the physical, emotional, and spiritual health of every student our top priority as they dance for a greater purpose and "Praise the Lord with dance," (PSALM 149) Mrs. Graf has choreographed, staged, produced, and written numerous original pieces, Story Book Ballets, Gala's, Showcases, and strives to bring original choreography to favorites like our "Nutcracker Sweets" each year to give students and audiences an appreciation for ballet that can bring light to the Gospel. Mrs. Graf looks for the individual gifts of each student to cultivate their unique talents to every role, casting and changing choreography to bring out these special gifts so that every student (regardless of skill level) can shine their light. Over the years, her favorite part of Studio 149 has been watching her own daughters be raised amongst Christian Role Models (Students and Adults) that serve, live, and give, an unconditional love and acceptance to every child regardless if they dance professionally. The family atmosphere and the "Christ Centered Difference" shines as we have students who become missionaries and bring dance to the countries they serve, become artists/choreographers/ and teachers in professional schools, we have students return to serve and assist back stage and the Board of Directors, past students bring their little ballerinas to grow in our program, smiling faces of students past come to every production and the light shines radiantly as our students run to them, into their arms, welcoming them back home. We are a Studio 149 Family in Christ. Mrs. Graf serves in Ministry with her husband, Pastor Graf, and their two daughters here at Promise. Mrs. Graf looks forward to a Christ Centered Conservatory of the Arts where Studio 149 can continue to grow, serve, and teach the arts promoting a wholistic approach, creating opportunity for every student, keeping their physical, emotional, and spiritual health, the top priority of Studio 149's Classical Dance Pedagogy.