

Michelle Seifrid, *Owner/Executive Director*, is a graduate of Northern Illinois University with a BA in Performing Arts with a concentration in dance. While at Northern, Michelle was Vice-President of Northern Dance Theatre, Director of Cavan Theatre, collegiate cheerleader and performed in several productions including Sleeping Beauty and West Side Story. After college, she danced with Joseph Holmes Dance Theatre in their apprentice program. Michelle has performed at a theme park, in commercials and film. She continues her education through dance conventions, workshops and she still takes dance classes. Michelle was the Studio Manager of The Academy of Dance and Performing Arts. She was Performing Arts Director for 10 years at the local YMCA, which under her directorship won the Studio of Excellence Award. Michelle was the first in Kendall County to start a competitive dance company 18 year ago. She has over 25 years of teaching and dance school management experience. Michelle is very proud of her students and takes pride in her teaching. Her students have gone on to be dance instructors, receive college dance scholarships, are members of college dance teams, danced at Walt Disney World, opened their own studios and received numerous national dance awards. She has been a competitive dance judge for Precision Arts. Michelle is a member of the Professional Dance Teachers Association, Chicago National Association of Dance Masters, Twinkle Star Dance and the U.S. All Star Federation. She is certified with the American Heart Association Heartsaver Child & Infant First Aid, CPR, and AED. Michelle felt that there was a need for high quality professional dance education in a family friendly atmosphere in the area. She opened Gold Star Academy of Dance 14 years ago, becoming the first Dance Academy in Kendall County. Michelle is continuing to expand her quality programs. In, 2014 Michelle opened The Academy: Dance*Cheer*Tumbling center in Sandwich, IL. The Academy is home to The Academy Cheer All Stars. Michelle has one daughter, Brianna and two doggie sons, Hunter and Bubba.