

Caitlin Pickens

Faculty // The School's Little Artists

Caitlin Pickens, a Midwestern native, grew up up taking classes at Lou Conte Dance Studio and Joel Hall Dance Center. She graduated from the University of Utah with a BFA in Modern Dance in 2012. While there, she performed in nearly 30 works, including six with the University's Performing Dance Company, and had the pleasure to work with renowned choreographers such as Andrea Miller, Nicholas Leichter, and Sharee Lane. Upon moving to Portland, Caitlin performed in several evening length works and enjoyed collaborating with local artists on various projects.

Caitlin was awarded the 2012 Dee R. Winterton Outstanding Teacher Award for her work and dedication as a teaching assistant within the Department of Modern Dance at the University of Utah, solidifying her decision to pursue a career in dance education. Caitlin served as the Education and Outreach Coordinator at NW Dance Project for five years and had the pleasure of teaching Creative Movement, Contemporary Jazz, Modern, Jazz Funk and Hip Hop within the school at NW Dance Project, as well as uniquely tailored outreach programs for various elementary schools and non-profit organizations for both youth and adults. Caitlin works to provide an outlet for her students to discover themselves more deeply through movement by creating a safe and supportive atmosphere while challenging students to find comfort in their vulnerability and follow wherever their imagination and creative power leads. Caitlin has also been a guest teacher at Multnomah Arts Center, Center for Movement Arts, and the Independent Dance Project and is thrilled to join the faculty at The School at Open Space.