**Mary Carbonara / *Biography***

Mary Carbonara has been teaching dance for 24 years, working with children, young adults, adult beginners and aspiring and seasoned professionals. Her classes are both playful and rigorous with an emphasis on healthy body awareness, safe practice, a huge use of space and musicality.  Mary received her early pedagogical training from master teacher Lynn Simonson in New York, continuing her studies and training at Mills College where she received her M.F.A. Her classes incorporate aspects of the Simonson, Cunningham and Horton Techniques.

As a member of the faculty of Alonzo King LINES Dance Center Mary teaches all levels of dance technique as well as Dance Pedagogy through the Lines Ballet Training Program, mentoring teaching apprentices at Presidio Middle School, DeMarillac Academy and the Tenderloin Boys & Girls Club. She teaches dance to preschoolers at Noe Valley Nursery School, and to elementary school students as part of the after-school enrichment and summer camp programs at Miraloma and Sunnyside Elementary Schools. She has taught on the faculties of San Francisco Ballet, ODC School, Shawl Anderson Dance Center, Mills College, San Jose State University, East Carolina University, UC Davis, and around the world, including New York, Chicago, Tallahassee, Tokyo and Kolkata, India.

She is the Artistic Director of Mary Carbonara Dances, which she founded in 2001. Her work has been presented by ODC Theater, Summerfest/Dance, San Jose Dance Works, Spector Dance, Summerfest/Dance, Dance Mosaic, San Jose Dance Works, Dancers’ Group’s Local Choreographers Series, and as part of Venue 9’s Women’s Work Series and the Monterey Dance Festival. She has choreographed commissions for San Jose State University Dance Theater (UDT), Mills College Repertory Dance Company, SF School of the Arts, the San Francisco Conservatory of Dance, and the LINES Pre-Professional Program. Mary is a former member of Margaret Jenkins Dance Company, Robert Moses’ Kin, Liss Fain Dance and Project Bandaloop.

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