
2009 WACPC FALL CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

Lorie Evers has been the Freedom Varsity Dance Coach for 17 years. She started their middle school program 11 years ago and their elementary school program 9 years ago. Her greatest accomplishment over the years has been their 2006 State Championship in Division 3 at the WACPC state competition. She has been on the WACPC board as a District 3 At Large Member for two years. In 2009, she was named one of the top five coaches in the nation by UPA. She has been married her amazing husband for Kevin 27 years and has three children; Jessica who is a special education teacher, Amanda who is an event coordinator/environmental educator in Florida, and Kyle who is a U.S. Marine. All three of her children have been involved in Dance and Cheer while in high school and college. She works at Freedom High School as the secretary to the athletic director & principal. This will be the tenth year Lorie will be hosting and directing the Freedom Irish Cheer & Dance Invite competition

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Kelly Hegarty is the owner and president of Advantage Dance, LLC, which consults with and operates camps for more than 30 high school dance team programs in Minnesota and throughout the Midwest. Hegarty's diverse background in track and field, gymnastics, weight training, marathons, and triathlons gives her a unique perspective on training for dance. During her tenure as the Burnsville head coach, she led the team to five Minnesota State High Kick titles and numerous appearances in state finals. Hegarty's education and experience include more than 15 years of high school dance team coaching experience, a master's degree in education, and a B.S. in biological science with an emphasis on health and fitness. She has presented on various topics at conventions throughout the upper Midwest. Hegarty is also a proud inductee into the Minnesota Association of Dance Team's Coaches Hall of Fame.

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Josie Henningfeld and Kate Fabbri have extensive training and competitive experience in studio dance. Josi earned her BFA in Dance from the UW-Milwaukee and Kate attends Loyola University of Chicago where she was a member of the dance team. They met while dancing for the Wisconsin Professional Dance Team, the official dance team of the Milwaukee Brewers. They are both full-time dance teachers and performers in the southeastern Wisconsin area. They also coach two different high school varsity dance squads. Last fall they officially began their business journey being hired for workshops and/or competition choreography by the following teams: Muskego, Badger, Wisconsin Lutheran, and the Sheboygan All Stars. Three of three routines finished in the top 15 at state, and the pom routine choreographed for the Sheboygan All-Stars placed first at nationals and received an award for best pom choreography.

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Michelle Hook has over 23 of dance experience, including studio training, ballroom training, and being on her high school dance team, as well as being a captain, assistant coach, head coach, choreographer, WACPC certified judge, and WACPC District 1 Representative. She has a passion for dance but also a passion for human relationships. She has a B.A. in Psychology and Human Services and a Master of Science degree in Clinical Mental Health and Career Counseling. Her experience and education provide her with the tools to help others relate to each other, including dance and cheer teams.

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Kevin Hooker was a cheerleader at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln where he earned three All American Awards from NCA and runner up to Lance in the regions Best Stunting Award. Kevin was named Captain of his team his senior year and graduated from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln with an engineering degree in Construction Management. Kevin has his AACCA safety certification and is credentialed through Level 6 for the USASF in all three categories of Stunt, Tumbling, and Basket Tosses. He is also a Director for the state of Nebraska for the USASF credentialing.

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Julie Jacobson has been the cheer and dance coach for Deerfield High School and Deerfield Middle School teams for 22 years and assistant coach of the Wisconsin Down Under Cheer and Dance Team for 13 years. She has been a WACPC board member for more than 15 years, a nationally certified judge for over 15 years, judging locally, regionally, and nationally, and is the State Director for the National Council on Spirit Safety Education (NCSSE). She holds NCSSE master level certification as well as CPR and First Aid Certification.

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Theresa Kubalak has over 18 years of competitive dance experience. She spent four years on a State and Nationally award winning high school team and continued studying dance through college taking classes and attending workshops in everything from ballet, tap, and jazz to modern and hip hop. Since 1995, Theresa has coached and/or choreographed routines for five award winning high school teams in Wisconsin. She is a State and Nationally decorated choreographer with her routines placing in the top five at the Local, State, and National levels 26 times from 2001-2009. Theresa is an incredibly diverse dance coach. She has experience at the elementary, middle, and high school levels, as well as directing and performing on three professional dance teams. Theresa is currently a co-owner and instructor at Green Bay's All-Star Dance Studio, the Power of Dance, LLC. In the past year, her hip hop 'Michael Mix' was awarded Best Choreography, and her jazz routine 'Respect', took home the Federation of Dance Coaches award for Most Entertaining.

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Elizabeth Powers has over 20 years of Dance experience as a performer, coach, choreographer, and judge. She has performed on both State and National Championship high school and college teams and two semi-professional dance teams. For the past 10 years, Elizabeth has been the coaching and/or doing competition choreography for three Wisconsin high school dance teams- her routines taking home many Regional, State, and National Titles. Her choreography has also been featured in numerous Packer Half-time Shows and the 2003 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. In 2004, Elizabeth was named the United Performing Association's National Dance Coach of the Year and was nominated for Who's Who of U.S. Dance Directors. She was then inducted into the UPA's National coaching Hall of Fame in 2006. Elizabeth is currently a co-owner and dance instructor at the Power Of Dance, LLC in Green Bay boasting over 260 students and five All Star Teams in just its 3rd year of existence. Elizabeth is still highly involved with high school teams throughout Wisconsin providing choreography, private camps, technique classes, music mixing, routine cleaning, and judging competitions.

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Sue Poeschl has been the head cheer coach for Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln High School for over 30 years and the owner and director of CWCC summer camps for over 20 years. She was a formerly and currently a WACPC board member. She has been the head coach of the Wisconsin Down Under team for 12 years, was the UPA Coach of the Year in 1995, and the Pinnacle Award Winner for Cheer Ltd 2008.

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Kelli Ritsche is entering her tenth season as head cheer coach at Superior High School. Kelli was a WACPC board member for four years, is an Instructor and Camp manager of summer camps for the National Cheerleaders Association, and teaches Health during the school year. Kelli is passionate about the cheer and dance world and can't wait to share her ideas with you!

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Derek Ramel's coaching success began in the late 80's while coaching his first dance team to national and international competition. In the early 90's, he shifted his coaching to the college level gaining national recognition throughout those years. By the mid-to-late 90's, Derek began consulting for other college, high school, all star and junior high teams bringing success to their programs including first appearances in national competition, nationally-televised performances, and several national championships. Also during this period, Derek judged at the National Dance Team Championships televised on ESPN.

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Linda Schrage has been coaching the Freedom Co-ed Cheer and Stunt Team since 1996. She is a credentialed bronze coach for the National Federation and has been the safety and rules representative for the state since 2002. She has a cheer background but is versed in both cheer and dance safety and rules. She has also worked with the USASF in safety and rules. She has worked with coaches in District 3 as a representative for WACPC since 1998. Along with the Freedom Cheer and Stunt Team we have assisted coaches in stunting and have hosted classes for the "new coach." She has athletes selected for the Down Under, WACPC All-State Teams, and selected as collegiate cheerleaders at UW Madison, UW Green Bay, and UW Oshkosh. Her love for cheerleading and keeping kids safe is what drives her to keep coaching.

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Lance Stoltenberg was a collegiate gymnast his freshman year at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln. After sustaining a gymnastics career ending injury, he later became a cheerleader at the University. He earned top honors in cheerleading including three Collegiate All American Awards from NCA (National Cheerleaders Association), as well as back to back Best Tumbler awards and Best Stunting awards in the region. Lance graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a Biology degree and Masters work in exercise physiology & nutrition. Lance is AACCA safety certified as well as USASF Credentialed through Level 6 in all three categories of Stunt, Tumbling, and Basket Tosses and is now the USASF Credentialing program coordinator for the state of Nebraska.

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Cydnee Totzke is a 5th grade teacher in Eagle River and the head coach of the Northland Pines Cheer & Dance program. Her teams have earned six state championships in Division 3 and have placed in the top three in the Cheer Dance category in all four years of the division's existence. She has been a part of the WACPC board for over twelve years, is the newly elected Vice President, and specializes in creating programs, flyers, and other print media for the organization as well as re-designing its new website.

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