

MELISSA M. MAHADY WILTON

82 EARL STREET
KINGSTON, ONTARIO K7L 2G7
MAHADY.WILTON@SYMPATICO.CA

(613) 545-9269 (OFFICE)

(613) 541-8048 (MOBILE)

EDUCATION

1990	Bachelor of Arts (Honours), Psychology	Queen's University
1997	Master's of Arts, Clinical Psychology	Queen's University
1997-2002	Doctoral Studies <i>Coursework, research, clinical training, and comprehensive exam in Clinical Psychology, Developmental concentration completed (program withdrawal due to illness)</i>	Queen's University
2016	Principles of Dance Medicine Certificates <i>Health Considerations for the Adolescent Dancer Functional Tests to Assess Pointe Readiness Foot and Ankle: Function and Injury in the Dancer Foot and Ankle: Matching the Shoe to the Dancer Foot and Ankle: The Posterior Ankle A Potpourri of Things Often Missed</i>	NYU School of Medicine

AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

1987, 1990	Dean's Honour List	Queen's University
1990	W.R.Thompson Prize in Psychology	Queen's University
1990	Medal In Psychology	Queen's University
1995-1996	Ontario Graduate Scholarship	
1995-1996	Queen's University Graduate Award	Queen's University
1997	A.Z.Arthur Prize in Psychology	Queen's University
1997-1998	Queen's University Graduate Fellowship	Queen's University
1997-1998	R. Samuel McLaughlin Fellowship	Queen's University
1998-1999	Ontario Graduate Scholarship	
1998-2001	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Doctoral Fellowship	
2001	St. Lawrence College Instructor Assessment <i>Achieved the highest possible instructor ratings with 96% of students across all assessment dimensions.</i>	

TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Dance Technique and Pedagogy

Over forty years' formal training in classical ballet and pointe work (Vaganova and Cecchetti styles, classical repertoire), flamenco, ballroom and Latin (International style), Afro-Cuban, tap and jazz. Invited to dance with the Greater Niagara Ballet Company, under the direction of Beverly Feder (declined due to injury).

Vaganova Teacher Intensive Training, Open World Dance Foundation

Advanced pedagogical training under the direction and mentorship of renowned former dancers and international coaches Irina Kolpakova, Ekaterina Shchelkanova, and Anton Boytsov.

Teacher Training and Certification, Lisa Howell: Completed Level I Teacher Training, Level II Turnout Training, Level II Flexibility Training and Level II Pointe Intensive with this renowned dance physiotherapist; including: developmental progression, dancer assessment, functional anatomical study of posture, flexibility, stability, classical and pointe technique, biomechanics, spinal mobility, injury prevention and recovery.

Certified Pointe Shoe Fitting Basic Training: Under the direction of expert fitter Josephine Lee

Certified Instructor, Progressing Ballet Technique: Junior, Senior and Advanced levels

Certificate of Merit, With Honours; Finis Jhung Ballet Teacher Intensive (*Renowned Master Teacher*)

Certified Master Teacher, Wheelchair Ballroom Dance; American Dance Wheels Foundation

MUNZ (formerly SAFE®) FLOOR (INACTIVE): Certified for Levels I/II by Alexandre Munz, the multi-awarded creator of MUNZ FLOOR. For more information, visit: www.maisonmunz.com.

Member: International Dance Council, (CID), DanseMedica, DanceSafe Ontario

First Aid Certification (CPR, AED)

SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

Mahady Wilton, M. M. (2000). *Attachments: Introduction*. In W. Craig (Ed.) *Childhood Social Development: The Essential Readings* (pp. 9-12). Blackwell: England.

Mahady Wilton, M. M. & Craig, W. (2000). *Emotional Regulation and Display in Classroom Victims of Bullying: Characteristics Expressions of Affect, Coping Styles, and Relevant Contextual Factors*. *Social Development*, 9(2), 226-245.

Mahady Wilton, M., Craig, W., & Pepler, D. (April, 1998). *Emotional regulation and display in victims of bullying: A comparison of classroom and playground contexts*. Paper presented at the Waterloo Biennial Conference on Child Development, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada.

Karp, J., Mahady Wilton, M., & Craig, W. (April, 1998). *Coping behaviours of victims of bullying on the playground*. Paper presented at the Biennial Conference on Child Development, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada.

Mahady Wilton, M., & Craig, W. (April, 1997). *Emotional regulation and display in classroom victims of bullying: Affect, coping styles, and contextual factors*. Poster session presented at the biennial meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Washington, DC, USA

Mahady Wilton, M., & Craig, W. (June, 1997). *Peer-rejected children: Differences between victims and non-victims*. Poster session presented at the annual convention of the Canadian Psychological Association, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

EMPLOYMENT

1990-1995

Senior Manager, Organizational Culture & Strategic Planning

Deloitte & Touche Management Consultants; Toronto, Ontario

- Developed and lead strategic planning and change management projects for multi-million/billion dollar clients in finance, transportation, tourism, retail, manufacturing and the public sector. Acted as the Global Product Leader for the Culture Print™ methodology for cultivating cultures of strategic advantage.

1996-1998

Teaching Assistant

Queen's University Department of Psychology; Kingston, Ontario

- Tutored students, held office hours, and marked assignments for undergraduate psychology courses.

2000-2001

Lab Manager, Bullying and Victimization Studies

Queen's University Department of Psychology; Kingston, Ontario

- Coordinated and performed data gathering, input and statistical analyses and contributed to the authorship of scientific papers. Supervised, managed and trained research assistants in the lab.

2001

Instructor: Introduction to Cognitive-Behavioural Therapy

St. Lawrence College; Kingston, Ontario

- Delivered the first course in CBT in the Behavioural Sciences program, including developing curriculum, presenting lectures and seminars, and evaluating and marking student performance. Recruited to teach subsequent courses and terms, but declined for maternity leave reasons.

2001

Program Coordinator, Bullying Prevention Program

Beth Israel Synagogue; Kingston, Ontario

- Consulted with the constituent community to develop and deliver an effective bullying prevention program for Jewish youth.

2007-2018

Instructor and Program Co-Director

Kingston School of Dance; Kingston, Ontario

- Co-directed the Ballet and Young Dancers Programs, working collaboratively to develop and oversee the implementation of instructional syllabi and creation of performance choreography for Imagine Dance, Pre-Primary/Primary Ballet, Ballet 1/2/3/4/5, Pre-Pointe, Pointe, Coaching, World Beat and Broadway Jazz.
- Instructed and directed the studio company Étoiles Filantes Youth Ballet, including developing, choreographing, producing and presenting original ballet community performance works.
- Supervised and mentored teaching assistants, provided references, acted as Health and Safety Officer.
- Organized, developed and participated in dance outreach events hosted and created by KSD.

2006-Present

Director & Founder

ConCorpsDance Inclusive Dance Programs; Kingston, Ontario

- Provide inclusive movement programming to Kingston community organizations to facilitate physical, social, emotional and artistic development in students of all ages and abilities. Clients include: Queen's University, H'art Centre, Extend-A-Family Kingston, the Kingston Family YMCA, Holy Cross Secondary School, Loyalist Collegiate and Vocational Institute, and Winston Churchill Public School.
- Choreograph original theatrical performances for school and community groups.
- Develop and lead inclusive dance teacher training and education modules to foster the development of inclusive arts programming on a community scale. Projects have been recognized and supported by funding awards from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, the Community Foundation of Greater Kingston, the Kingston Arts Council, and the Ontario Communities in Action Fund.
- Raise awareness and promote Canadian mixed-ability dance through media interviews and profiles; e.g., Exceptional Families Magazine, the Queen's Alumni Review. Host and contribute to public panels on dance and disabilities, including presentation of training workshops, leading seminars and participation in charity events for Variety Village, Bloorview Kids' Rehabilitation Centre, the Canadian Paraplegic Association, Easter Seals and the Queen's University School of Rehabilitation Therapy.
- Founded and serve as Executive and Co-Artistic Director of *The Conservatory*, Kingston's first classical and concert dance conservatory. The Conservatory provides fully inclusive dance training of the highest calibre grounded in the values of integrity, community engagement, cultural enrichment and creative excellence. The Conservatory is the region's only Institutional Member of the prestigious International Dance Council (CID), and offers its certification program for dance achievement. Detailed program information and performance footage can be found at: www.the-conservatory.com.

2010-2022

Dance Engagement Coordinator, Ontario Dances Program

Kingston, Ontario

- Conduct dance outreach and education on behalf of the City of Kingston and the Ontario Arts Council, with the goal of increasing accessibility and participation in dance.
- Liaise with the regional dance community to support dance performances and events via marketing, promotion, networking, and social media.
- Develop, organize, and host dance engagement events with Grand Theatre presenting professional dance artists, such as audience pre/post-show talk-back sessions, master classes, choreographic workshops, artist residencies, and patron salons to enhance public knowledge, enjoyment, and comfort with dance as a medium; to deepen the relationships between performing artists and their audiences; and to encourage active public involvement in dance. Create and host dance education workshops and classes.
- Author and disseminate dance education materials, such as audience and curriculum guides.
- Liaise with provincial dance amateurs and professional dance artists to create engagement programs/ resources to benefit dancers and community members through creative mentorship.
- Organize creative and engagement residencies with professional dance artists, such as the three-year residency project with acclaimed modern dancer Peggy Baker, which presented community performance opportunities to the Kingston region, as has been used as a model for future Ontario Dances residencies.
- Served as the Dance Engagement Coordinator for the Ontario Dances pilot program in Northern Ontario, which introduced arts engagement and outreach programming to Dryden, Sioux Lookout, Kirkland Lake and Deep River; and facilitated the development of skills, resources and infrastructure to enable program self-sufficiency within a year.
- Recruited by the Ontario Arts Council to the pool of jurors for dance grant applications

2015-Present

Choreographer, Peerless Productions

Kingston, Ontario

- In collaboration with Director and Dramaturge Kathryn MacKay, and Musical Director, David Archibald, facilitate the development and production of original theatrical productions created by adult artists with developmental, intellectual and physical disabilities.
- Work cooperatively to meet our collective artistic goal of amplifying the voices and perspectives of marginalized populations. Peerless Productions' work has been generously recognized and supported by the Kingston Arts Council, Ontario Arts Council and the Canada Council of the Arts.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

1998-1999

Applied Behaviour Analysis Teacher

Autism intervention program, Dr. Rebecca Ward

- Worked with parents and clinicians to assess children, develop customized ABA programming and deliver weekly sessions in support of client's social, emotional, physical and developmental functioning.

2000-2004

Executive Co-Chair

Sydenham Public School Parent Advisory Council

- Worked in cooperation with other parents to develop, plan, organize and host major school fundraising and community education events. Oversaw the bidding and procurement process for new playground.

2006

Organizing Committee Member

Dusk Dances Professional Dance Festival Annual Tour

- Collaborated with the directors of Dusk Dances, the City of Kingston, performing artists, choreographers, youth and volunteers to organize and host this donation-based, interactive festival of dance in City Park.

2008-2010

Board Member

Extend-A-Family Kingston

- Provided strategic planning expertise, oversight and guidance for organizational growth and sustainability.

2007-2010

Chairperson, Board of Directors

Canada Dancesport Community Organization, Inc.

- Successfully managed, funded, promoted and presented this annual international ballroom dance competition, including liaison and planning with international, national, provincial and local stakeholders.
- Introduced wheelchair ballroom to Canada by organizing and hosting Ontario's first wheelchair ballroom performance and Canada's first wheelchair ballroom training with top international Paralympic coaches.
- Negotiated contracts, developed/implemented operational plans and coordinated over 130 volunteers to produce the 2009 Senior I Standard World Championships at the K-Rock Centre. CDS attracted competitors from 23 countries, and represented the first time these world championships had been held in North America. This event was used by IDSF officials as a model for future championships.
- Authored grant applications to successfully secure \$160,000 in operational, programming, and marketing funding. Generated over \$750,00 of total local economic impact from this three-day event.

REFERENCES

Professional Colleagues in the Performing Arts, Arts Education and Arts Administration:

- Peggy Baker** *Founder, Artistic Director, Choreographer, Dance Artist; Peggy Baker Dance Projects
Order of Canada, Order of Ontario, Dora Mavor Moore Award Winner
Artist-in-Residence, Canada's National Ballet School
peggybaker@sympatico.ca*
- Andrea Nann** *Artistic Director, Choreographer, Dance Artist; Dreamwalker Dance
Dance Artist; Peggy Baker Dance Projects
Director and Resident Dance Artist; Kingston Shebang Tett Grand Opening
dreamwalkerdance@gmail.com*
- Jayson Duggan** *Performing Arts Manager, Cultural Services, Grand Theatre; City of Kingston
jduggan@cityofkingston.ca*
- Jenny Pedler** *Program Coordinator, Cultural Services; City of Kingston
jpidler@cityofkingston.ca*
- Kathryn MacKay** *Founding Member, Former Assistant Director; Thousand Islands Playhouse
Interim Director; Theatre Kingston
Dramaturge and Director; Peerless Productions, H'art Centre
kathrynmackay320@gmail.com*
- Katherine Porter** *Executive Director, H'art Centre
katherinep@hartschool.ca*
- David Archibald** *Songwriter, Composer, Playwright, Musical Director; Peerless Productions, H'art Centre
archdav@gmail.com*
- Anthea Morgan** *Co-Artistic Director, The Conservatory; Instructor, Kingston School of Dance; Former Corps
de Ballet Member, National Ballet of Canada
a.siobhan.morgan@gmail.com*
- Kala Ross** *Former Instructor; Kingston School of Dance, H'art Centre, Kingston MOVE Collective
kalaonfire@gmail.com*
- Leslie Tarulli** *Former Instructor; Kingston School of Dance; Former Corps de Ballet Member, National
Ballet of Canada
leslie.tarulli@gmail.com*