

638 Estuary Drive  
Bradenton, FL 34209  
marcusandannie@brighthouse.com  
www.marcusandannie.com  
770-315-6494

# MARCUS R. ALFORD

---

Born in Tripoli, Libya, Marcus Alford found his way to several continents as an Air Force brat. He eventually landed at the University of Alabama where he earned a B.A. degree. Inspired by his dance teachers, he headed to Chicago where he choreographed, taught, danced and toured with the legendary Gus Giordano Jazz Dance Chicago for a decade.

Mr. Alford has been on the faculty of every major dance organization including D.M.A., D.E.A., Internationale Tanz Werkstatt, Southeastern Regional Ballet Association, Boston Dance Teachers Club, Chicago National Association of Dance Masters, and many others. Marcus' high energy jazz classes have also inspired students at the Festival of the World in Hungary, The American College Dance Festival, The International Ballet Competition, Jackson, MS, Hubbard Street Dance Studio, Chicago and the North Carolina School of the Arts. He served as an adjunct professor in Dance at Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA for nine years.

In 1986, Marcus founded "JAZZ ON TAP" (the Metro Atlanta Jazz and Tap Dance Festival) which has grown to be one of the largest dance events of its kind in the U.S. featuring master classes and performances involving 2000 dancers annually. In 1991, he authored Jazz Danceology, now a standard in the libraries of jazz dancers, teachers and universities everywhere. Alford's company, Jazz Dance Theatre South, founded in 1986, toured the U.S. and Europe for 15 years presenting the highest caliber of concert jazz and tap. Serving the Ballet community with its own festival, Mr. Alford founded "BalletFest Atlanta" in 2003.

Marcus Alford has performed in and/or choreographed many award winning industrials and TV/video projects. His "Customer is King" (Media Mix, London/Atlanta) won a Telly Award for outstanding television and video production and "Alcatel is Here!" (Networld/Interop Communications Show) won the Best of Show award. With Gus Giordano Jazz Dance Chicago, Marcus danced "The Rehearsal", an Emmy Award winner. Mr. Alford's industrial work includes clients such as Kohler Corporation, Sprint, I.B.M., Milliken Carpets and N.F.L. Commissioners. His concert choreography can be seen on companies throughout the dance world.

Along with his wife, Annie Day, Mr. Alford served as Owner/Artistic Director of Dancentre South, Inc. with two locations in metro Atlanta for 25 years. They were the recipients of the Lifetime Achievement Award from Chicago National Association of Dance Masters. In 2007, Day and Alford assumed the management and direction of Joel Ruminer Dance Camps which now operate annually under the name "SPARK Summer Dance Intensive" and hosts over 100 dancers and teachers each summer. Together, they also produced BalletFest Atlanta Summer Academy, a week-long intensive session focusing on instruction in Ballet and Contemporary.

Marcus and Annie have relocated to Bradenton, FL where Marcus continues free-lance choreography, performing and master teaching. Marcus loves to share the wonderful art and excitement of dance with all!

# MARCUS R. ALFORD

---

## **EDUCATION**

1972 - 1975 B. A. degree in Dance The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

## **TEACHING HIGHLIGHTS**

### ***CONVENTIONS***

Dance Masters of America (DMA)	Dance Educators of America (DEA)
Dance Olympus	Dance Teachers Club of Boston
New Jersey Dance Teachers Association	ConQuest/StarQuest International
Ray Hollingsworth Dance Troupe, Inc. (DTI)	Southern Association of Dance Masters (SADM)
Chicago National Association of Dance Masters (CNADM)	

### ***RESIDENCIES, WORKSHOPS AND MASTER CLASSES***

Agnes Scott College	Michigan State University
Alabama School of Fine Arts	Middle Tennessee State University
B. C. Dance Open, Prince Rupert, Canada	New World School of the Arts
Ball State University	North Carolina School of the Arts
Ballet Mississippi	Northeastern University
Barat College	Northwestern University
Birmingham Southern University	Robert Ivy Ballet
Brenau University	Sam Houston State University
Charleston Ballet Theatre	Shorter College
College of Charleston	South Carolina's Governor's School
East Carolina State University	Southeastern Regional Ballet Association (SERBA)
Eastern Kentucky University	The American College Dance Festival
Emory University	The University of Alabama (Birmingham)
Festival of the World Dance (Hungary)	The University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa)
First Floor Tanz Studio (Germany)	The University of Cologne (Germany)
Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation	University of Kentucky
Georgetown University (Washington DC)	University of Nevada Las Vegas
Georgia State University	University of South Carolina
Internationale Tanz Werkstatt (Germany)	Wabash College
Le Ballet Jazz, Montreal Canada	Wake Forest University
Lexington Ballet	West Florida University
Miami Dade College	Winthrop University
The International Ballet Competition (Jackson, Mississippi)	
Barrie Stevens Dance Unlimited (Amsterdam, Holland)	
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Association (UNESCO)	

### ***FULL TIME POSITIONS***

1993 – 2018	Dancentre South, Inc. studios and company (Woodstock, GA) <i>Owner/Artistic Director</i>
2009 -- 2018	Kennesaw State University Dance Department (Kennesaw, GA) <i>Adjunct Professor of Jazz Dance</i>
1985-1993	Dance Stop Studios (Marietta, GA) <i>Instructor and Choreographer</i>
1984-1986	Ruth Mitchell Dance Theatre and Studio (Atlanta, GA) <i>Resident Choreographer, Instructor and Guest Artist</i>
1980-1984	Lou Conte Dance Center (Chicago, IL) <i>Instructor</i>
1975-1984	Gus Giordano Dance Center (Evanston, IL) <i>Instructor, Choreographer and Company Member</i>

# MARCUS R. ALFORD

---

## **CHOREOGRAPHY HIGHLIGHTS**

### ***CONCERT CHOREOGRAPHY***

Agnes Scott College (GA)	Lexington Ballet (KY)
Alabama Dance Theatre (AL)	North Carolina School of the Arts (NC)
Andalusia Ballet (AL)	Northwest Florida Ballet (FL)
Atlanta Dance Theatre (GA)	Owensboro Dance Theatre (KY)
Ballet Mississippi (MS)	Potomac Dance Theatre (MD)
Ballet Tennessee (TN)	Robert Ivey Ballet (SC)
Chicago Loop Troupe (IL)	Ruth Mitchell Dance Theatre (GA)
Columbia College (SC)	South Carolina Dance Theatre (SC)
Dancentre North (IL)	University of Alabama (AL)
Delia Stewart Dance Company (TX)	University of Nevada Las Vegas (NV)
First Floor Tanz Company (Germany)	University of South Carolina (SC)
Giordano Jazz Dance Chicago (IL)	Wake Forest University (NC)
International Tanz Werkstatt (Germany)	
Birmingham Southern University Dance Company (AL)	

### ***COMMERCIAL CHOREOGRAPHY***

IBM	live industrial	
Kohler Corporation	industrial video	
NFL Commissioners	live performance	Commissioner's Ball
Arby's Corporation	industrial video	
Sprint	live industrial	Networld/Interop Communications Show
Alcatel	industrial video	Net.Comm Show
Alcatel	live industrial	Super Comm Show
Milliken Carpets	live industrial	
Carpet One	live industrial	
Head Sportswear	live industrial	Super Show
DSC Communications	live industrial	SuperComm Show
DSC Communications	live industrial	Personal Communications Showcase
Media Mix (London & Atlanta)	industrial video	"Quality Is..."
Media Mix (London & Atlanta)	industrial video	"The Customer is King"*
	**Telly Award winner - outstanding video and television production	
Atlantic Southeast Airlines	live industrial	
Soaring Eagle Casino	live industrial	
National Cosmetology Association	live industrial	
International Beauty Shows (IBS)	live industrial	
Nutcracker With a Swing	original concept concert	

# MARCUS R. ALFORD

---

## **PERFORMING HIGHLIGHTS**

### ***DANCE COMPANIES***

Gus Giordano Jazz Dance Chicago (IL)	Chicago Loop Troupe (IL)
Giordano Dance Theatre (IL)	Arve Connection (IL)
Jazz Dance Theatre South (GA)	Ruth Mitchell Dance Theatre (GA)

### ***TELEVISION AND INDUSTRIALS***

PBS "The Rehearsal"	television	Emmy Award winner
PBS "The Valley of Zebron"	television	with Doc Severinson
ABC Special "30 Years of Television"	television	
Harley-Davidson Motorcycles	live industrial	National Tour
Toro Corporation	live industrial	
Rotary International	live industrial	
Soaring Eagle Casino	live industrial	
World Book Encyclopedia	live industrial	
Kroger Food Stores	live industrial	
Media Mix (London & Atlanta)	industrial videos	
IBM	live industrial	
Kohler Corporation	industrial video	
NFL Commissioners	live performance	
Sprint	live industrial	
Alcatel	industrial video	
Alcatel	live industrial	
Carpet One	live industrial	
Head Sportswear	live industrial	
DSC Communications	live industrial	
Atlantic Southeast Airlines	live industrial	
Soaring Eagle Casino	live industrial	
National Cosmetology Association	live industrial	
International Beauty Shows (IBS)	live industrial	
Nutcracker With a Swing	original concept concert	
Dancer/Model Chicago Apparel Mart		

### **ADJUDICATOR**

American College Dance Festival (Wake Forest University, University of Alabama, University of Kentucky)  
Georgia Governor's Honor Program  
British Columbia Annual Dance Competition (Canada)  
Dance Masters of America (DMA)  
Dance Educators of America (DEA)  
Dance Olympus  
Chicago National Association of Dance Masters (CNADM)  
Ray Hollingsworth Dance Troupe, Inc. (DTI)  
StarQuest International  
Panoply Festival of the Arts Choreography Competition (Huntsville, AL)

# MARCUS R. ALFORD

---

## **OTHER RELATED ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Artistic Director/Founder “JAZZ ON TAP” (the metro Atlanta Jazz and Tap Dance Festival)
- Artistic Director/Founder “BalletFest Atlanta”
- Author of Jazz Danceology
- Director “SPARK Summer Dance Intensive”
- Artistic Director/Founder “Jazz Dance Theatre South” (Atlanta, GA)
- “Dance Teacher Now” magazine cover and feature article July/August 1990
- Member of the International Dance Council in cooperation with UNESCO, Paris, France
- Recipient of the 2003 Lifetime Achievement Award from Chicago National Association of Dance Masters
- National Dance Association discussion leader, Atlanta, Georgia conference
- Dance Advisory Board, Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA
- Jazz Dance World Congress Advisory Board member
- Dance model - print work for: series of posters/ads for the International Tanz Werkstatt, Germany, Leo's Dance of Chicago, Kling's of Chicago, La Danse Dance Wear and American Dance
- Athletic trainer at the University of Alabama for Paul “Bear” Bryant

## **REVIEWS**

**Munsterischer Anzeiger** (Munster, Germany) “The Company showed every aspect of their abilities with great élan, fantasy and richness of movement. “Grand Prix” was a real crowd pleaser!”

**The Royal Gazette** (Bermuda) “Marcus Alford won the special favor of the audience with his limber solo.”

**Chicago Sun Times** (Chicago, IL) “In the hands of Alford, ‘Wings’ is a dynamic thrust of power!”

**The New York Times** (New York, NY) “Marcus Alford and Susan Quinn were touching and totally believable as the shy, brutal lovers of the duet.”

**General Anzeiger** (Bonn, Germany) “Marcus Alford, artistic director of the company gambles high and wins in ‘High Stakes Blues’. The performance of Jazz Dance Theatre South, one can say without hesitation, was a great success!”

**Dance Teacher Now** (on Alford’s book Jazz Danceology) “It is recommended that this book be used, not placed on a shelf!”

**Atlanta Journal Constitution** (Atlanta, GA) “Mr. Alford created some exciting tableaux with his dancers”

**Post and Courier** (Charleston, SC) “Alford’s ‘The Blues Man’ showed a smooth combination of strength and style and a certain mature masculinity...suspended in the air during cat-like jumps and relishing in the moments of fluid phrasing.”

**Westfallen Post** (Hagen, Germany) “Alford brought many treasures to the stage.”

**Columbia Record** (Columbia, SC) “In ‘Seduced’, Alford was a delight, supple as a snake, with a bounce like a rubber ball, and hugely funny.”

**Robert Ivey** (Coordinator of the Piccolo-Spoleto Dance Festival, Charleston, SC) “Jazz Dance Theatre South brings professionalism, polish and power to Piccolo-Spoleto, U.S.A....an inspiration and an asset!”