

Pat Luptak Brandine

I studied ballet in Casper Wyoming under the direction of Shirley Lewis, a professional dancer from Los Angeles California. I danced into my adulthood and at 29 I moved to the small town of Red Lodge Montana where I opened the Red Lodge School of Dance in 1986. I taught ballet but soon realized the need to incorporate other techniques. So, I studied jazz as well as tap and hip hop/break and have been teaching ever since.

I have attended well over 20 years of Montana Dance Arts Association workshops. I have taken many students with me to MDAA to experience classes from professional dancers.

I have studied dance most of my life and was a founding member of the Grizzly Peak a Boos (Can Can dance group) and TaJammul and Munirah (belly dance troupes) which I continue to belly dance today. I have also taught aerobics for 30 years and Zumba for 12 years.

Along with performing with the Peak a Boos (15 years) and belly dancing (26 years) I have produce and directed 38 years of dance recital, along with many other dance shows such as The Dance, Fabrics in Motion. I have performed in Seattle and Ellensburg WA. And many places in Montana and Wyoming, Idaho.

I was honored with the Businessperson of the year award from the Red Lodge Chamber of Commerce in 2014 after 28 years in serving the community.

My greatest accomplishment and my most joy has been the love and joy of teaching the kids. They make you laugh, and they make you cry but the hugs are the best. I love seeing them when the light bulb turns on and they finally achieve the step or the leap or just overcoming their fears of performing.