



## Alison Spell, Young Children's Division Instructor

Born and raised in Austin, TX, Alison discovered her love for movement when she took her first dance class at the age of 5 years old. Over the course of her training, she became proficient in ballet, tap, jazz, contemporary, hip hop, and pointe. By the time she reached high school, she was traveling and earning awards state-wide with her studio's invitation-only company performance team.

After graduating high school, she continued her dance education at the University of Ulster in Northern Ireland where she deepened her understanding in dance fundamentals and developed her pedagogical practice. Eventually, she returned to the states and leapt into using her newfound knowledge to create her own dance classes.

This was a pivotal experience in Alison's dance journey, as she uncovered her passion for teaching and working with children. Subsequently, she transferred into the College of Education at the University of Texas in Austin and earned her degree in Applied Learning and Development in 2014.

Since then, Alison has allowed her passion for movement and education to guide her professionally. She's worn many hats over the course of her 12 year career: professional dancer, barre & Pilates instructor, preschool teacher, and most recently, manager of a children's dance academy in Los Angeles, CA; but where she feels most at home is in the dance studio, sharing the joys of dance with her students.

From once a tiny dancer herself, twirling in the aisles at Ballet Austin performances growing up, to now joining its faculty as the Young Children's Division dance teacher, Alison is honored to bring her knowledge, experience, and passion for dance to the students and families of Ballet Austin.