



Aisling DiRico, Ballet Instructor

Aisling began training at the age of 6 at Ballet Austin Academy, then continuing on at The University of North Carolina School of the Arts. She trained under many great teachers including Melissa Hayden and Nina Danilova. After graduating from the high school program, Aisling began her professional career with the Kansas City Ballet. During her 15-year professional career, she performed in many ballets including principal and soloist roles in classical favorites such as *The Nutcracker*, *Sleeping Beauty*, and *Giselle*. Some of her personal favorites were *Afternoon of a Faun*, *The Concert* by Jerome Robbins, *Agon*, *Stravinsky Violin Concerto*, *Slaughter on 10th Avenue* by George Balanchine, and *The Dying Swan* by Mikhail Fokine (staged by Elaine Bauer).

Aisling began teaching in 2003 at Kansas City Ballet's summer program in Crested Butte Colorado and immediately fell in love. Watching her students learn and thrive was invigorating and gave her a sense of pride and admiration. Aisling's teaching credits include Kansas City Ballet Academy, Dance Works Academy, and the Kansas School of Classical Academy where she had the pleasure of teaching students from around the globe. Aisling is extremely excited to be a part of the Ballet Austin faculty and to be able to share her knowledge with the next generation of dancers at her Alma Mater.