

ZAHARA MAWJI

Contact

www.unitydance.ca

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Competencies

Theatre Production,
Directing, Creative,
Performing/Acting,
Movement, Coaching,
Teaching, Outreach,
Event Management,
Event Planning,
Community Relations,
Marketing

Soft Skills

Interpersonal
Communication
Creative
Leadership
Teamwork
Positive
Flexible
Discipline
Ethical

Hard Skills

Musical Ear
Pathway
Spaceness
Stillness
Gestures
Floor work
Facial Expression
Costume Style
History/Origin

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Spirit Within, 2012

- PNE Pacific Coliseum floor show with cultural performances, ages: 5-60yrs
- Dance Styles: Ballet, Sufi Whirling, Qawwali, Hip Hop/Pop, Indian Classical

Magical Journey That's Larger than Life, 2011

- PNE Pacific Coliseum floor show with cultural performances, ages: 7-70yrs
- Dance Styles: Jazz/Cabaret, Gypsy Bellydance, Contemporary, Bollywood
- Visual Art: Painting of Arabic Calligraphy

Lights of Culture, 2010

- PNE Pacific Coliseum floor show with cultural performances, ages: 7-50yrs
- Dance Styles: Garba/Raas, Egyptian Veil, Bollywood, Hip Hop/Pop
- Visual Art: Lighting Effects

THEATRICAL APPEARANCES

Assistant Movement Coach and Actor

Conference of the Birds directed by Hafiz Karmali, 2012

- 4 shows in North Shore Vancouver
- Roles: Pigeon, Peacock, Persian Princess, Whirling Dervish, Angel

Actor and Dancer

Yaqzan: The Awakened directed by Shawn Philips, 2002

- 15 shows across Canada
- Roles: Moorish Flamenco Dancer, Forest Dear, Middle Eastern Dancer, Water Force, Angel

DANCE AWARDS

- Arts Adjudicator: Close Look Got Talent, Centre Stage, Surrey 2017-2020
- Performing Arts Adjudicator: Afro-Multicultural Talent Show, Taj Convention Hall, Surrey 2018
- National Jubilee Arts Festival: Top 3 Regional winner, Group Dance Category, Four Seasons Centre for Performing Arts, Toronto 2018
- Rangeela Dance Competition: First Place, Solo Dance Category, Massey Theatre, Burnaby 1997
- Muqabala Teens Folk Filmy Dance Competition: Second Place, Group Dance Category, Michael J Fox Theatre, Burnaby 1996
- Bhoole Bisre Nagme: Best Folk Garba Group *Dance*, Centennial Theatre, North Vancouver 1994

Dance Style

Raqs Sharki/
Bellydance with:
Isis Wings, Sword
Veil, Fans, Saidi/Cane.
Flamenco Bellydance
ATS Tribal
Tribal Fusion
Folkloric
Egyptian Street
Bollywood
Bollywood
Fusion
Bhangra
Basic Indian Classical:
Bharat Natyam
Moorish Flamenco
Basic Salsa
Basic Garba/Raas
Sufi/Whirling

Other Work

Marketing Consultant
Marketing
Coordinator
Website Administrator
Special Projects
Records Reconciliation
Specialist

ARTISTIC EXPERIENCE:

Talent Show Manager

Jubilee Arts BC, 2017-2018

- Organized, Planned and Managed three shows in two festival days
- Attended meetings and collaborated on conference calls with team
- Scheduled all artists according to date, time and call-time
- Liaised with Logistics, AV, HR and Facilities lead

Project Manager

Community Relations, Ismaili Centre Vancouver, 2016-2017

- *Ismaili Walk 25th Anniversary Gala* with CEOs of Organizations
- *Courtyard Commission* of Digital Imaging and Performing arts of Music and Dance
- *Oh My Sweet Land* theatrical production from Chicago in collaboration with Aga Khan Museum and Silk Road Rising
- *In-Between Worlds* and *Morning Raga* in collaboration with Indian Summer Festival

Performing Arts Convener

Arts and Culture Portfolio BC, 2010-2012

- Organized meetings and coordinated with various stakeholders from make-up/hair artists, audio/visual, costume/props team to security and marketing/communications department
- Conducted presentations to inform councillors, performers and volunteers on the vision
- Provide feedback and contributed recommendations at debrief meetings after succession of all events
- Show producer for special events which included cultural performances

Entertainment Manager

Ismaili Walk Organizing Committee BC, 2010-2016

- Planned and organized entertainment for the Ismaili Walk at Stanley Park fundraising for community wide events (VGH/UBC Hospital Foundation & Canadian Mental Health Association, YMCA Cause We Care House, Heart & Stroke Foundation) with attendance of over 1,000 and raised over \$200,000
- Outreached to communities to find cultural performances
- Recruited, oriented and led my team with respect and motivation
- Implemented a variety of entertainment that included arts and culture
- Had 15 event members and 50 performers report to me
- Stage managed performers, emcees and bands
- Liaised and collaborated with internal and external coordinators
- Anticipated event logistics, including potential issues and resolution
- Liaised with communications member for script writing
- Developed the timeline and updated organizing team and performers

Modeling

Fashion Shows:

Avon
Chris Folcan
Simply Elegant Bridal
Boutique
Sunny's Bridal
Rung Boutique
Yahoo's Boutique
Bridal Fashion Week
Satya Paul
Drishti Awards Gala
South Asian Fashion
Week

Photoshoots:

Brentwood Bridal
Spoil Me Floral
Drishti Magazine
Tamanna Magazine
Blanche McDonald

Beauty Pageants

Miss Tamana 1999,
Participant
Miss CineWorld 1996,
Finalist

Entertainment Convener

Sportsfest West Organizing Committee, 2012

- Arranged and managed entertainment of feature half-time games at Richmond Olympic Oval for an audience of 500
- Manager and coach of the Vancouver Spirit Squad Dance Team of 12
- Safely secured logistics, managed risks: costumes, props, audio/visual, change rooms, food, ID
- Provided direction and leadership to event staff including singers, emcees, DJ and dancers

Dance Instructor

Baza Dance Studio, 2019

Dancin Stars, 2017

iDance Vancouver, 2017

Raqasa Dance Studio, 2015

- Planned, prepared and delivered enjoyable and structured dance lessons
- Explained and demonstrated dance techniques and methods
- Utilized movements, gestures, sounds, and body language to portray the dance
- Guide each student and assist them with any challenges
- Inspired passion and articulate Bellydance with its origins
- Prepared students for next level of dance movements including how to perform for an audience
- Began each class with appropriate stretches in prepping the body for dance position and movement

FILM/TV

Fall Back Down, Film, 2018

Assistant Dance Manager

Choreographer

Backup Dancer

Extra work:

- Scene: Seamstress worker

Prison Break, TV, 2017

Season 5

Extra work:

- Scene: New York and Sudan Airports traveler