

Willandra Dawes Mcgahee



Born and raised under the sunny skies of South Florida, I am an artist, dancer, and all-around creative soul who thrives on building connections and making an impact through the arts. My mission? To empower minds, foster emotional intelligence, and nurture life skills—one brushstroke, dance step, or moment of laughter at a time.

I wear many hats

(sometimes literally, thanks to my time as a hairstylist): I've taught kids how to express themselves through art, dance, and even P.E. at Holy Temple Christian Academy, created choreography for recitals at Serenity Center for the Arts, and supervised YMCA programs to ensure everything ran smoothly and safely. From the classroom to the studio, I've worked with kids from kindergarten to high school, helping them discover the power of creativity and the magic of self-expression.

As a hip-hop and creative movement instructor, I craft routines that not only teach technique but inspire young dancers to move with purpose. At Honeyshine Inc., I get to see this magic come to life when students perform for their community at the end of every camp. My passion for nurturing young minds doesn't stop there—whether it's guiding students in Broward County classrooms or teaching writing and painting through community organizations, I love every opportunity to inspire growth.

Beyond teaching, I've embraced my flair for the arts in other ways. As a lead hairstylist, I've styled models for photoshoots, fashion shows, and even New York Fashion Week (yes, *that* New York Fashion Week!). I've also brought my visual art to life through live painting events, exhibitions, and collaborations with organizations like Noir Infusion Arts and A Reflection of Me, Inc.

When I'm not in the classroom or studio, you might find me performing at the Broward Center of Performing Arts alongside talented artists like Quick the Poet or showcasing my work at cultural centers throughout South Florida. Oh, and I'm no stranger to the big screen, having been featured in the silent film *"I Love You in My Silence."*

I'm proud to be deeply involved with organizations such as the Optimist Club, Art Prevails, and the Miramar Cultural Center. Each partnership lets me contribute to creating a more vibrant, supportive community for youth.

In short, I'm a motivated, dependable, and slightly quirky creative who believes that art and dance can change the world—or at least brighten a few lives along the way. Let's move, paint, and create something amazing together!

"Art is an expression that never says a word but screams to the soul."
-Will MCG

Willandra Dawes McGahee

South Florida Native Artist | Dancer | Visionary Creative

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Professional Summary

Passionate and dynamic artist, dancer, and educator with a mission to empower and inspire through the arts. Adept at building relationships, fostering emotional intelligence, and cultivating life skills in diverse audiences, especially children and young adults. With extensive experience in creative production, instruction, and customer service, I bring a dedicated and dependable work ethic to any team or project.

Key Skills

- Creative Direction & Production Assistance
 - Curriculum Development & Instruction
 - Relationship Building & Youth Empowerment
 - Dance Choreography & Performance Coordination
 - Event Management & Program Oversight
 - Visual Arts & Live Painting
 - Certified in CPR & PCM
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Professional Experience

Abstract Art In Motion LLC | Fort Lauderdale, FL

CEO and Creative Director | 2020 – Present

- Leading multidisciplinary creative projects across dance, visual arts, and hairstyling.
- Developing and teaching customized curriculums for diverse age groups.
- Inspiring confidence, self-expression, and emotional intelligence through the arts.
- Coordinating performances, art exhibitions, and community showcases.
- Promoting cultural appreciation through hair braiding as an art form.

Holy Temple Christian Academy | Fort Lauderdale, FL
Extracurricular Teacher | 2020 – 2022

- Designed and implemented engaging curriculums for art, dance, and physical education for K-12 students.
- Choreographed performances for school showcases and events, promoting creativity and teamwork.

YMCA | Fort Lauderdale, FL
Site Supervisor | 2020 – 2021

- Oversaw daily operations and ensured the safety and success of after-school programs.
- Coordinated with counselors, reported attendance, and managed materials to maintain program quality.

Serenity Center for the Arts | North Lauderdale, FL
Hip Hop & Creative Movement Instructor | 2020 – 2021

- Created dance routines that encouraged self-expression and emotional development.
- Directed choreography for recitals and performances.

Honeyshine Inc. | Miami, FL
Enrichment Instructor | 2018 – Present

- Taught expressive dance and choreography, culminating in community performances at summer camps.
- Fostered confidence and creativity in underserved youth.

Broward County Schools | Fort Lauderdale, FL
Classroom Assistant | 2017 – 2020

- Supported classroom management and learning activities, fostering a safe and engaging environment.
- Provided personalized assistance to students to enhance educational outcomes.
- Support educational and behavioral goals in the classroom within the autism community.

Beautiphull | Fort Lauderdale, FL*Lead Hairstylist | 2017 – Present*

- Styled models for photo shoots, fashion shows, and prestigious events such as New York Fashion Week 2019.

Hair Studio 300 | Davie, FL*Junior Hairstylist | 2014-2017*

- As a junior stylist, I was required to apply colors, blow dry clients, and shampoo clients
- Ensure that the salon is clean and stocked.
- Take appointments

Hair Studio and Spa | Davie, FL*Junior Hairstylist | 2014*

- As a junior stylist, I was required to apply colors, blow dry clients, and shampoo clients
- Ensure that the salon is clean and stocked.
- Take appointments

Allure Hair Salon | Hollywood, FL*Junior Hairstylist | 2013*

- As a junior stylist, I was required to apply colors, blow dry clients, and shampoo clients. I also assisted the master stylist with hair extension installations and removals.
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Education

Miami Dade College | Associate in Arts, Art Education | Anticipated Completion:
December 2024

Florida Career College | Cosmetology Liscence | 2012 – 2013

Stranahan High School | High School Diploma

AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

- The Optimist Club: Dance, art, theater
- A Reflection of Me Inc: Live Painting
- Noir Infusion Arts: Artist open studio
- Honeyshine/ Overtown Youth Center: Art, dance, braiding
- We Fight to Tell Stories: dance
- Art Prevails: Live painting, teaching artist for Writing program
- Broward Center of Performing Arts
- I Am Hope Foundation
- H.A.N.D.Y.
- Miramar Cultural Center
- Next Weekend Productions
- M Ensemble (Dance Instructor)
- Star Support (Dance Instructor)

PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCES

- Several performances in dance at the Broward Center of Performing Arts
- Solo exhibition at Ali Cultural Arts Center in Pompano Beach, Florida
- Exhibition with A Reflection of Me, Inc
- Art display with the City of Lauderdale Lakes
- Feature in a silent film “I Love You in my Silence”