

2020 Spotlight Non-Classical Dance Semifinal Panel

Amrapali Ambegaokar is an International Master of Kathak (North Indian Classical Dance) and an actress. Formerly the Principal Dancer of Cirque Du Soleil's *Dralion* in over 730 shows in 14 US cities, she guest performed on *So You Think You Can Dance*, won the Solo Silver Medal on NBC'S *Superstars of Dance*, among other TV performances and national accolades. She has performed internationally as the 30-year Principal Dancer/CoArtistic Director of Anjani's Kathak Dance of India. She earned BA with honors from UCLA's World Arts and Cultures/Dance. Ms. Ambegaokar was a Music Center Spotlight Grand Prize Finalist.

Neisha Folkes is a former Principal Dancer with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. Ms. Folkes graduated from The Juilliard School and went on to perform in numerous Broadway shows before joining Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. She has choreographed for many TV, films and commercials, including Gap Swing, Coke, Ralph Lauren, Swing Kids, Glitter, Malcolm X and many more. She owns and directs her own musical theatre company for students called Triple Talent.

Dee Kaye Klega has performed extensively throughout the U.S., Asia, and Europe in television, movies, commercials and stage. Her television credits include *The Academy Awards* and *The Tonight Show* among many others. Ms. Kaye is the Co-Founder of Teatro Electrio, a modern/jazz dance company based in Milano, Italy, as well as the former Lead Dancer on Canali 5 and The Rai for Italian Television. Ms. Kaye has been a Spotlight judge for the past 16 years.

Shelli Margheritis is the Director of the Teaching Department and Agent within the On-Camera Dance Department for McDonald Selznick Associates (MSA) agency. She is the author of *Making the Move – One Step at a Time*. With an extensive background as a professional dancer, Ms. Margheritis has consistently worked as a dancer on films, music videos and national commercials. Her vast performing experience has led her to the business side of the industry from structuring, directing and producing national and international productions.

Mike Weir is a former professional dancer and singer whose extensive credits on stage include starring roles on Broadway in *Blackstone!* and *A Chorus Line*. National Tours include *Evita* and *A Chorus Line*. He was a Principal Dancer with the Omaha Ballet and modern dance companies – Manning Freed Dance Theater and Space, Energy, Time Dance Company. Mr. Weir has an extensive background as a dancer/singer/actor and writer in film, television and commercials as well. Mr. Weir has been a Spotlight judge for the past 16 years.