

# Early Arts Performing Artists



**KANYINSOLA OJO**  
Art Form: Music

Kanyinsola Ojo began her violin studies under the baton of Ms. Deena Hardin, as a member of the College Station Independent School District orchestras. A year later, she was awarded a scholarship to attend the prestigious Interlochen Arts Camp, which served as a springboard launching her passion for the violin. An avid church musician, her robust secondary education included participation in large and small worship ensembles, teaching violin lessons at her church, competing in region, all-state orchestras and solo and ensemble competitions, eventually receiving a high school varsity letter for her four years of participation in her school district's top orchestra. She completed a B.S. in Political Science at Clarkson University while simultaneously furthering her violin studies at the Crane School of Music with John Lindsey, Concertmaster of the Orchestra of Northern New York. After a short stint in consulting in Washington D.C., she returned to her violin studies, completing a post-baccalaureate degree in Violin Performance at the University of Houston, with Mr. Andrzej Grabiec, prizewinner at the Wieniawski and Thibaud Competitions, and former concertmaster of the Rochester Philharmonic. She is currently in pursuit of a M.M. in Violin Performance at the University of Texas - San Antonio, under the tutelage of Dr. Nicole Cherry of the Marian Anderson String Quartet.



**KATRIN LUDWIG**  
Art Form: Puppetry, Theatre

With a degree in Theater from Northwestern University, and further education at the Drama Studio London-Berkely, the Henson Group and Madcap Puppets, Katrin has served as an artistic director, stage manager, co-producer of award winning one acts, stage, tech, as well as performer from Ohio to California. In Illinois, she co-founded a touring puppet theater company: Walkabout Puppets. This company used creative drama and audience participation with their K-8 audience. Walkabout Puppets had an arts-in-education component and provided residencies to underserved communities in the Midwest. These residencies incorporated visual arts, music, drama, writing and the class curriculum designed to support Illinois Stat Standards. In San Antonio, in addition to 4 years with SA Wolf Trap, she has worked with Classic Theatre in their education program and with Magik Theatre as Puppet Designer and Choreographer as well as actor. In teaching, Katrin encourages integrating different art forms with other subjects demonstrating that art, history, science etc. interrelate. "The arts are part of a lifelong education; informing us of other cultures and perspectives thereby broadening a life view, life thinking and life paths. Everyone should have the opportunity to experience and/or create art, whether visual, written, musical or dramatic."



**AUSTIN THOMPSON**  
Art Form: Puppetry

Austin's love of puppetry started at a very young age. In college, Austin was hired by the City of Orlando Puppet Troupe where he was able to meet other puppeteers and continue to learn all that he could about puppetry. A highlight during this time was performing a show for Heather Henson and her mother at the Puppet Slam Festival. Austin now travels across the country with his wife (Air Force) connecting with different puppet guilds and puppeteers. From time to time he still goes to Orlando to perform in the Puppet Slams and has had the chance to meet Leslie Carrara-Rudolph. Austin started his own puppet troupe and company to educate children and adults about the joy of puppetry and the various puppet art forms. Crosstitch Productions has allowed Austin to continue to educate others in the art form of puppetry, techniques, and how to fabricate puppets. Austin is currently working on a project to do puppet shows for Syrian, and South-Asian refugees.



**CHAYITO CHAMPION**  
Art Form: Dance

Chayito was born into a family of Flamenco artists, Teresa and Curro Champion, the pioneers of Flamenco in Texas. Chayito began singing and dancing at an early age carrying the legacy of her family all over the world. Chayito is a sought-after performer who captivates her audiences with her heartfelt and passionate performances. She has toured the world with such artists as Jose Greco, Antonio Vargas, Teo Morco, Pilar Riojas. While in San Antonio, she sings and dances at local theaters including The Majestic, The Tobin, Woodlawn, Josephine and Arneson River Theater. Chayito has been awarded H.O.L.A and A.C.E. awards. She has collaborated with Calo Flamenco on the album "Levanto" and with the late Rubens Romero and Lydia Torrea on "Flamenco Fantasy." As Director of Los Flamenco de SA, she keeps Flamenco in the traditional form that her family has maintained for 5 decades. Chayito has taught the Flamenco and Folklorico Dance since she was a young girl. Her goal is to continue passing the Flamenco Art preserving and promoting it in traditional form.



**AMY PIKLER**  
Art Form: Music

Amy is originally from Glencoe, Illinois where she started playing violin at five, recorder at eight, and viola at ten. Currently, Amy serves as section violist of the San Antonio Symphony and has performed with the Utah Symphony, Chicago Symphony, Fort Worth Symphony, and Austin Symphony. She received her BM in viola performance degree with highest honors from the University of Michigan under the tutelage of Professor Yizhak Schotten. Recently, Amy was appointed as a violin, viola, cello, and recorder instructor at Sage Music. As part of the San Antonio Symphony's Community Outreach and Engagement Program, Amy coached sectionals at Lanier High School, taught a master class at John Jay High School, and demonstrated her instruments for students at area San Antonio schools.



**EDDIE CAVAZOS**  
Art Form: Music

Eddie Cavazos is a songwriter, arranger, music educator and music minister. In his long career of teaching elementary music, he has written musicals, choral music, songs to accompany children's books by award winning authors, songs for the dedication of new schools and folk song arrangements published by GIA Music. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from The University of Texas at San Antonio and a Master's Degree in Music Education from UTSA. Additionally, he has been a three time recipient of, "Teacher of the Year". During his 40+ years as music minister, his compositions include choral music, church anthems, praise and worship songs, and two Mass settings which are sung throughout the world. His music has been published by Colla Voce Music and WorshipNOW. Eddie and his wife, Laura, live in San Antonio, TX. They are blessed with four children, two granddaughters and two grandsons.



**LAURA CAVAZOS**  
Art Form: Music, Storytelling

Laura Cavazos is a Licensed Professional Counselor in the state of Texas. She received her Bachelor's degree in Psychology and her Master's degree in Counseling from The University of Texas at San Antonio. She has ten years of counseling experience working with grieving children, teens, and adults using the creative arts as a medium for expression and processing. In her career, she spent many years working as a Literature Enrichment provider for early childhood centers in San Antonio, which emphasized storytelling, music, dance, and art as extensions of story themes for young children. Together with her husband Eddie, Laura is passionate about encouraging themes of wellness and healthy self esteem to young children through storytelling, art, and music. Laura loves spending time in nature, taking long walks, cooking, and spending time with her young grandchildren.



**GEORGE GAYTAN**  
Art Form: Music

George Gaytan is a professional classical acoustic guitarist. He has provided music for PBS Documentaries, the University of Texas at Austin, and Texas A&M Educational DVD. He's recorded and toured with Tish Hinojosa and toured with Amy Grant and most recently performed with her at a benefit for Austin City Limits. Gaytan also played for King Philippe VI Queen Letizia of Spain on their recent visit to San Antonio. He has five recordings out with a new one All Roads lead to Home out this year. He is on the Music Faculty at Saint Mary's Hall college Prep School.



**TAMMY FRAZIER**  
Art Form: Theatre

Tami Kai Frazier is an experienced speech and theatre teacher as well as a professional performing artist. She has served as artistic director for The Vexler Children's Theatre in San Antonio, Texas and has co-produced the Sheldon Vexler Theatre with her husband Ken Frazier. Together they were awarded the Jasmina Wellinghoff Award for Artistic Contribution for Theatre. Tami has also received numerous Globe Awards for excellence in direction and costuming design. If you ask her, though, she will tell you her two wonderful sons, Kailyr and Konnor, are her greatest accomplishments.



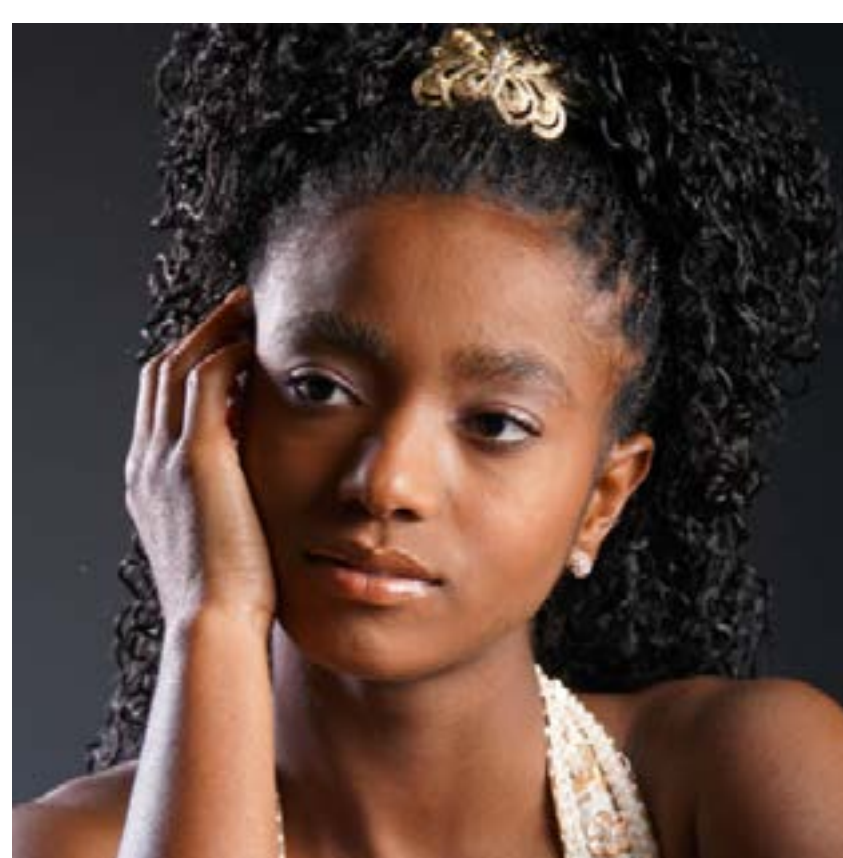
**SARAH DAVIS**  
Art Form: Dance

Sarah Davis is a dance and acting instructor for multiple dance studios in San Antonio, in addition to running a consulting practice in parenting and social/emotional regulation. Grounded in a strong training of human development as well as social and emotional skills, Sarah brings a unique expertise to the San Antonio arts community as a Certified Child Life Specialist. As a Resident Teaching Artist for Wolf Trap here in San Antonio, Sarah educates children on how to combine theater, dance, and music. With over 20 years of performance experience, including 8 years as a member of the Appalachian Ballet Company, Sarah now works to develop the next generation of performers. Her favorite dance styles to teach and perform include Ballet, Modern, and Musical Theatre. Choreographing and dancing for San Antonio Dance Fringe is a current passion for Sarah, as well as performing at The Woodlawn Theater. Sarah is the resident choreographer for the JCC Starz program and has choreographed for other performance groups in the area. Sarah holds a Masters degree in Family and Child Studies as well as a Bachelors degree in Psychology and Theater.



**C.T. RHAMES**  
Art Form: Theatre

C. T. Rhames made her San Antonio main stage debut here at the Joe Long Theatre in The King as Sarabi. Since then she has performed in multiple San Antonio productions. She has had the immense pleasure of directing numerous productions, as well as, facilitating as the artistic director for the organization Choose to Dream. As an educator, she has directed many school productions for school age children. She knows firsthand the vital importance of arts integration in the core education curriculum. Integration of this curriculum leads to the awesome honor of pioneering the teaching artist concept in the state of Texas. Furthermore, CT is also a creative playwright and has written several works, some of which were included in the 2013 Rags to Riches summer camp production and a Harriet Tubman Reenactment.



**ANANI RHAMES**  
Art Form: Music, Theatre Dance

Anani is a multi-lingual national and international vocal performer and recording artist. She sings in English, Spanish, Italian, Latin, and German and plays piano, violin, guitar, and percussion. For maintaining a superior rating for 3 consecutive years, she was awarded a Gold Cup trophy in Music Theory, Vocal (Classical & Musical Theatre) and Piano Performance. She has had the privilege of sharing the stage with various mainstream artists. She is also a singer/songwriter and composer. Her Talent growth is attributed to 17+ years of Musical Theatre (Singing, Acting & Dance) in over 25 live stage productions, 10+ years of concentrated studies in classical vocal performance and studies, as well as 10 years of performance and studies in piano. She is passionate about sharing her talents. She has facilitated positions in performing arts education as an Assistant Director, Vocal Director, Choreographer, Stage Manager, and Teaching Artist.



**TANESHA PAYNE**  
Art Form: Dance

Tanesha Payne is a performer, choreographer and educator who resides in San Antonio, Texas. She holds a BFA in Dance from Texas State University and is currently working on her MFA in Choreography at Jacksonville University. In 2003, Mrs. Payne became a member of Danceworks, the repertory company at Florida State College of Jacksonville. While on a full talent grant, her schedule for the following three years was inundated with training, performance work, and directing FSCJ's Ensemble, the junior company. Seeking more experience, Tanesha moved to New York City. Although accepted into the certificate and fellowship programs at The Ailey School, her heart led her to join Arch Dance Company under Jennifer Archibald where she served as rehearsal director. During her three years with the company, she taught master classes and performed across the United States. During the off-season, Tanesha made appearances in music videos, fashion shows, and performed as a backup dancer for local artists. Tanesha has had the privilege of working with and/or performing the works of Alonzo King, Paul Taylor, Michael Foley, KT Nelson, and Lula Washington to name a few. In 2019, Tanesha was selected to perform with Rennie Harris's Pure Movement in the presentation of "Lifted" at the Jo Long Theatre in San Antonio. Most recently, Mrs. Payne was the featured dancer in Musical Bridges Around the World's documentary "The Quilt" and San Antonio's Poet Laureate Andrea "Vocab" Sanderson's video "Nouveaux". Tanesha Payne's choreography has been recognized at American College Dance Festival, Bates Dance Festival, and San Antonio Dances.