



Juneau Arts and Humanities Council – Juneau School District
PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

2011-2012 TEACHING ARTIST PROFILE and APPLICATION

Name**Patricia Belec**
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Preferred Method for contact: Email and phone

I am available to work/teach

1 - 2 week residency period only. I am flexible, could work different times
 can work 1 day/week for a month or more could work part days, different times

Arts education and/or Arts Background

BS in Music Education
 US Independent Dance Council certification in Ballroom Dance

ART FORM and AGE OF STUDENTS you are interested in working with.
 Ballroom (Social) Dance; grades 3-12

What Themes, concepts, and experiences do you want to share with students?

- Respect for:
- self (dignity)
 - partner (team work)
 - teacher (focus and control of talking)
 - others on dance floor (courtesy, helping others who may need help executing steps)
- Physical contact – appropriate way to connect with your dance partner
 (5 contact points of dance embrace, including eye contact)
- Confidence – learning and executing steps with another person
 Pride – performance in front of peers, parents, or other groups

Prior teaching experiences (apart from residencies)

Teaching ballroom dance since 1979 in Colorado, Montana, Alaska
 Own dance studio in Juneau (*The Dance Loft*)
 I teach ballroom dance at UAS and the Alaska Club

Why do you want to teach the arts in Juneau schools?

Social graces need to start at an early age (these graces include everything listed under #3 above). Ballroom dancing is an excellent way to learn and practice etiquette, especially in a time where the social graces appear not to be emphasized in many homes. It is also great exercise.

Past Experience with Artist in the Schools residencies: None to Date:

I have taught ballroom dance classes at Glacier Valley, Harborview, Riverbend, and Auke Bay elementary schools; DZ and Floyd Dryden middle schools; and at both High Schools in Juneau – however, none were through the official Artist in the Schools residency program.

Have you been part of the Juneau Teaching Artist workshop series?

Yes, whole series Yes, some of the workshops No, not yet

Juneau Teaching Artist Application



3 REFERENCES

Lorrie Heagy	780-1400	heagyl@jsd.k12.ak.us
Zach Stenson	523-1850	zach_stenson@jsd.k12.ak.us
Frank Bergstrom	321-3637	aki2k@gci.net

1. Other comments or additions that help illuminate your work or life as an artist???

Social dance allows all students to start at the same level. How well you dance is not based on your academic level, athletic ability, musical talent, or your peer group. The teachers I have worked with have said several times that they have watched students who are struggling in school or who are prone to get into trouble find a niche in dancing in which to be proud of their accomplishments.

If you have had contact with everyone in your class at any early age (and changing partners is the norm in dance classes), then I believe students will be more tolerant of each other and fewer unhealthy peer groups will be formed.

And I have heard many adults, after watching the students at the end of the series, say, "Wow, I wish I had done ballroom dancing at that age!"

