

## Ohana Academy of Gymnastics Dance Music & Art

Joins with the

### Degas Ballet Company

The Degas Ballet Program utilizes the **Russian style ballet (Vaganova)** designed to introduce the fundamentals of ballet and gently progress each student into the structure and discipline needed to become an artful, technically correct ballet dancer.

Classes range from our Fairytale Prince and Princess Ballet weekly class at the tender age 3 and progress into our Russian technique and pointe work classes which demand stringent technical classes several times per week.

Ballet is an art but the process should be joyful and the disciplines a creative privilege.



Nancy Bonkowski is the Artistic Director of the Degas Ballet Society program and it's head ballet mistress. Ms. Bonkowski has devoted her life to the art of ballet. She is known as a unique and creative choreographer who has very successfully trained other ballet teachers and dance artists throughout her vast career. She has earned many accolades as an established ballet mistress. Her professional ballet training consists of the Stone-Camryn School of Ballet in the city of Chicago and performed for their school in professional roles at the Lyric Opera House of Chicago. Miss Bonkowski's students have won several recognitions performing at the celebrated Dance Chicago while performing her choreography. She created a pre-professional youth ballet company at The Dance Studio, Ltd in Homer Glen, Lemont, and Lockport, Illinois for over 25 yrs. While on their faculty, she help establish a nonprofit youth organization known as the *Children's Performance Company*. She also created and choreographed a full length youth ballet **Hansel and Gretel** serving as it's Artistic Director. **Hansel and Gretel** performed annually in the southwest suburbs for over 14 years. It is Ms. Bonkowski's privilege and pleasure to now be able to join with **Ohana Academy of Gymnastics Dance Music & Art**.