

Shanna Kirkpatrick, Owner

Chara Christian Dance Academy



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Chara Christian Dance Academy, LLC was founded by Shanna Kirkpatrick in the fall of 2006 with less than 20 students meeting three evenings a week at the Friends Church Gym. After two years at that location, Shanna moved her growing student base to Raton Plaza on FM 528, enrolling 120 students by the third season. Now, five years later, that number has tripled and the academy is now building a 10,000 square foot dance and music studio at the corner of Friendswood Drive and Hunters Lane.

Chara Christian Dance Academy is a truly unique dance studio in many ways. The atmosphere of Chara Dance is incredibly uplifting and welcoming to all students. Shanna's desire is for students to look forward to walking in the doors and feeling appreciated and valued. Not only is that Shanna's desire, but it is the goal of the 11 instructors and two office personnel at Chara.

Shanna enjoys providing an excellent place of employment for her instructors. Chara's faculty members have either performed professionally or hold their degrees in dance or music.

By employing exceptional instructors, Chara provides extraordinary instruction and programming to its students. The academy is the only studio in the Friendswood/Clear Lake area to offer a graded ballet syllabus, something recently recommended by the American Academy of Ballet. With its professional faculty and new, larger facility, Chara is now able to expand their class selection.

The small business owners in Friendswood support each other and the community truly has a "shop local" mentality which Shanna herself supports. Chara Christian Dance Academy has been voted "Best Dance Studio" by Friendswood/Pearland Journal Readers for four years in a row.

Since graduating from Texas A&M University, Shanna and her husband Bobby, youth pastor of Friendswood Friends Church, have lived in Friendswood. Bobby grew up in Friendswood and his family has deep roots in the community. They love being a part of Friendswood and are excited about raising their family here.

