

JODIE Schnacks

Jodie Schnakenberg is a SM East art teacher and the Lancer Dancer teacher of record and goes to nationals with the team

How did you become the teacher of record for the dance team?

"I think maybe even Bubba asked me if I wanted to do it, to be down [in the dance studio] with them and I, of course, agreed to it because she's awesome. And so then, ever since, they try to make it work, whether it's JV or varsity, depends on what hours work with my schedule or when they need me to teach what hours, they usually try to make it work so that I can be down there."

What has it been like being both the teacher of record and an art teacher at SM East?

"I have some Lancer Dancers that take art every now and again, so it's good to see them in a classroom setting too. They usually always work just as hard on everything they're doing outside of the dance room. [...] I think it's great to just get to know kids through, a different avenue [and] aspect of them being a Lancer than just being an artist. I think that's always interesting for a teacher to see them outside of the classroom."

What is your favorite memory of going to nationals with the team?

"There's just been so many great lyrical dances, to jazz, [and] so many beautiful moments. These girls really work their tails off all year and it's just so cool to see at the end of the year, all their hard work comes together and it's really beautiful to see it happen [in] a stage setting, it's so cool. It's a big deal and they deserve [it for] all that hard work. They deserve the best. So it's just really fun to be part of it."

ART OF TRADITIONS

Traditions that Schnacks has brought to the dance team

breadsticks

- a word she uses to compliment dancers for their hard work
- means they're "doing awesome"

hip-hop speech

- if the dancers make nationals for hip-hop she makes a speech or rap
- she delivers her rap backstage before the dancers perform

