



Daniel Avila has more than 20 years of dance experience. He started dancing at the age of 14 after becoming a member of the Dos Palos High School "Spirit Team". Daniel continued his interest in cheer and dance as a member of the Merced College Spirit Team. At the age of 19, he began training in jazz with Eileen Peterson at Steps Dance Studio in Atwater, CA. He praises the efforts of Miss Eileen for directing his attention towards a scholarship opportunity with Merced Academy of Dance. While there, Daniel trained in ballet under Jane Vann-Bryan and Jennifer Hobbs. As a member of the Merced Civic Ballet Company, Daniel performed roles in The Nutcracker, Cinderella, Carmen, and Stars and Stripes. In the fall of 2008, Daniel moved to Sacramento to attend California State University, Sacramento to study history and continued his love for dance by training and performing in several CSUS Theater and Dance Department shows. He studied jazz with Lisa Ross, ballet with former New York City Ballet soloist Nolan T'Sani, and modern dance with Melissa Wynn, Lorelei Bayne, Randee Pauvve and Philip Flickinger. He has also performed at the Sacramento Kings halftime show. Daniel graduated from CSUS in 2012 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Dance. He has a choreography award from Sacramento State University for his piece "Hey Un Lugar". Daniel has choreographed for

local Sacramento dance studios as well as cheer gyms and dance teams in Northern California. Daniel has also won awards for his choreography from such dance competitions as the Starbound National Talent Competition and Spotlight Dance Cup. He was also nominated for a People Choice Award in 2018. He has coached a national winning dance team for 12 years, winning several regional and championship competitions along with three national titles. He judges both spirit and dance competitions in northern California. Daniel is also currently an instructor for the United Spirit Association.

Danny's style of teaching is mainly based in jazz and contemporary/modern. With his exceptional musicality, he fills every beat of a piece with dramatic sharp to flow movement effortlessly. Choreography is challenging, as the dancer must directly match their moves to the different tones of the music.