



Bill Sparks

Coach, Lecturer, Choreographer

Bill Sparks is a well known name in the ballroom dance community. From his initial early training in ballet, to his later experiences as a ballroom dance instructor and professional competitor, Bill has acquired an extensive and impressive list of credentials.

"Early on, I was drawn to the world of music and dance where, as a teenager, I enrolled in my hometown ballet academy. After 2 years, I graduated from high school. I continued to pursue my ballet dance training for an additional 3 and 1/2 years, but was forced to quit due to an injury."

"Realizing my career as a professional ballet dancer was no longer possible, I began to pursue other styles of dance, all the while wondering 'What if I could no longer dance?'. I really did not know what I would do because as long as I can remember I only wanted to be a dancer. But as I look back, I am so thankful to God for having this in his plan for me. "

"For it was after being hired by an Arthur Murray dance studio that my career took off as a dance instructor, and later, as a competitive ballroom dancer, particularly in the Latin style. I won the U.S. championships several times with different dance partners and twice made it to the world finals, placing fifth one year and sixth another."

"After 15 years as a successful Dancesport competitor, I made the decision to retire from competition and to begin adjudicating competitions and coach other professional couples.

"Also as former director of The Youth Dancesport Ballroom Academy I had the opportunity to influence and contribute to the skills, knowledge, and character of young dancers which was a very fulfilling and rewarding to me."

So now, in addition to judging, organizing National Dancesport competitions, (Cincinnati Ballroom Classic, Riverfront Dancesport Festival and "Go Wild" Minneapolis Dancesport. I have been passionate in helping Sam Sodano bring his Hip Lift Technique to all dancers by creating the American Rhythm Style Hip Lift Technique DVDs.



Bill Sparks

Coach, Lecturer, Choreographer

Qualifications:

- * November 1996 - Arthur Murray International (Academic Qualification A+, B+, C+)
- * January 1988 to Present - Dance Coach, Choreographer, Lecturer, and Adjudicator
- * Director of the Youth Dancesport Ballroom Academy 2003 to 2006
- * Assistant in the Development of the Hip Lift Technique for American Style Rhythm

Experience and Training:

- * Professional Latin Dancesport Competitor: 1989 to 2002
- * Arthur Murray Dance Studio Instructor: 1989 to 1996
- * Ballet, Jazz, and Modern Dance: 1984 to 1988

Competition Credits:

- * United States Professional Latin Champion: 4 times
- * 2x World Professional Latin Championship: Finalist
- * British Professional Rising Star Latin Champion - 1998
- * Ohio Star Ball Professional Latin Champion: 6 times

Television Appearances:

- * Good Life Telecast - USDC Dancesport Championships, Manhattan Dancesport Championships
- * NBC National Telecast - International Dancesport Championships, Las Vegas, NV
- * ESPN National Telecast - Dancesport World Championship, Madison Square Garden, New York, NY

Personal Dance Credo:

"I know that the gift of dance is a privilege and a blessing. I am constantly pushing my performance of technique, quality, and expression - always searching for truth in each movement and step."