## PETA GRAY RAD RTS RAD REGISTERED TEACHER LIFE MEMBER RAD RAD PRESIDENTS AWARD 2017 HAWKESBURY AUSTRALIA DAY ARTS AWARD 2017 SILVER SWAN'S ACCREDITED TEACHER

Peta started her dance career at the age of 5 years when she attended her first Ballet lesson with Lynette Denny in Mackay Queensland, during her years as a student of Warralong Dance Studio Peta was fortunate to receive training from many wonderful tutors...Kathleen Gorham, Francois Klaus, Robyn White & Shirley Treacy to name a few. Peta is trained in all genre of dance and loved the excitement of competition as a young student. Peta is a Life Member and Registered Teacher with the Royal Academy of Dance and has been Principal of Accent on Dance for the past 30 years, during this time Peta has tutored & mentored many young dancers & teachers. Past students have gone on to pursue careers in performance and teaching.

Serving as Chairperson & Dance Convenor of Hawkesbury City Eisteddfod for over 30 years, Peta is dedicated to developing & encouraging young dancers. In 2017 Peta was recognised by her community when she was awarded the Australia Day Community Arts Award by Hawkesbury City Council.

During her teaching career Peta has been Chairperson of the Royal Academy of Dance Regional Advisory Panel where she enjoyed the opportunity of supporting other teachers & encouraging young talented dancers. Peta is a professional choreographer & during her time on the panel she enjoyed the opportunity of staging the Isobel Anderson Awards Finals & being involved in the organisation of many Dance events. In July 2017, Darcy Bussell presented Peta with The Royal Academy of Dance Presidents Award in recognition of her years of service to the Academy.

Peta is passionate about dance and has organised performance tours for her students travelling on four different occasions to the USA to participate in workshops & performances at Disneyland & also at Universal Studios.

Accent on Dance students were part of the 2000 Olympic Opening and Closing Ceremonies. In 2009 Accent on Dance was the winner of the Australia wide search for the National Australia Bank "Dance the Dream "Competition. Accent on Dance students were selected to perform at the Royal Academy of Dance 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala 2015.

In her role as an adjudicator, Peta imparts knowledge & critique in a kind & caring manner, ensuring that each competitor is given helpful advice & positive feedback.

Peta continues to fulfil her love of dance & encouragement of our young dancers.