

Tony Coppola

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With long-standing national recognition as a tap dance virtuoso, All-American gymnast, master dance teacher, and professional percussionist, Tony Coppola is in high demand as a performer, choreographer and master instructor.

His television choreographic credits include commercials for McDonalds, Aramis cologne, and Autolite autoparts, as well as the *Superstars of Gymnastics* for USA TV network, *John Tesh Live at Redrocks* for PBS. He choreographed the World Gold Gymnastics tour starring Nadia Comaneci and a cast of Olympic medalists and Hollywood dancers. *Tony was honored to have a Capezio tap dance shoe named after him.

He has taught outreach classes for the Kennedy Center's Imagination Celebration. Tony's music theatre credits include

the lead role in *GEORGE M* and choreographer role in productions of *WEST SIDE STORY*, *CHICAGO*, *TOMMY*, *SEVEN BRIDES FOR SEVEN BROTHERS*, *KISS ME KATE* and many others. While on faculty at UNLV for five years, he became the published author of *INVITATION TO THE DANCE*, found on amazon.

Tony began his performing career as a dancer for *Donny and Marie*, and toured the world with the *Osmonds* for several years. He continued his performing career as a tap soloist for many staged shows, tv shows, and film. He was the master tap teacher for *Tremaine* conventions for twelve years.

Tony has written for many dance publications and is presently a contributing writer for *Dance Informa* magazine.

Presently Tony directs and choreographs the Las Vegas based *Coppola Rhythm Ensemble* and their show "Kickin' It!" He is the tap instructor for Don Mirault's Theater Arts Preparatory School at The Rock Center for Dance in Las Vegas.

*Tony's endeavors in the outreach arena have led him to a project for children, which combine fitness, dance, and music called "The Rhythkiddz".

Tony espouses a philosophy of versatility and relevance for himself and his dancers.