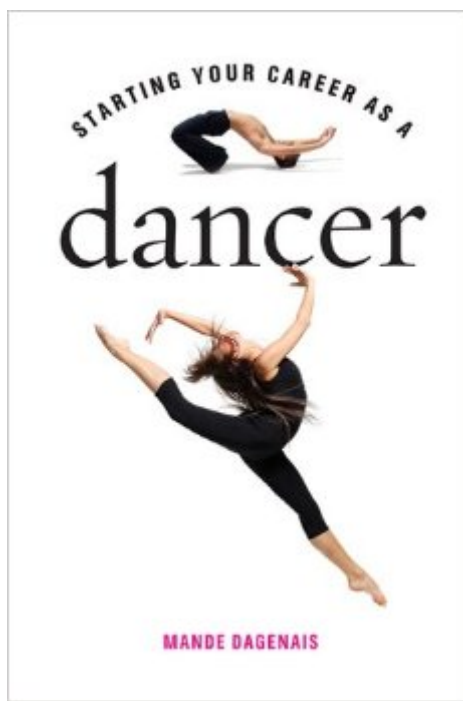


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# Starting Your Career As A Dancer



## Synopsis

In *Starting Your Career as a Dancer*, author Mande Dagenais explains what it really takes to get into the business, be in the business, and survive in the business. Based on more than twenty-five years of experience in the performing arts as a dancer, teacher, choreographer/director, and producer, Dagenais offers insider advice and shares her vast knowledge while answering questions asked by professionals and beginners alike. Aspiring dancers will learn about different markets, venues, and types of work for dancers, and what to expect from a dancing job, while experienced dancers will appreciate helpful tips on where and how to find work, business management, and career transition. Covering topics ranging from audition dos and don'ts to injury prevention, this is absolutely the most comprehensive and practical guide you will find to the dancer's profession.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I was fascinated with Amande Dagenais' first book about dancing, "Inspired to Dance: Everything You Need to Know about Becoming a Professional Dancer Without Breaking a Leg," I felt like I was behind the curtain of Broadway musicals as well as finding out a lot about how to become a part of those musicals. But her latest book, "Starting Your Career as a Dancer," goes a step (no pun intended) further. Quite a few steps in fact. In her second book, Ms. Dagenais, Broadway dancer, choreographer, soon to produce her own musical with her husband, Alex Marchant, answers questions about the business that dancers don't often learn until they're out in the real world working as professionals. And how having this type of knowledge up front can assist dancers and save them

some harsh learning curves. Everything from training and attitude to what to look for when signing a contract. The importance of health and fitness. Have you ever noticed how most former dancers, female and male, in their 60s, 70s and even 80s have managed to retain the bodies of people 20 and 30 years younger? Read this book, and you will find out how and why! You'll also read about auditions and understanding the audition process. This book is full of fascinating interviews with other industry professionals who share their transitions from the stage to other careers within the industry: press agents and casting directors, to studio owners and entertainment directors, and how their training as dancers made the difference in their new careers and throughout their lives. Mande has danced with and choreographed shows for some of the real greats on and off Broadway, and all over the world. Her writing is down-to-earth, warm and caring. I am just waiting until she writes Part I of her memoirs. I say Part I because although she has already done so much in her young life in theater, there is still so much more to come. . .

Throughout my entire career I have not met anyone who could really lay it out there like this. Mande's clear, positive, and yet honest teachings are a godsend to us all. She really knows her stuff and so much of what she talks about helps in everyday situations not just dance. I recommend this book to EVERYONE and ANYONE. Dancers and performers alike or simply anyone who wants to know what it's all about.

This is an excellent book for anyone wanting to become a dancer! At times, it's repetitive but very informative and a great read!

Dance teachers and choreographers are plentiful but extremely rare is the teacher who has lived and breathed dance; who has performed, choreographed, cast, hired and mentored singers, dancers and performers; rare is the person who has created and produced shows and whom now has a powerful and relevant message to share. Mande Dagenais stands out not only as an accomplished professional but as someone who clearly articulates in her book all the critical steps and insights necessary to take your dream to dance & perform and turn it into a shining reality. Starting Your Career as a Dancer is the book for those who are inspired to dance and inspired to make it happen! Of course, to become a successful dancer, as with any career, you have to be willing to experience it all and there will be disappointments as well as triumphs, but you can save yourself a lot of pain by first reading and learning from this book!~ Patrick Wanis Ph.D. Los Angeles, CA

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