

# Tayte Kamoku

## Teacher

Tayte is a professional working dancer, born and raised on the island of Maui, Hawai'i. Tayte grew up dancing hula and tahitian which is where she first found her passion for performing. At 9 years old Tayte took her first ever traditional dance class and started to cheer competitively for Hawaii All Stars. Training in many styles at MAPA and with LeeAnn Lawrence, she then was introduced to the convention and competition world of dance. Short after, she started traveling very often to many conventions, competitions, and intensives on the weekends flying home just in time for school Monday morning, to train and build a name for herself in the industry. At the age of 13 Tayte moved to Anaheim, California, on her own leaving her family behind on Maui to live with a host family and train under the direction of Shannon Mather at Mather Dance Company in many different styles including jazz, ballet, tap, hiphop, ballroom, contemporary, lyrical, etc. For the year she lived in California this is the time where her career began to grow and where she was able to experience being directly in the center of the dance industry.

Today Tayte has and continues to work with many big name choreographers including Travis Wall, Stacey Tookey, Misha Gabriel, Blake Mcgrath, Shannon Mather, Teddy Forance, Talia Favia, Dee Casperly, and many more. She assists touring conventions, competes as a soloist, worked with the pop group NOW UNITED under the direction of Simon Fuller at XIX Entertainment for their world tour, done work for the tv show WORLD OF DANCE with choreographer Kyle Hanagami overlooked by Jennifer Lopez, Ne-yo, and Derek Hough, and has been in many music videos and other projects. Tayte has three younger siblings and has a lot of experience with and loves working with children. She is so very excited to be joining the staff here at AAPA and cannot wait to share her love of dance to the children of Maui. Tayte understands the struggle of having very little opportunity living and growing up on an island and wants to do as much as she can to give back to and inspire the community here on Maui. She believes that many of her dance instructors have been such positive role models in her life not only as a dancer but also as a person and works hard in hope of being that for someone one day.