



Name: Desiree Bortolussi

Dance Company: Ballet Kelowna

What years have you participated as a professional instructor? As an instructor, I have participated in 2018-2020.

How did you first learn about Swinging with the Stars? I danced at the very first SWTS with CSB's Company B.

Why did you agree to teach our local celebrities their dances? As a way to give back to my community and support an important organization. I love being involved in the event so what better way to continue than to share my art form?

What was the funniest moment you had with one of our local celebrities? Probably having my mom in my group in 2019! It's always fun when the student becomes the teacher!

What is it about Swinging with the Stars that makes it so special, or that sets it apart from other events? The thought and care that goes into creating this amazing event. Obviously that attention to detail is sewn into everything COHA does throughout the year but to celebrate the organization in the way we do is amazing. The dancers/choreographers/guests all feel supported and are shown a great time.

How has Swinging with the Stars impacted your life? I have loved getting to meet inspiring people and also hear inspiring stories from people directly affected by a family member being in Hospice. Meeting my groups or couples who share the same idea of wanting to be a part of something meaningful is a great feeling.