



(L. to R.) Michele & Donald Riggi [Photo by Annie Watt]

Love & Passion: Michele Riggi

Michele Riggi's love and passion for dance began as a child and continues today in her prestigious role that started in 2005 as President and Chairwoman for the National Museum of Dance in Saratoga Springs, New York.

Michele studied under New York City Ballet principal dancer, Melissa Hayden at Skidmore College and later garnered a spot with the Professional Dance Teachers of America. Here she toured nationally to teach dance teachers across the country the art of movement.

After years on the road, Michele returned to Saratoga Springs to open up her own dance studio which kept her on her toes for 10 years until she found her lifelong dance partner and devoted husband Ron. Michele continued to teach dance part-time, but the role of motherhood eventually took center stage while raising her four children. Philanthropists, Michele and her

husband Ron jointly support many charities and causes related to the Arts.

These days, you can find Michele busy working on her latest transition, her first self-published book, "Posh Palazzo Pups" living with 24 Furry Friends. As of today the count has grown to 36! Most of the dogs have been rescued from shelters, homes where they were not wanted, pet stores and even the back of a van in a parking lot! All proceeds from sales of her book go to benefit Canine Cancer Oncology Research and the construction of a 24-hour pet hospital in Saratoga Springs, NY

Michele is also the co-Chair of Winter Heat, a Latin dance Benefit for CTFD and Complex Contemporary Ballet. Michele is also the co-Chair of Winter Heat, a Latin dance Benefit for CTFD and Complex Contemporary Ballet.