

Florence C. Whipple

October 29, 1919 - April 27, 2021

It is with a heavy heart that I announce the passing of our beloved Florence C. Whipple. She was my dearest friend, confidant, mentor, and at times she was like a mother. Florence was wise, kind, loving, and an inspiration to all who knew her.

Florence, who joined the Marblehead School of Ballet faculty in 1972, brought her artistic vision and choreography to the school. She led the Creative Movement program for children and exhibited a special skill for imparting the joy of movement. "Mrs. Whipple" was adored by many generations of children. She also taught modern dance, created choreography, and co-developed educational programs for public and private schools.

In 1974, Florence and I co-founded the North Shore Civic Ballet. Our years together were exciting, productive, and rewarding both professionally and personally. We developed repertoire with each adding our own skills and talents. We both shared a deep passion for dance. Without a doubt, our collaboration was the richest and most important aspect of all we did. The NSCB continues to train aspiring dancers and seasoned professionals on the North Shore.

Some of the works Florence choreographed were Little Blue, Haiku Haiku, Le Jeu Modern, Continuum, Pinocchio, and Van Morrison. Dancers not only grew as performers working with Florence but also truly loved dancing her engaging choreography.

I was blessed to have Florence in my life for almost 50 years. Her passion for dance, life, and teaching will be greatly missed. She will be in my heart forever.

Loving friend,

Paula K. Shiff

Marblehead School of Ballet, Director
North Shore Civic Ballet

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in Florence's memory to The North Shore Civic Ballet, 115 Pleasant Street, MA 01945 or online at <https://marbleheadschoolofballet.com/donate/>

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