

Kevin Simmers began dance training in Burlingame, CA at the Les Williams Dance studio where he studied Jazz and Ballet, with teachers Les Williams and Leslie Crockett.

His studies continued at Peninsula Ballet Theater in San Mateo, CA under the direction of Richard Gibson, taking daily technique classes with Mr Gibson and Grace Doty, as well as Mens, Pas de Deluxe, Character, and Modern Dance with Welland Lathrop. Kevin also performed with the company under the Artistic Direction of both Richard Gibson and Anne Bena, dancing a diverse repertoire and featured roles in their annual production of The Nutcracker.

While training to be a professional dancer he attended San Francisco State University, after graduating with a Bachelors Degree in Art and a minor in Dance he headed for NYC. There he continued his training in Ballet with David Howard, Finis Jhung and with Maria Vegh and Margaret Swarthout at Harkness House (he would also work with them both at Marin Ballet in San Rafael, CA) and Modern Dance with Jose Limon.

As a soloist with the National Ballet of Ireland/Irish Ballet he toured the country extensively and opened the 1978 Dublin Theater Festival, at the Olympia Theater in the World Premier, Dance Version of John Milton Synges' Playboy of the Western World with the Academy Award winning musical group The Chieftains. It would make its USA premier at City Center, NYC.

Kevin has been a guest artist with The Princeton Ballet, Cork Ballet, Marin Ballet, Forest Meadows Festival Ballet and was an artist in residence at Montalvo Center for the Arts in Saratoga, CA, dancing with Tioga Thunder Dance Theatre. He has worked with such diverse choreographers as Norbert Vesak, Stuart Sebastian, Leonide Massine, Ben Stevenson, Domy Reiter- Soffer, Joan Denise Moriarity, Peter Darell, Anne Bena, Job Saunders and Richard Gibson. He has been a featured dancer in productions of Unsinkable Molly Brown and Brigadoon at PCPA Solvang Theaterfest in Solvang, CA.

"Dance was always Theater for me" Kevin says, "I decided that I wanted to open my mouth, so after auditioning and being accepted I attended The Drama Studio Londons' - Actor Training Program in my early thirties."

After graduating Mr. Simmers returned to the SFBA where he was cast as Pompei in Shakespeares Measure for Measure, the inaugural production of the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival. As an original member of the company he would also play Grumio in Shakespeare's Taming of Shrew and Jeriah Jip in Bertolt Brechts' Mann its Mann.

His acting career would include roles with the Marin Theater Company, seven plays with San Francisco Rep, Antenna Theater, California Conservatory Theater, Pacific Conservatory Theater, Stanford Actors Project, Julian Theater, Playwrights Festival, Shakespeare San Francisco and Producing Actors Ensemble for which he was a founding member and played the title role in George Buchners' Woyzeck.

After a career as both a dancer and an actor Kevin returned to the University to further his education obtaining a Masters Degree in Drama from San Francisco State University where he was Awarded the Faculty Book Award for Outstanding Achievement in Direction.

Kevin began his teaching career at Dennis Waynes Dancer School in NYC, teaching Adult Ballet, Ballet for Actors and Advanced Ballet. He has taught Ballet at Berkeley Conservatory of Ballet, and Movement and Voice at San Francisco State University and conducted Acting/ Movement Workshops (2001- 2018) at Goethe University in Frankfurt, Germany. He also served as Rehearsal Coach for the summer productions of The Chaincourt Theater Company, that include Our Town, Golden Boy, Summer and Smoke, The Seven Year Itch, A Midsummer Nights Dream, The Scarecrow, The Last Mrs. Cheyney, The Cocktail Party. The Chaincourt Theatre Company is part of Goethe University's Institut fur England-und Amerikastudien (IEAS) and is based in Frankfurt am Main.

Mr Simmers has been teaching at Skyline College for twenty-five years, teaching Jazz Dance, Dance 101, Aerobic Dance, Yoga, (certified by The San Francisco Yoga Foundation) Pilates, (certified by Balanced Body University) and Ballet. He also teaches Drama 200 201 202 and is the Faculty Advisor for the Skyline Theater Club and has directed plays for the club which include, The Laramie Project, You Can't Take It With You, Time of Your Life, Middletown, The Match Maker, All My Sons, The Spoon River Project and Telling Stories- An Evening of Monologues, Scenes and A Song or Two 1 to 17, benefit performances for the Skyline Theater Club.