

## DANCE DAD, DAUGHTER ON POINTE

While daughter dances, supportive dad leads

Jeff Wolf's daughter, Ellery, 14, has been dancing since she was 3-vears-old.

"Her studio, Plumb Performing Arts Center in Scottsdale, places a heavy emphasis on ballet, and she loves being 'on pointe," explains Wolf. "This discipline has helped her to similarly excel at nearly every other genre of dance, too, including jazz, modern, hip hop and even musical theatre."

Over the past four years, as Ellery began competing both locally and regionally through the New York City Dance Alliance, dad has gotten himself "on pointe" right along with her. After all, when your child is active in something, often the parents become involved, as well.

In fact, Wolf, who is a partner at Quarles & Brady LLP, and is focused on assisting some of the nation's largest franchise companies on critical litigation and other legal matters, is so "on pointe" that he has been named by Southwest Super Lawvers Magazine as one of the top 50 attorneys in Arizona for 2013, as well as recently being inducted to the Franchise Times' inaugural "Legal Eagle Hall of Fame," a recognition given to only 45 attorneys in the country-and even with all of that, he's still increasingly becoming known as "Dance Dad."

Why? "I know firsthand that my business requires an incredible amount of effort and work ethic," says Wolf. "But, seeing the hard work Ellery puts in every single day to develop her craft, I've grown to admire the unbridled passion and dedication that performing arts can ignite in both children and adults."

He's also seen how the lack of funding of arts programs affects children.

Eager to help others ignite a passion similar to his and Ellery's, Wolf recently joined the board of directors of the Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts in an effort to help give children access to all types of art as early as possible. One of the premier performing arts halls in the western United States, Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts each year showcases a diverse season of dance, jazz, classical and world music, dance, theater and film from around the world.

"The Center's programs reach more than 20,000 people-many of them children like Ellery-each year," says Wolf. "We owe it to our kids to give them access to the arts, especially when so many of these programs are being taken from school and afterschool programs."

## *Nitty* Gritty

Can you dance? I can still do a mean Hustle, much to my daughter's chagrin.

Might Ellery consider retiring her dance shoes in favor of following you into law someday? I'd have a better chance of retiring from law and following her into dance than the other way around!

Any other projects of passion? Through my firm's Quarles Cares community outreach program, as a team our office focuses on regular volunteerism in the community, especially in schools since so many of us are parents.