



## **Emma Rose Frey**

### **Dancer**

Emma Rose Frey, born on July 4, 1988, took dance at St. Louis' *Lalla Bauman School of Dance* from the ages of 9-19, concentrating mainly on ballet, but also learning some jazz technique and dancing *en pointe*. Periodically, she dances alongside her mother in her church's sacred dance troupe, and is taught herself, through a video class, eight Irish step dances.

Since May, 2003, she has also been studying flamenco under Marisel Salascruz, the Artistic Director of the *St. Louis Cultural Flamenco Society*. Salascruz's company performs not only in company-produced shows featuring international flamenco talent, but in a variety of venues such as schools, festivals and libraries. Emma performs solo, as well as with other company dancers.

Not only does Emma truly enjoy learning, performing and improving her flamenco technique, she has, in six and a half years, learned a wide variety of Spanish dances, including regional Jotas, learned how to play the castanets and cajon, taken workshops under Seville's Beatriz Romero (in the U.S.) and Dallas's Daniel de Cordoba, and assimilated a lot of information about Spanish culture, traditions and the art of flamenco. Under Salascruz, she has had the wonderful opportunity to share the stage with many professional guest artists from the U.S. and Spain. And, according to Salascruz, Emma has shown great dedication and commitment in her pursuit of flamenco instruction. Because of this, Salascruz awarded Emma the Society's **2006 Spain Award** (a month-long visit to Spain in February/March 2007, where she lived with, and studied flamenco under, Maria del Mar Villau, and immersed herself in the language and culture of Spain).

Home schooled all her life, and graduated in June, 2006, Emma has, in addition, pursued earning the prestigious **Congressional Award**, a series of three certificates and three medals that reward 800 hours of initiation, service and achievement. Each of the six levels involved setting four different goals in personal development, physical fitness, volunteer service and exploration/expedition. She received the coveted Gold Medal in a Washington, DC ceremony in June 2009.

Emma is currently enrolled as a fulltime college student at Forest Park Community College, and plans on majoring in Public Relations/Communications, with a minor in Spanish. She hopes to transfer to UMSL after graduating from Forest Park. Her future plans include continued study of flamenco under Salascruz and becoming the best flamenco dancer she can be.