

A close-up portrait of Nora Ambrosio, a woman with voluminous, wavy brown hair, wearing a red top and a necklace with pearls and dark beads. She is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile.

I am The **ROCK**

Nora Ambrosio

Job: Professor of dance, dance department chairperson.

Joined SRU: 1988.

Background: After growing up in New York and cultivating my love for dance in New York City, I attended the University of Maryland and Smith College, teaching, performing and choreographing along the way. After a year of teaching a full dance curriculum in a NYC high school, I was hired by SRU in 1988 and have been here ever since.

Interests: I love to cook and, having perfected the 20-minute meal, I try to make a homemade meal every night. In addition to attending dance and theatre performances, I am also a huge fan of musical theatre. Along with my daughter, Lena, I see as many musical theatre performances as I can, both in Pittsburgh and New York. Of course being with Lena, my son Dominic and my husband, David, provides me with the most fulfillment.

Person I'd most like to have dinner with: Michelle Obama. She has such poise and grace, even under immense pressure. She seems to have a great sense of humor and always appears to be positive, two traits that I love in a person.

Why I work at The Rock: When David [Skeele, theatre department professor] and I first came to Slippery Rock University, we were only going to stay three years. I am now going into my 23rd year. It has been very rewarding to help build a program that is now nationally recognized and nationally accredited and to work with colleagues who have a passion for dance and education. The students we have in the department of dance are outstanding – they are hard working, dedicated and committed. It is a pleasure to work with these students and to see them grow into confident artists.

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