



## North Carolina Dance Institute Students & Parents,

Welcome to NCDI! We would like to give a few updates on our studio, alumni, teachers and our upcoming performances. We're very proud of our reputation, the success of our former students, and the involvement of our teachers in the community. Maybe as a reflection of that, NCDI was awarded Metro Magazine's **2011 MetroBravo Award for Best Dance Studio**. What an honor!

Congratulations to our NCDI alumni who have continued to pursue their passions for dance. Robert Hartwell has joined the Broadway cast of "*Memphis*". Bree Branker has joined the National Tour of "*Memphis*" and will be at the DPAC in January. Emily Nicolau apprenticed with Hubbard Street 2 and is now dancing with the Danish Dance Theatre in Scandinavia. Lindsey Matheis is performing with the Northwest Professional Dance Project in Portland and was selected for the Cedar Lake 360

Summer Installation in NYC. All of these NCDI alumni trained at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. As a graduate of UNCSA and an honorary member of the UNCSA Board of Trustees, I know these students receive the very best dance training in the country. For parents looking to their child's future training, UNCSA offers free tuition for NC residents ([www.uncsa.edu](http://www.uncsa.edu)).

NCDI teachers are engaged within the community and beyond through dance. NCDI faculty have developed choreography for and taught master classes at Broughton, Enloe, Cardinal Gibbons, Cary Academy, St. Mary's, and Ligon Arts Magnet. Ronnie West will be performing in Washington, DC. Sarah Putterman is leading the Musical Theatre Program at William Peace University. Kirstie was a featured guest instructor for Carolina Ballet's Summer Intensive. Tom Terry completed the nationally acclaimed ABT Teachers Training Program in NYC. NCDI's ballet program continues to grow and we are very excited about the development of our faculty and students. On a personal note, former NCDI teachers (and friends) Tiffany Wheeler, Courtney Teas, and Tracy Taylor welcomed baby boys in 2011. Congratulations and best wishes to them and their growing families.

Several of our students and teachers have been extra busy this holiday season. Ten of our young dancers are performing in Carolina Ballet's, "*The Nutcracker*", and several others are performing in Theatre in the Park's, "*A Christmas Carol*". Melody Staples is performing the Sugar Plum Fairy in three area Nutcracker venues!

Our 2012 classes begin January 2, 2012. Registration is ongoing for the dance year. Summer session and dance camp information will be posted soon. More information about classes, news, auditions and upcoming performances is available on our website, [www.ncdanceinstitute.com](http://www.ncdanceinstitute.com). We also stay connected with students using our Facebook group page, [NC Dance Institute](#). Check it out!

We thank our students and parents for choosing NCDI for the past 10 years. After all, we are a very different choice from the market model of dance studio instruction. We do not focus on costly recitals or enter into expensive, time-consuming dance competitions. Our focus is on the development of the individual dancer through technical applications and exposure to a variety of choreography. We hope to shape dancers who are educated, creative, and technically proficient. Our classrooms are filled with young artists who are enjoying their journey in dance education. We value our students and parents who trust their arts education in our hands. For the thousands of dancers who have taken classes at NCDI, we thank you for your energy. For the thousands of parents who have watched their children work hard and dance with joy, we thank you. We are now accepting new students. Please continue to spread the word about NCDI to your friends and neighbors. We look forward to an exciting future together at North Carolina Dance Institute.

Thank you,  
Kirstie Spadie  
NCDI Artistic Director