



North Carolina Dance Institute Students & Parents,

Welcome to NCDI! Spring is in the air! We would like to give a few updates on our studio, alumni, teachers, and upcoming important dates. We're very proud of our reputation, the success of our former students, and our involvement in the arts community.

Congratulations to our NCDI alumni who have continued to pursue their passions for dance. Robert Hartwell breezed into town to guest teach choreography from his Broadway show *Nice Work If You Can Get It* starring Matthew Broderick. He has now joined the Broadway cast of *Cinderella*. Bree Branker will be making her Broadway debut in *Big Fish*. Grady Bowman has been nominated for the Capezio Choreography Award and choreographed for UNCSA's Pluck Project. Emily Nicolaou performed at The Joyce in NYC on a three-city US tour with the Danish Dance Theatre (Scandinavia). Lindsey Matheis is performing with the Northwest Dance Project in Portland. Courtney Crumpler will graduate from Princeton and was awarded Fulbright

Scholar Award. All of these NCDI alumni also 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 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). NCDI graduates are dancing in top university dance programs, such as Michigan, Princeton, Northwestern, Elon College, Arizona State University, and UNCG.

NCDI teachers are engaged within the community and beyond through dance. NCDI faculty have choreographed and taught master classes at Broughton, Enloe, Cardinal Gibbons, Cary Academy, St. Mary's, Ligon Arts Magnet, Duke University (Momentum Ensemble), NC Arts in Action, and William Peace University. NCDI's ballet program continues to grow and we are excited about the development of our faculty and students. Margot Martin, a former principal dancer with Carolina Ballet, has joined our faculty. Ms. Melody has returned to teaching after welcoming her new baby boy, Benjamin. Ms. Sherree Roller will be relocating to Prague for the next two years with her husband, David. Ms. Sherree has been with NCDI for ten years, and we will miss her very much. Please take a moment to wish Ms. Sherree a warm goodbye.

Several of our students were extra busy this past holiday season. Ten of our young dancers and Ronnie West performed in Carolina Ballet's *The Nutcracker*, and several others performed in Theatre in the Park's *A Christmas Carol*. NCDI dancers performed at the NC Children's Dance Festival, School of Sciences and Math Dance Concert and Wake County Pieces of Gold 30th Anniversary. Ethan Sichel (Ligon Middle) and Tillie Spoor (Underwood Elementary) placed in the National Arts Competition, *Reflections*. Congratulations to all of our talented dancers!

Looking ahead to May, we will welcome family and friends to visit for Observation Weeks, May 13-25. This is a fun performance opportunity for our dancers! Schedules have been posted on our website. We are now registering for our 2013 Summer Session with dance camps and classes held June 17 - July 27. We have an exciting line up of new teachers and summer intensives for the serious dancers, including the Summer Showcase. NCDI is the happening studio in Raleigh during summer with many alumni returning from college to dance, and we look forward to seeing many new and familiar faces. Information about classes, news, and upcoming performances is available on our website, www.ncdanceinstitute.com. Stay connected by visiting our Facebook group page, [NC Dance Institute](#).

We thank our students and parents for choosing NCDI for the past 12 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. 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