

North Carolina Dance Institute Students & Parents,



Happy New Year! NCDI celebrates our 15th anniversary this year. We would like to share a few updates on our studio, alumni, teachers and our upcoming important dates. We're very proud of our reputation, the success of our former students, and the involvement of our teachers in the community. Congratulations to our NCDI alumni who have continued to pursue their passions for dance. Robert Hartwell is performing with the National Tour of *Motown* and has created the new national musical theatre workshop called *The Broadway Dance Collective*. Grady Bowman was last seen in the Broadway hit *Honeymoon in Vegas* starring Tony Danza, and he is now the Associate Director for Chris Gatelli's new pre-Broadway production of *In Your Arms*. Emily Nicolaou is touring the world dancing with the Danish Dance Theatre. Lindsey Matheis is dancing with the cutting edge dance company BODYTRAFFIC, based in California. All of these NCDI alumni also trained at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. As a

graduate of UNCSA and a former honorary member of the UNCSA Board of Trustees, I know these students receive outstanding training. For parents looking to their child's future training, UNCSA offers free tuition for NC residents (www.uncsa.edu). Congratulations to NCDI dancer Eli Hooker who is in his senior year at UNCSA, and to NCDI dancer Dylan Parton who has been accepted into the BFA Contemporary Program. Several of our students will get the opportunity to dance at UNCSA when we attend the NC Festival of Dance in February.

Several NCDI dancers performed in Carolina Ballet's *The Nutcracker*, including Gage Gordon who reprised his role as the Young Prince. NCDI dancers were seen performing in SHADE at Cary Arts Center with Ronnie West's Black Irish Contemporary Hip-Hop Dance Company. Ronnie continues to push the boundaries of cutting edge dance in the triangle. Ms. Melody will be expecting a new baby girl in mid-March, and Carolina Ballet's Kathleen Black and Ms. Carolyn Ghezzi will be leading many of her classes during the spring. More information, news and upcoming performances are available on our website at www.ncdanceinstitute.com. Stay connected with posts, pictures, videos by joining our Facebook group page at [NC Dance Institute](https://www.facebook.com/NC Dance Institute).

Upcoming dates:

- Late January / Early February: Wolf Photography in-studio photography sessions. Parents can view photos at NCDI or by appointment with Wolf Photography. See lobby for information.
- March 21: Registration opens for Summer Session. Our 6-week Summer Session is June 13 - July 23. We offer daytime/evening dance classes for ages 3 to adults and summer dance camps/intensives for beginners to the serious dancers. Many of our dancers continue to train during the summer with ample time to devote to improving technique and exploring new dance genres.
- March 28-April 3: Spring Break. NCDI will be closed for this week.
- May 9-21: Parent Observation Weeks. A schedule will be posted online and in the lobby area.

We thank our students and parents for choosing NCDI for the past 15 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. NCDI strives to advance the role of the arts as a powerful catalyst in shaping young people to make smart decisions about their physical and mental health, and to prioritize their goals for their futures. *A dream without action is a wish*. We look forward to an exciting, action-packed year of dance at North Carolina Dance Institute. Please continue to spread the word about NCDI to your friends and neighbors and help our studio grow.

Thank you,
Kirstie Spadie
NCDI Artistic Director