

North Carolina Dance Institute Students & Parents,

Welcome to NCDI! We are celebrating our 16th anniversary this year. We would like to share a few updates on our studio, alumni, teachers and our upcoming important dates. We are 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 wrapped up Motown on Broadway and will be in the Broadway revival of Hello Dolly! with Bette Midler. In January, Robert hosted The Broadway Collective at NCDI with 50 dancers in attendance. Grady Bowman is now in pre-production for Disney's Frozen. Emily Nicolaou is touring the world dancing with the Danish Dance Theatre and recently performed at The Kennedy Center. 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 (<u>www.uncsa.edu</u>). Congratulations to NCDI Alumni, Dylan Parton who is working on her BFA in Contemporary Dance at UNCSA. We look forward to bringing several of our advanced dancers to UNCSA for the Festival of the Dance in February 2017.

This past winter season, our dancers were busy in Carolina Ballet's *The Nutcracker* and Haley Evans danced in *A Christmas Carol.* Ronnie West's Dance Company, Black Irish, performed *GOWN* featuring Sarah Putterman and Victoria Moore. Ronnie continues to push the boundaries of cutting-edge dance in the triangle. NCDI dancer Anna Nguyen will be performing in Carolina Ballet's *The Little Mermaid.* Kirstie was on the guest faculty of NC Dance Educators Organization 2017 Conference and is heading to China this July to choreograph *The Lion King.* More information, news, and upcoming performances are available on our website at <u>www.ncdanceinstitute.com</u>. Stay connected with posts, pictures, and videos by joining our Facebook group page at <u>NC Dance Institute</u>.

Upcoming Dates:

NCDI 2017 Summer Showcase Auditions: Saturday, March 11 & Saturday, May 6 (Int/Adv Dancers 9-18 yrs) NCDI Parent Observation Weeks: May 1-May 20, see the <u>schedule posted on the web</u> or the NCDI Lobby End of Spring Classes: May 26

NCDI 6 Week Summer Session: June 12-July 22 Afternoon/Evening Dance Classes/Camps/Intensives (3-Adults) NCDI Summer Showcase: Saturday, June 24 6:00pm Wakefield High School featuring 50 NCDI Dancers

We thank our students and parents for choosing NCDI for the past 16 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