

## North Carolina Dance Institute Students & Parents,

Welcome to NCDI! In 2011, we celebrate 10 years of dance at 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 in the community of our teachers. NCDI was awarded Metro Magazine's 2011 METROBRAVO AWARD for Best Dance Studio. What an honor! We post many pictures, videos and upcoming performances on our Facebook Group Page: NC Dance Institute. Check it out!

Congratulations to our NCDI alumni who have continued to pursue their passions for dance. Robert Hartwell has joined the Broadway cast of *"Memphis"*. Grady Bowman has moved from the Broadway company of *"Billy Elliot"* into his fourth Broadway show, *"Wonderland"*. Emily Nicolau apprenticed with Hubbard Street 2 and was recently awarded a contract with 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. Bree Branker was featured in Dance Spirit and begins pre-Broadway rehearsals with the new musical, "*Josephine*". Bree will be joining the National Tour of "*Memphis*", performing at the DPAC in January. 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 (<u>www.uncsa.edu</u>).

Our teachers are busy in the community dancing and choreographing. NCDI faculty choreographed and taught master classes at Broughton, Cardinal Gibbons, Cary Academy, St. Mary's, Ligon, and Enloe High School. Tiffany Wheeler is dancing with Footnotes Tap Ensemble. Ronnie West will be performing in Washington, DC, San Francisco and was commissioned to choreograph for the NCMA Dance Performance Summer Series. Kirstie was 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 our faculty and our students' development.

Our 2011-2012 classes began August 1<sup>st</sup> and we welcome back all of our dancers. Registration is ongoing for the 2011-2012 dance year. NCDI has been invited to perform for the NC Children's Dance Festival at Meredith College on Sunday, Sept 11<sup>,</sup> Tickets are available at the door. We hope you will come see our dancers perform their original choreography. More information about classes, news, auditions and upcoming performances on our website: <u>www.ncdanceinstitute.com</u>.

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 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 NCDI 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