

# celebration dance company

April 2009

To: Celebration Dance Company Dancers & Parents,

Growing up as a dancer, I was always torn between doing “other stuff” and wanting to dance. I was sad when I had to miss slumber parties, weekend getaways, and hangout at the mall. I was just as sad when I missed dance. It was all so confusing. Looking back on it, I realize now that what was missing was Jesus Christ. I danced to be good at it & to be impressive – I LOVED IT! I hated it because I didn’t like the commitment it took – or that’s what I thought. I realize now that the commitment without purpose became drudgery. I was doing it for me and “me” was over it. I quit.

So, it was with tremendous hesitancy that I started CDC, even though God was calling it forth. I didn’t like the memories of the time, the exhaustion, the tears, the money, and the politics that came with a dance company. I didn’t want a dance company, but **God did & does**, so out of obedience, CDC was born. CDC exists to spread the news of Jesus Christ through the God-given talent of dancing. It is the passion of CDC to have people come see us because we are great at what we do, but then to be forever changed because of what they saw & heard. It **takes** commitment, tears, exhaustion, and finances. It is a commitment **with** a purpose, the purpose of Jesus Christ! No one said it would be easy, but the treasure will be found in heaven when we see those who were **eternally impacted by the dancers of CDC!**

In His Service,  
Kari Carter

# Is Celebration Dance Company Right for Me?

The Celebration Dance Company (CDC) is intended to be a group of seriously dedicated dancers & families who wholeheartedly believe in and support the dance ministry of CDC. It will require tremendously hard work & dedication, both physically & financially, and should not be entered in to without prayerful consideration.

Please take time to read through and pray about what it will take to be part of this ministry.

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) Is Jesus Christ your personal Lord & Savior? (Y or N) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Do you believe Jesus is the Son of God and only through a personal relationship with Him, you receive salvation & eternal life? (John 3:16) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Do you believe that your body is God's temple & as such, are you willing to take good care of what God has given you by are abstaining from the use of drugs & alcohol? (Y or N) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) Are you willing to maintain a healthy body weight by practicing good eating habits & balanced diet, not succumbing to the practice of an eating disorder, such as bulimia or anorexia? (Y or N) \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) Do you give honor & respect to your parents, realizing that being in CDC is not a "right" but a tremendous privilege? (Y or N) \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) Can you, in good faith, commit to making CDC your personal highest priority for extra curricular activity? (Y or N) \_\_\_\_\_ [This includes activities such as other sports teams, other dance teams, other productions (i.e. Christmas plays), & other hobbies. It does not include school activities which affect your grade.]
- 7) Since your presence, participation, and attitude affects everyone you dance with, can you, in good faith, commit to missing no more than three Saturday CDC classes this season? (Y or N) \_\_\_\_\_ Do you understand that sitting out is considered an absence? (Y or N) \_\_\_\_\_ When extenuating circumstances arise, they will be handled on a per student basis. For example: extended illness/injury will need a physician's release to return to dance so that we know you are healthy enough to come back & are not risking long-term damage: extended illness or complications with an immediate family member may require that you are unavailable; in other words, we understand that there has to be an occasional exception to this policy.
- 8) Do you understand that **during the two months** leading up to a production, it is likely that extra rehearsals will be held and are mandatory.?(Y or N) \_\_\_\_\_  
As difficult as it may seem at the time, we sincerely desire that CDC always be represented with a standard of excellence and sometimes it is impossible without extra rehearsals. We will attempt to give you advance notice of potential rehearsals but sometimes it may be short notice and we will still need you to attend. Can you cheerfully support your CDC teammates by attending each rehearsal during crunch time? (Y or N) \_\_\_\_\_
- 9) Do you understand that there is a CDC fee which is an incremental cost (please refer to the CDC Fee letter) (Y or N) \_\_\_\_\_ (1 fee for Ballet Co.; 1 fee for Jazz Co.)
- 10) Do you and your parents understand that any productions for the CDC and for the PHWD are hosted by the CDC parents? (Y or N) \_\_\_\_\_

Each family/dancer is obligated to serve as a volunteer in one or more areas. Listed below are the committees for this dance season (August – May). Please indicate which committee you would prefer to assist with for this season. I will help with this year:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Costume Mistress (oversee that all costumes are stage ready, checked out & returned to CDC)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Head Seamstress (oversee all sewing/alterations)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Seamstress (sewing/embellishing)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Prop/Set Design & Construction
- \_\_\_\_\_ House Manager
- \_\_\_\_\_ Usher/Ticket Sales/Concession/ Merchandise
- \_\_\_\_\_ Dressing Room Manager
- \_\_\_\_\_ Stage Hand
- \_\_\_\_\_ Technical Assistant
- \_\_\_\_\_ Fund Raiser Events
- \_\_\_\_\_ Studio Holiday Decorator (Gina Fields)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Storage of returned props & costumes
- \_\_\_\_\_ Cleaning of and/or having costumes dry cleaned
- \_\_\_\_\_ Coordinator/host of Company parties/activities
- \_\_\_\_\_ Cleaning of studio after rehearsals

Parents who would like to make a financial contribution of a designated amount, in lieu of serving on a committee, may do so if this suits your needs better. Please contact the President of the CDC.

- 11) Do you understand that you will be asked to sell 15 tickets per CDC dancer to each production? (Y or N)\_\_\_\_\_ As long as each dancer sells the allocated tickets we will be able to continue having productions. **THIS IS A CRITICAL COMMITMENT THAT EACH DANCER WILL BE REQUIRED TO FULFILL.**
- 12) Do you and your parents understand that you will be required to participate in fundraising activities and sales? (Y or N)\_\_\_\_\_
- 13) Do you understand that Bible & prayer will be an important part of company classes & rehearsals and that you are required to be there? (Y or N) \_\_\_\_\_

As you can tell, this is a big commitment & takes a level of dedication that not everyone is called to. Does that mean you can't dance at PHWD? **NO!** With the structure we have in place, you can take as many regular classes during the week as you would like! We want you to be happy with your decision & truly **enjoy** your dance experience. If CDC is not for you, that is great! You are still very much called to minister in dance & receive great training. We don't love our CDC dancer more or think more highly of them! We simply know that God has called the CDC to become a powerful, dedicated ministry & if it is what you are looking for, we would love to have you!

I choose to be in Celebration Dance Company and have the approval & support of my parents/parent.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(your signature & date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(your parent's signature & date)