



CONNetic's Outreach Programs

Prepared by: Carolyn Paine, Director, CONNetic Dance

Fall 2014-Spring 2015



About CONNetic Dance

"The troupe has gained a reputation for being innovative and different, as anyone who's attended their now annual production of "The Nutcracker Suite and Spicy" can attest. "-The Hartford Advocate

CONNetic Dance is a professional contemporary ballet company based out of Hartford, CT. The company, now in its sixth season, is comprised of a talented ensemble of diverse, exciting, and artistic professional dancers under the direction of Carolyn Paine. The organization works under the umbrella of the non-profit Artists in Real Time.

CONNetic Dance continually creates unique, athletic choreography executed by the technically crisp dancers. They are also known for their inventive and exciting re-telling of classical tales. Performances by the company are always fun and audience pleasing. CONNetic Dance has performed throughout CT, NY and MA, and has a growing repertoire of works. The company regularly performs at The Aetna Theatre at The Wadsworth Atheneum.

CONNetic Dance is committed to their community and to changing the way people view dance in Hartford and beyond.







Mission

Bringing our professional dancers from CONNetic Dance into your school, we offer dance workshops that inspire students to understand the value of expressing themselves through dance and art. We know the incredible importance of being exposed to dance as we proudly have professional dancers in the company who are Hartford Public School alums who began their journey as dancers with outreach programs in their school. Our goal is to continue to inspire future artists in CT to do what our company does and think outside the box.



Recent Program Successes

Just this past summer, we worked with The United Way to offer a dance program as part of their S.E.E. summer school program. The students thrived and loved the challenges of the program which culminated in a performance where they created their own masks and wowed in their performance for peers and families. We offered all students in the program a free ticket for themselves and one for an adult family member to reconnect with us in December at our annual production of The Nutcracker Suite & Spicy at The Aetna Theatre at The Wadsworth Atheneum. We also rewarded a full scholarship to a young man who truly shone throughout the program to study at a school where one of our dancers is on the faculty.





Why Bring Dance Into Schools?

The arts are so important as they help reach all students and allow them a way to succeed beyond academics. With more pressures from standardized testing, it is also important to help students see that learning can go beyond the classroom and be applied in everything they do.

Brining dance to your school:

- Allows students to use and see their bodies in a postiive way, this is especially great for young girls who are struggling
 with media and society images of bodies.
- Inspires students to get up and move and be active and fit.
- Brings creativity. CONNetic Dance's productions, like The Nutcracker Suite & Spicy, tell a classic story with a twist, and we work with this as our inspiration guiding students to use dance, art, and theatre to express a concept in a creative way, challenging their imaginations and embracing originality.
- Opens the students' minds to the fact that dance is not just about "girls in tutu." Our company has amazing, strong male dancers who help engage and inspire boys to see that dance has many different styles-all of which are athletic pursuits. Boys can and should dance!





Curriculum and Programs

We offer a variety of options from one day in-school performances at assemblies or smaller classroom workshops to extended residencies in after school programs, all of which are appropriate and specifically designed for students K-12. The program is overseen by Director Carolyn Paine who, in addition to founding CONNetic Dance, has served on the faculty for various academic schools and dance and theatre programs working with Hartford Public Schools, Hartford Children's Theatre, The Bushnell, and The Hartt School. Ms. Paine is joined by the professional dancers from CONNetic Dance who come from diverse cultural backgrounds and have varied dance training. They are all also experienced and passionate educators. Programs may focus on dance technique, create a performance with the students, have a workshop showing how academic studies apply to dance (hint: math is important!) or simply offer a fun behind the scenes look at what goes into our productions with performance demonstrations.

Booking and Contact

We are currently booking for the 2014-2015 academic year. We especially love to come in to promote or perform our totally unique to Hartford Nutcracker Suite & Spicy as it is an all-ages audience favorite.

Please contact us at <u>connetic_dance@yahoo.com</u> to design a program together for your school or classroom and for rates.

