

April 2009

Vol 2, Issue 5

Associate Artistic Director Tracy Straus: Spreading the Message of NDI



Watching NDI's Associate Artistic Director **Tracy Straus** work with a classroom of children is a study in teaching excellence. She is an expert at engaging and motivating the young dancers, creating a learning environment that is focused, energetic and electric.

Tracy brings this energy to classrooms across the country and around the world, leading NDI's **Residency Programs**, most recently teaching children at the [East Harlem School](#) and [PS 41](#) in Manhattan. She inspires dozens of professional dancers and educators each year to continue NDI's tradition of teaching excellence through the [Teacher Training Program](#). And she is helping to create a solid forum for NDI-inspired associate programs (including the Colorado-based program she leads, [Celebrate the Beat](#)) by spearheading the development of [ANDI: Associates of National Dance Institute](#).

[Read more about Tracy Straus.](#)

In This Issue

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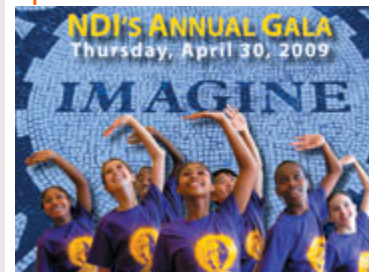
Celebrating Carolyn George d'Amboise at Symphony Space

Jazz Orchestra and PS 161 Chorus Perform

ANDI News: Minds in Motion Visits NDI

Save These Dates!

April 30



NDI's Annual Gala
NOKIA Theatre Times Square,
NYC [More info.](#)

June 20--22

2009 Event of the Year
A Celebration of John Lennon
LaGuardia HS Concert Hall,
NYC

Quick Links

[Upcoming Events](#)

[Press Room](#)

[Support Us](#)

[About NDI](#)

Celebrating Carolyn George d'Amboise at Symphony Space



On March 30, 2009 more than 800 friends and family members gathered together at Symphony Space to celebrate the life and accomplishments of **Carolyn George d'Amboise**. Among those joining the d'Amboise family to pay tribute to Carrie through music, dance, film and spoken word were dancers from NDI's **Celebration Team** and **First Team**; New York City Ballet's **Jenifer Ringer** and **Phillip Neal**; **Buglisi Dance Theatre**; concert pianist Maestro **Walter Hautzig**; and Broadway's **George S. Irving**, **Liz Larsen** and **Sal Viviano**.

[See photos.](#)

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Jazz Orchestra and PS 161 Chorus Perform



On Saturday, April 4, under the direction of Teaching Artist **Neal Kirkwood**, NDI's [Jazz Orchestra](#) along with the **PS 161 NDI Chorus** performed for NDI's Advanced Team dancers, teachers, staff and parents.

[Read more here.](#)

[ANDI](#) News: Minds in Motion Visits NDI



Several students from the Virginia-based [NDI Associate program](#) **Minds in Motion** visited NDI's **SWAT/Celebration Team** rehearsal on Saturday, April 4 as part of their annual trip to New York City.

[Read more here.](#)



Photos: Angel Gardner, David Chong

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