

about ndi

national dance  institute

National Dance Institute (NDI) is a non-profit arts education organization founded in 1976 by ballet star Jacques d'Amboise. Through school partnerships, workshops and public performances, NDI uses dance as a catalyst to engage children and motivate them toward excellence.

at a glance

- In the current school year, NDI's In-School Program serves **42 partner schools** in the NYC area, reaching more than **6,000 children** each week.
- NDI works with every child on a grade, including English Language Learners and children with special needs.
- A **Master Teacher/Choreographer, Musician/Composer** and **Assistant Teacher** lead every NDI class.
- NDI serves diverse low-income communities. Nearly **60% of NDI dancers are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch**.
- Approximately **71% of the students we serve are children of color**.
- NDI's **Advanced Scholarship Programs** offer extended training outside of school for exceptionally motivated children who demonstrate the passion and commitment to immerse themselves in a greater challenge.
- Throughout our 37-year history, NDI has successfully seeded programs throughout the United States. There are currently **11 NDI associate programs** thriving across the country.
- NDI has led cultural exchanges around the world, including China, Russia, India, Africa, Israel, Palestine, Bali and Switzerland.
- NDI's core programs are **free** for every child.

awards

Over the years, NDI and Founder Jacques d'Amboise have earned prestigious honors including the MacArthur Genius Award, National Medal of Arts, Kennedy Center Honors, President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities' Coming Up Taller Award, People Magazine's People First Honoree, the Arison Award, NYC Mayor's Award of Honor for Art and Culture, Governor's Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Art and Culture of New York State, and induction into the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, among many others.

press

NDI has made appearances on ABC's "The View," CBS's "The Early Show," NBC's "Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade," WNBC's "Macy's Parade Balloon Bash," WNET/THIRTEEN's "New York Voices," NY1's "One on 1 with Budd Mishkin," Fox 5's "Good Day New York," "CBS Saturday Morning," "CBS Sunday Morning," and "Teen Kids News," and has earned recognition in local and national publications including *Time Magazine*, *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *People Magazine*, *Dance Magazine*, *Dance Teacher Magazine*, *New York Daily News*, *El Diario/La Prensa*, and *The Hartford Courant*, as well as in more than 30 NYC community newspapers and magazines.

To request a press kit, please call NDI at (212) 226-0083.



...inspiring children through the arts.

programs

IN-SCHOOL PROGRAM

NDI's In-School Program is exuberant and intellectually engaging – and unlike any other program of its kind. The program consists of two models: a year-long program as well as shorter, intensive residencies. A Master Teacher/Choreographer, Musician/Composer, and an Assistant Teacher lead an entire grade level in classes that take place during the school day, deeply rooting the arts in a school's culture and curriculum. In the process, our teachers foster in students a love of the arts and a curiosity about the world. The In-School Program teaches skills vital to a child's education – critical thinking and collaboration, habits of healthy living, global perspective, cultural literacy, the ability to communicate ideas through an art form, an essential confidence in his or her ability to learn, and a hunger for continued achievement. At the core of NDI's success is its unique pedagogy, developed over decades, that addresses the needs of children across a spectrum of abilities. NDI serves all children including those with physical and cognitive challenges, blind and deaf children, and English language learners.

NDI special partnerships include:

- Lighthouse International, a school for children who are blind or visually impaired
- A Special Forces program at PS 199 that pairs special needs students with general education students

TEACHING ARTIST TRAINING

NDI Teaching Artists are professional dancers and musicians trained in NDI's unique, award-winning pedagogy. NDI offers Teaching Artist Trainings in New York City, including a **Two-Week Intensive** and a **Special Populations Workshop**, that enable professional dancers and dance educators to study NDI's renowned teaching methodology. Our Master Teachers also share NDI's pedagogy with communities throughout the U.S. and internationally through Teaching Artist Training residencies.

INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM

NDI dancers have benefited greatly from international cultural exchanges, with artists and children from countries such as China, Israel, Italy, Mexico, Palestine, Russia and Bali. NDI regularly hosts international visitors in New York City, most recently teachers and students from the Shanghai Children's Palace in China, ConArte in Mexico City, and master choreographers from Bali. Through these exchanges, our dancers build cultural literacy and global awareness, and are exposed to diverse cultural traditions and styles.

national dance institute center for learning & the arts

National Dance Institute officially opened the doors of its permanent home in the fall of 2011. The NDI Center, comprised of four studios including a performance space, two galleries and administrative offices, furthers our mission and expands our reach, serving as a beacon for children, teachers and artists in the community and worldwide.

ADVANCED PROGRAMS

SWAT Team

(Scholarships for the Willing, Achieving and Talented)

Approximately 100 dancers selected from the In-School Program receive advanced dance instruction for 3-5 hours each Saturday or at selected after-school locations. The program culminates in NDI's Event of the Year, a large-scale public performance featuring the SWAT and Celebration Team dancers.

Celebration Team

Approximately 90 dancers who demonstrate an extraordinary commitment throughout their NDI training are given scholarships to join our most advanced performance troupe. These dancers perform year-round in a variety of locations, which have included Symphony Space, Lincoln Center, Juilliard, New York City Center, the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the White House, as well as in nationally televised events.

Irene Diamond Summer Institute

A month-long performing arts academy, this rigorous program combines a full schedule of classes in ballet, jazz, tap, ethnic dance, modern, music and theater. Special guest artists introduce the children to a range of artistic experiences. Each year, 100 full scholarships are awarded.

Event of the Year

Each June, NDI's Advanced Scholarship Programs culminate with a final Event of the Year. The Event features original choreography and music, and professionally-designed sets, costumes, and lighting. Dancers perform over three days for New York City audiences. Free performances are offered to New York City public school children participating in our In-School Program.

