



# danceability, Inc.

n. To enable through movement

July - Dec.  
2009

Volume 1

Issue 2

## Our Mission:

*Danceability, Inc. is a program for children and adults with special needs utilizing dance and movement to enable and empower students while promoting physical, social, and emotional wellness in a family-focused, peaceful environment.*



Amajin Alston

## The danceability, Inc. Program

danceability, Inc. is a dance program for children and adults with disabilities as well as their families. The program provides weekly instruction to children and adults. The family-focused approach seeks to improve the quality of life for those challenged with special needs. The classes focus on an individual's abilities, motivations, love for music and movement while expanding their potential within a group or individual setting. The program promotes physical, social and emotional wellness in an environment that embraces acceptance and tolerance for all. It is also a fun form of exercise. In addition to weekly classes, every student who wants to do so, is able to take part in the end of the year performance.

## Danceability, Inc.'s 2nd Annual Performance a Success

Danceability, Inc. hosted its 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Dance Performance on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> 2009 at 2:30 p.m. at Cleveland Hill High School Auditorium. The show cased 70 dancers by 35 onstage Backstage was other volunteers Hill students, coordinators working together the dancers were stage. Dancers learning their individually choreographed routines, trying on their specially designed costumes and practicing at the dress rehearsal. The day proved to be a big success as each dancer wowed the filled audience, number after number. Cleveland Hill is already excited about next year's performance, and so are we!!



"Hey Baby" featuring Sara Burneal (volunteer), Amy Kilger (dancer), Kristin Mohn (dancer), Cara Cohen (volunteer), Jess Kovach (dancer), Becky Mason (volunteer), Bobby Quinn (dancer)

## Open House/Registration

Wednesday, August 19<sup>th</sup> 5 pm - 8 pm

Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> 10 am - 1 pm

- Instruction in various dance styles - Tap, Jazz, Ballet, Creative Movement, etc.
- Classes held afternoons & evenings, Monday through Thursday & Saturday (no classes on Friday)
- Day Hab classes held on Thursdays
- End of the year performance (optional for every student)
- Scholarships available

## SCHOLARSHIPS



*The Kwiatkowski Family Scholarship* is in memory of Richard and Cynthia Kwiatkowski, parents of co-founder Christine Kwiatkowski. Mr. & Mrs. Kwiatkowski passed away in January and April of 2008. While on this earth they loved and supported their daughter in her many dance endeavors. Those chosen as scholarship recipients embody the Kwiatkowski

Family spirit; a dancer with a strong passion for dance and dedication to the art while receiving tremendous support from family and/or other individuals in their lives. Last year's recipient was Amanda Peterangelo and this year's recipient is the Quinn Family who have four of their children dancing in the *danceability* program. Both are the epitome of what this scholarship stands for.

*The Bishop Family Scholarship* has been generously donated by Yvonne & David Bishop, the mother & father-in-law of Co-Founder, Robin Bishop. The scholarship will go to a student or family who helps to further the mission of *danceability, Inc.*, within the program and in the community. This new scholarship is yet to be awarded.

*Health Force Scholarship* has been generously donated by Patricia Dwyer and is awarded to the dancer that is a terrific example of what *danceability*, is all about; friendship, fun, movement, and music. This year's recipient is Blake Wagner. Blake's passion is music and dance. He is always "wigglin" his way through the world and loves being center stage! Blake is only 5 years old but he is sure to be the next wiggly dancer!

*danceability, Inc. Scholarships* are need-based scholarships that are determined in the Fall of each year to help students afford the dance instruction that they seek.

### Co-Founders/Executive Directors/

#### Instructors:

Robin Bishop  
Christine Kwiatkowski

#### Instructors:

Lauren Palmieri  
Kasie Lynn Schultz  
Brandi Alaimo

#### Board of Directors:

Pat Dwyer, *Chairperson*  
Michael Quinn, *Vice Chairperson*  
Jackie Sommer, *Secretary*  
Sandy Smith, *Treasurer*  
Colleen Thurnherr, *Community Relations*  
Jennifer Zolnowski, *Parent Representative*  
David Zolnowski, *Parent Representative*

Your support of *danceability, Inc.* is an invaluable gift to our students and their families. You can lend your support to our program by making a donation. All donations are tax-deductible. Checks can be made payable to:  
**danceability, Inc.**

For more information on donations, call us at (716) 651-0094. Thank you.

## ***The Recital as Seen Through a Parent's Eyes***



"Cotton-Eyed Joe" featuring Patrick Zolnowski (dancer), Cassandra Aamodt (volunteer), Matthew Monsour (dancer), Robin Bishop, Daniel Heitzman (dancer), Kelly Harris (volunteer)

It has become one of the most anticipated days of the year for parents like me. But it's not a birthday or Christmas or any other holiday. It is the Annual *danceability, Inc.* recital. Though not a holiday, it was once again one of the best Mother's Day gifts I have ever received...seeing my son, and all of the dancers, shine on stage.

I can truly say that I enjoyed each and every performance. Once again, the costumes were perfect for the songs and the songs seemed to suit each group of dancers to a tee. Of course my favorite moment was seeing my son do his thing in "Cotton-Eyed Joe". But I was almost equally as thrilled to see the other performers too, many of whom I know from other areas of my life. It was so inspiring to see the pride of each dancer as they showed off the hard work they had done all year. I don't think I stopped smiling throughout the entire show.

The few minor mistakes here and there were barely noticed by the very patient and forgiving audience. And where else would dancers get a second chance to get it right?

I am already wondering what delights will await me next year.

*by Jennifer Zolnowski*



"Enchanted" featuring Megan Gill (volunteer), Audrey Guzzo (dancer), Brittany Ballin (volunteer), Mary Szmula (dancer), Lauren Palmieri (volunteer)

# Meet the New Teachers

*Danceability, Inc.* is proud to announce that it is expanding. Beginning in September, we will be offering Saturday morning classes. In order to accommodate this expansion, *danceability, Inc.* has hired new teachers to the staff. Please welcome, Lauren Palmieri, Kasie Lynn Schultz and Brandi Alaimo. Both Lauren and Kasie Lynn have been with us since the beginning as volunteers. Brandi is a well-qualified new recruit. We are happy to welcome these three lovely ladies to our staff. Here is just a little more about them.



**Lauren Palmieri** - Dance Instructor

Lauren Palmieri is currently a dance major at the University at Buffalo. She is excited to be an instructor at *danceability Inc.* where she has volunteered for the past two years. Lauren is an active dancer within the University. She is spending this summer attending many dance intensives to expand her dance knowledge and technique. Even though dance is her first love, she has many other passions and hobbies including reading, travelling, spending time with friends and family, and caring for her pet gecko! Lauren aspires to be a performer someday, but intends to keep educating children throughout her life.



**Kasie Lynn Schultz** - Per Diem Dance Instructor

Kasie Lynn Schultz is a Buffalo State College graduate with a B.A. in Psychology. She has volunteered with *danceability, Inc.* for the past 2 years. This will be her 6th year working with individuals with special needs in a dance setting. She has 18 years of dance experience and 5 years of volunteering as an assistant to both the teachers and students. She looks forward to continuing her work with *danceability, Inc.* for many more years to come.



**Brandi Alaimo** - Per Diem Dance Instructor

Brandi Alaimo is a graduate of Niagara University with a Bachelor's in Childhood and Middle Childhood Education. She began taking dance classes at the age of 7. Dance has always been a passion of hers and a way to release stress. She has worked in the respite program at Niagara Cerebral Palsy and is currently employed with Gateway Longview's Therapeutic Preschool. She is looking forward to meeting and working with the dancers and their families.

## Thank You to Resigning Board Members Ann and Paula

Danceability, Inc. would like to thank two of its inaugural board members, Ann Bruscia and Paula Young for their 2 years of services as Directors on danceability, Inc.'s Board of Directors. These two wonderful women have been with the program since its beginning, and we hope to keep them connected to the program as consultants. Danceability will now be appointing new board members to try to fill their amazing shoes.



# Save the Date

Monday, November 9, 2009

Wine Tasting for a Cause  
Dinner at the Dove

A fundraiser to benefit *danceability*, Inc.



The Dove Restaurant • 3002 Abbott Rd  
Orchard Park, NY 14127-1002  
(716) 823-6680

On this date, The Dove Restaurant will donate 10% of the night's dinner tab to *danceability*, Inc. There will be a separate wine tasting event hosted by Global Liquor with all proceeds going to the program. This event is \$5.00 at the door and includes free appetizers. For more information, go to The Dove's website: [www.thedoveny.com](http://www.thedoveny.com). And if that were not enough, a basket raffle will also be held that night.

Look for more details to be posted on our website at: [www.danceabilityinc.com](http://www.danceabilityinc.com) and in the studio. Make sure to mark your calendars for this great night out for a great cause!

*danceability*, Inc.  
3859 Union Rd., Suite 400  
Cheektowaga, NY 14225