

Dance Teacher[®] Recognizes



Dance Teacher presents teachers who complete a continuing dance education program by one of the organizations on the following page with a *Dance Teacher* Certificate of Recognition. Simply send a letter to *DT Recognizes*, *Dance Teacher*, 110 William St, 23rd Fl, New York, NY 10038. Please include your address, name of the organization, proof of participation in the program you attended and a brief description of how the experience has impacted your teaching. This month, *DT* salutes educators who have participated in the *Debbi Dee Tap Intensive*.



Debbi Dee Tap Intensive

After 37 years of teaching, Debbi Dee has tap dance down to a science. Her original teaching technique, called ABC/123, has established her as a master tap instructor who regularly teaches at conventions across the country. Driven by a desire to offer her brand of instruction to educators and to provide a more relaxed atmosphere for her students, she launched the inaugural Debbi Dee Tap Intensive in 2004, which was attended by 25 teachers between the ages of 20 and 80. This year, she will repeat the intensive at Carol Colberts School of Dance in Boca Raton, Florida, October 22–23.

The weekend includes 10 hours of classes with instruction in tap progressions, wings and pullbacks, choreography, turns, time steps and flash tap. The foundation for the program lies in the ABC/123 technique, which divides the tap into six segments that each project a different sound. Dee's method enables students to focus on using all parts of the tap, aiming for the completion of the movement. "If they can't accomplish an easy step with clarity, speed and shading, they will never be able to move onto a more advanced step," she says.

To complement the relaxed studio atmosphere of the intensive, Dee holds an informal seminar where teachers gather for an open forum on topics such as how to find music for tap class, defining tap stylization and National Tap Dance Day. Stressing the importance of recognizing the holiday, she distributes lists of movies, documentaries, Broadway shows, books and resources for celebrating the artform. This year, she intends to expand the discussion. "Now that I know what their interests are, I'd like to introduce [attendees] to some of the dancers that have come before and the ones that I've had the pleasure of working with," she says. Dee also plans to touch upon ideas for recital themes and props.

Each participant leaves the intensive with a laminated diagram of the tap and a 100-page notebook of classwork taught over the weekend. Starting in 2005, Dee is offering to bring her program to other studios, so that teachers who cannot attend the weekend in October can have the intensive come to them. For more: 9280 Sun Pointe Dr, Boynton Beach, FL 33437; 561-736-3052 —*Wendy Garofoli*



ROBERT MANCUSO

Debbi Dee leads class at Traditions in Tap in New York.

What Teachers Have to Say

Roxie Roy
Teacher

*Arts Academy of Hollywood
Hollywood, FL*

Debbi took a lot of time to break down her teaching method for the class. She didn't just unload choreography onto her students. She taught us how to teach. I use the material she provided every day. That notebook is like my bible.

Nicole Trombetta
Teacher

*Virtuous Productions and
Dance Academy of Boca Raton
Boca Raton, FL*

It is so refreshing to take class and not hear the words, 'You just have to work harder to accomplish speed and clarity.' At the tap intensive we learned how to communicate to our students the necessary steps for effective tap technique. I see so clearly so many mistakes I have made with my students in the past, basically setting them up for struggle. I have already started restructuring my tap classes and look forward to learning more from this inspiring and innovative instructor.

Morgan Angelillis
Teacher

*Patricia Ann Dance Studio
Dunedin, FL*

This was the first teacher workshop I have ever attended. I felt truly inspired at the end of the weekend and couldn't wait to get back into class. Over two days, Debbi shared her tap technique on everything from time steps to routines to tricks. She would take complex steps and break them down into the most basic movements. For me, the workshop wasn't about improving my tapping ability. It was about improving my ability to teach an individual to tap.

DT-RECOGNIZED PROGRAMS

Alabama Ballet Teacher Training Program
205-322-1874; www.alabamaballet.org
Al Gilbert Dance Teacher Conventions
323-965-5500; www.steppingtones.com
American Academy of Ballet
212-787-9500; www.ameracademyofballet.com
American Dance Festival
919-684-6402; www.americandancefestival.org
American Tap Dance Institute
888-NTE-TAPS; www.usatap.org/TTP.htm
American Tap Dance Foundation
646-230-9564; www.atdf.org
Associated Dance Teachers of New Jersey
800-925-0933; www.associateddanceteachers.com
Ballet Intensive from Moscow
773-404-0417; www.BalletRussianTeachers.com
Ballet Magnificat!
601-977-1001; www.balletmagnificat.com
Bates Dance Festival
207-786-6381; www.bates.edu/dancefest
Benesh Institute
44-17-13268031; www.benesh.org
Bill Evans Dance Teachers' Intensives
585-964-9196; www.billdevansdance.org
Boulder Jazz Dance Workshop
303-449-0399; www.bcn.boulder.co.us/arts/idt/tdt.html
Briarwood Ballet 205-776-5284; www.briarwood.org
Broadway Dance Center
212-582-9304; www.broadwaydancecenter.com
Cecchetti Council of America
734-379-6710; www.cecchetti.org
Cecchetti Society, Inc., USA of the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing
203-288-2863; www.cecchettiusa.org
Central Pennsylvania Youth Ballet
717-245-1190; www.cpyb.org
Chicago National Association of Dance Masters
815-397-6052; www.cnadm.com
City Center 212-247-0430; www.citycenter.org
Creative Dance Center
206-363-7281; www.creativedance.org
Cumann Rince Naisiunta Irish National Dance Association
505-984-1139; www.crn-usa.org
Dance Alive 310-454-5335; www.dancealive.com
Dance Educators of America
914-636-3200; www.DEAdance.com
Dance Masters of America
718-225-4013; www.dma-national.org
Dance Notation Bureau
212-564-0985; www.dancenotation.org
Dance Notation Bureau Extension at Ohio State University 614-292-7977; www.dance.ohio-state.edu
Dance Space Center
212-625-8369; www.dancespacecenter.org
Dance Teacher Summer Conference
800-342-4337 x4826; www.dance-teacher.com
Debbi Dee Tap Intensive 561-736-3052

Finis Jhung Ballet/Ballet Dynamics
800-357-3525; www.finisjhung.com
Florida Dance Masters, Inc 407-678-4407
The Hartford Conservatory
860-246-2588; www.hartfordconservatory.org
Houston Ballet Academy
713-535-3200; www.houstonballet.org
Hubbard Street Dance Chicago
312-850-9744 x152; www.hubbardstreetdance.org
The Isadora Duncan Dance Foundation
212-691-5040; www.isadoraduncan.org
Kennedy Center Education 202-416-8813;
www.kennedy-center.org/education/pdot
Laban/Bartenieff Institute of Movement Studies
212-213-1162; www.limonline.org
Language of Dance 231-995-0998; www.lodc.org
Leap'n Learn 888-211-5180; www.leapnlearn.com
The Lebed Method, Focus on Healing Through Movement and Dance Certification Training Program 877-365-6014; www.focusonhealing.org
Lincoln Center Institute
212-875-5535; www.lcinstitute.org
Little People's Creative Workshop 252-321-8540
Luna Kids Dance 510-664-3629; www.lunakidsdance.com
Music in Motion 607-257-6196; www.musicinmotion.com
National Ballet School
416-964-3780; www.nationalballetschool.org
National Dance Association
703-476-3436; www.aahperd.org/nda
National Dance Education Organization
301-657-2880; www.ndeo.org
National Dance Institute
212-226-0083; www.nationaldance.org
National Dance Institute of New Mexico
505-983-7646; www.ndi-nm.org
National Registry of Dance Educators 631-757-2700
92nd St. Y Harkness Dance Center/Dance Education Laboratory 212-415-5555; www.92ndsty.org
North Carolina Dance Theatre's Dance Educator Enrichment Program 704-372-0101; www.ncdance.org
Ohio Dance 614-267-8295; www.ohiodance.org
Pacific Northwest Ballet School
206-441-2453; www.pnb.org
Pennsylvania Academy of Ballet 610-664-3455;
www.pennsylvaniaacademyofballet.com
Phyllis S. Weikart's Integrated Movement and Music Program www.highscope.org
Professional Dance Teachers Association
201-652-7767; www.hoctordance.com
Project Motivate 508-285-6650; www.rheegold.com
Royal Academy of Dance
201-438-4400; www.rad.org.uk
Royal Winnipeg Ballet
204-956-0183; www.rwbschool.com
The School at Jacob's Pillow
413-637-1322; www.jacobspillow.org
Vail International Dance Festival
970-949-1999; www.vvf.com

Not all of the above programs hold teacher workshops every year. Please contact the organization directly to verify dates. If you'd like your continuing education program just for teachers to be considered for DT Recognizes, please send information about it to us at: DT Recognizes, 110 William St, 23rd Fl, New York, NY 10038; e-mail: ugarofoli@lifestylemedia.com.