
DARBY'S DANCERS NEWSLETTER



ANNUAL TRAINING

What a great time we had at our 2nd annual training at the beautiful Misty's Dance Unlimited in Onalaska , Wisconsin! We had a wonderful group of studio owners, teachers and liaisons who came together to learn how to provide the best Darby's Dancers chapter they can in their respective local studios. Thank you for your commitment to your local chapters and to understanding that each one of us is a part of a bigger picture, the national organization, and community and inclusion for all. We all have the same mission and work together to make Darby's Dancers National the successful

organization that it has become. Thank you so much everyone!

Mission Statement :

To provide dance education to children with special needs at no cost to their families and offer a foundation for inclusion with other dancers within an established dance organization.

Vision Statement:

To open as many Darby's Dancers organizations as possible across the United States making it feasible for all children with special needs to participate in the performing arts. Each organization must adhere to the highest standards of quality and respect as set forth by the national organization.

Values Statement:

Each Darby's Dancers organization must be fully incorporated into the life of the local dance studio, where upon each child is fully accepted and respected as a part of the dance studio family. Each child is to be treated with the utmost kindness and respect and every consideration is to be made to accommodate their diverse learning needs.



Learn ~ Inspire ~ Grow

Earlier this year, we attended the **More Than Just Great Dancing** conference in Palm Springs, CA, hosted by dance professional, consultant and friend, **Misty Lown**. I love to attend this conference because the mindset of the attendees who are MTJGD members is so similar to mine and talking to them about the Darby's Dancers program is easy. They get it! The event is always fantastic! Last week, we attended the **Dance Life Teacher Conference** in Atlantic City, NJ, hosted by long time dance professional and entrepreneur, **Rhee Gold**. This conference was attended by over 900 dance teachers and studio owners who are all trying to make their studios better and more positive places for our young people to be. The reason we attend these conferences is because we are trying to meet new studio owners who are willing to **host a Darby's Dancers chapter** in their studio. It is a great way to connect with studio owners from all over the country and have the opportunity to tell them about our program.

Other important aspects of attending a dance industry conference is **relationship building**, **networking** and **establishing a presence** in the dance world. We met so many wonderful people last week and had an opportunity to talk with them about how we can expand our own programs and get our missions out there and help each other at the same time. Listed below are some of our fabulous affiliates. Check out their websites and see what they have to offer.

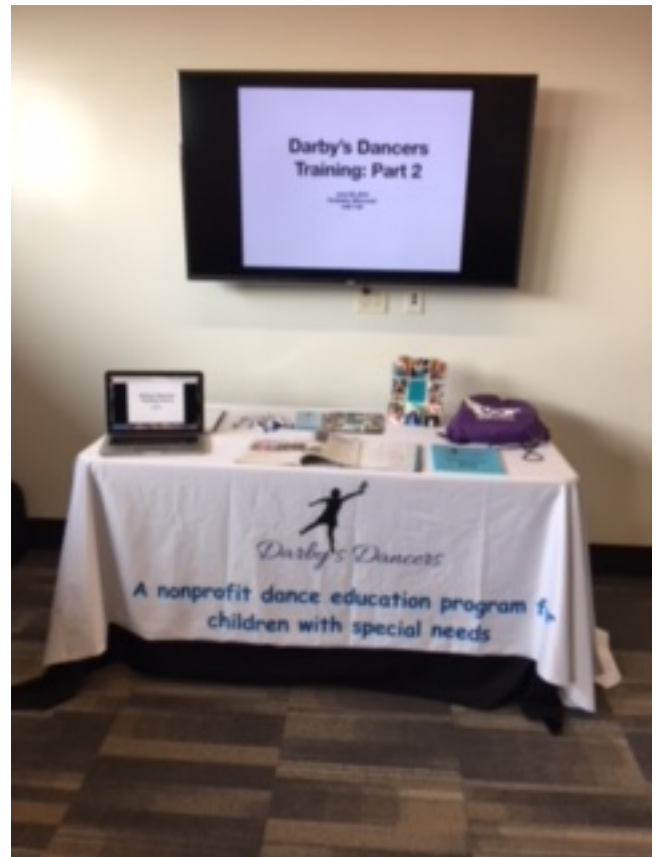
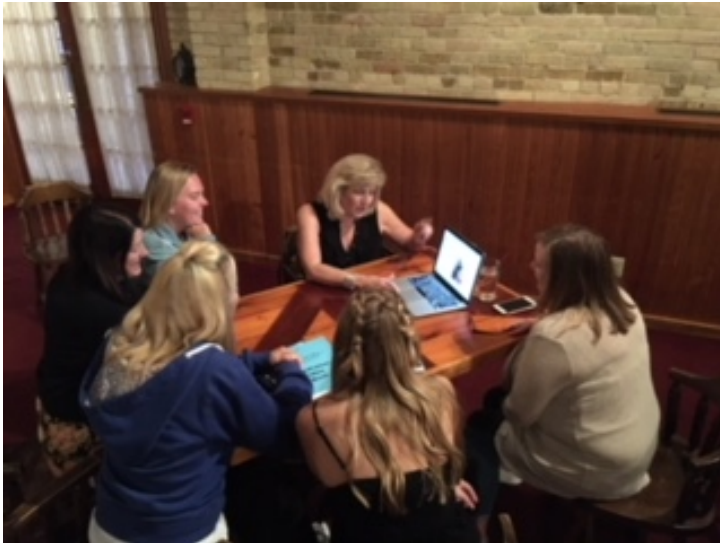
Rhythm Works Integrative Dance
Wingman For Dance
Masquerade Dance Competition
Aspire Dance Pro
Tribute National Talent Competition
Act 1 Talent
Showbiz Dance Competition
Studio Boss Management Software
Double Good Gourmet Popcorn
48Long Stems
Akada Dance Software
More Than Just Great Dancing
Rhee Gold's Dance Life

rhythmworksid.com
wingmanfordance.org
masqueradedance.com
aspiredancepro.com
tributetodance.com
act1talent.com
showbiztalent.com
studioboss.com
doublegood.com
48longstems.com
akadasoftware.com
morethanjustgreatdancing.com
rheegold.com

I want to send a special thank you to **Jessica Michaels from Wingman for Dance (left)** and **Tricia Gomez from Rhythm Works (right)** for being my booth buddies and for sharing their missions with me and helping me to realize how we can all work together to spread our message of compassion, acceptance, kindness, understanding and inclusion for all. I've got your backs!



More pictures from the training:



Diversity is having a seat at the table, inclusion is having a voice, and belonging is having that voice be heard.

