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awareness for the arts

Vol. 5 No. 4,
Central Florida
Winter 2009-10
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with co-op gallery space

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Steps To Success
Winter 2009 - 10
featuring
chART charity art collection

**Leaders in Dance
Share Their Personal
Steps To Success**

chART adds dance to a
collaborative work of writing,
visual art, music composing
and music making.

chART celebrates performing
artists, musicians and more
in this issue!



Ashley Locheed performed at the High Five chART celebration for Fall. Read about her music career inside. See events inside.



Substance Meets Style

Dance Industry Leaders Pair With Dancers For Dynamic Results



Style page descriptions on page 12

Legendary Leader

Craig W. Johnson, Co-Founder & Executive Director
The Center For Contemporary Dance
www.TheCenterForDance.org

Step into a new journey.

Craig W. Johnson is a writer, director, producer and advocate for the arts. Johnson is a graduate of Rollins College and, with more than 12 years of arts management experience, he is primarily responsible for developing and implementing The Center's programs, producing the organization's performances and overseeing the organization's success in achieving its mission. Johnson's philosophies in arts management have been published in textbooks, newspapers and magazines, both nationally and internationally. Johnson founded The Center for Contemporary Dance to provide artists a platform to express their voices as they work in collaboration to expand the community's access to the arts.

What are you most proud of in your dance career?

With much support from our community, The Center for Contemporary Dance has become the area's leading production center for contemporary dance performance, serving to incubate six contemporary dance ensembles and cultivating the next generation of dance professionals. It wasn't long ago that contemporary dance was virtually absent from the Central Florida arts scene, but because of The Center's efforts this important art form is becoming recognized as an essential part of our community's cultural fabric, just as it is in other metropolitan areas.

The Center was the first dance education center in Central Florida to create an integrative platform for resident artists to develop new contemporary dance works—emerging choreographers who enter the Resident Artist Program receive rehearsal space, business mentoring and production resources, including space to showcase new work. Now, other dance centers across Central Florida are taking The Center's lead, adding residency programs to their studio models because they see how important it is to surround students with industry professionals, creative role models and visionary thinkers. We're proud to have inspired others to cultivate opportunities for artists and students to work together in meaningful ways.

Over the course of our journey, we've supported 230 artists, seen our students enter the most prestigious university dance programs, and delivered 180 plus community programs, inspiring more than 3,000 underserved children to reach higher and further. What has made all this possible is our ever-growing team of donors, artists, volunteers and dedicated professionals who believe deeply in the work we do, partnering with us to create essential beauty, hope and change in our world. Together, we have added new dimension to the vocabulary and perception of dance, expanding our community's creative, expressive and educational options.

This is, indeed, a powerful achievement and I'm proud to say that The Center for Contemporary Dance has introduced a new cultural legacy to Central Florida.

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Legendary Leader

Dario J. Moore, Co-Founder & Artistic Director
The Center For Contemporary Dance
www.TheCenterForDance.org

Dare to take the first step.

Dario J. Moore is an educator, humanitarian and award-winning artist. Moore holds an M.A. degree in Dance Education from American University and a B.A. in Theatre and Dance from Rollins College. He has taught dance of all disciplines at various colleges. He also conducts annual workshops with the Florida Dance Education Organization, assisting dance educators across the nation in maximizing their skills. In addition to overseeing The Center's dance education programs and performance companies, he directs U-Turn Dance Company and Moore Dance Project, both housed at The Center for Contemporary Dance. Moore founded The Center to develop an active and stable culture of contemporary dance.

What are you most proud of in your dance career?

Eight years ago, there were zero African-American dance ensembles in Central Florida. The Center for Contemporary Dance changed this in 2001 by establishing U-Turn Dance Company, the area's first multi-

cultural dance company. Soon after, we launched Moore Dance Project, the area's first and only African-American dance ensemble, which regularly produces work that celebrates African-American perspectives in the arts.

We've earned a solid reputation for delivering innovative and inclusive



MODEL PAGE 10: chART Gallery Manger LAURA LAPOINTE has been dancing since age four training in jazz, ballet, modern, hip hop, contemporary and tap. Dance has always been her first love, and as she grew up, she integrated dancing into other forms of performance: as a dancing spy who tapped morse code in a play and choreographing for her cheerleading team in high school. In college, Laura was a Dance Minor and President of the Rollins Dancers, each year organizing, choreographing, and performing in the annual Attitudes performance.

Dress by Shoshanna, \$290 available at DOWNEAST, shops in Winter Park and Celebration. Style by Vanessa Schmitz, STELLA LUCA in Winter Park. Makeup by Liz Marvaldi, MARVALDI STUDIO in Winter Park. Jewelry by REYNOLDS & CO. JEWELERS on Park Ave. in Winter Park, Chocolate Freshwater 10 -1 1mm Pearl necklace \$250, matching earrings \$400.

works that move and inspire audiences. Many of our works have been commissioned by universities, corporations and city leaders. We've taken responsibility for creating this platform.

We've made a point of becoming the kind of organization that celebrates the cultural diversity of our community. The inclusive nature enables us to create fascinating works with dancers from all backgrounds. We've produced works like *Unheard Insight*, a show that included blind and deaf performers; *Colours of Courage*, which explores the history of African Americans from the 1700's to present day; and *Seeking*, one of our many community-based shows featuring at-risk youth. It is our belief that dance should be experienced by anyone who wishes to know the art—including those who might not be regarded as dancers by a less-accepting community. Everyone deserves to be self-expressed and if a person—no matter their shape, color or limitation—feels passionately about dance, we as a community have a responsibility to provide a platform that cultivates and respects that passion.

Blending dance and community outreach makes sense to The Center. We use our creative skills to demonstrate possibilities for peace and unity—hopefully, our creative work provides some inspiration for others to do the same in public arenas that extend beyond the arts. If we embody the concept of community, we demonstrate what a group of people can accomplish by walking in the same direction. The Center has been able to create successful and active programs that serve aging adults, persons with special needs, underserved children, minority populations and Title I Schools. All this is possible because of the support we receive from a team of people that care about the concept of Community. I'm proud to be part of this dynamic, inclusive, creative organization that understands change only happens when we dare to take the first step.



MODEL PAGE 13 LINDSAY WALDEN began dancing at the age of three. Focusing in ballet, jazz, and contemporary dance styles, she has performed with several professional companies across Florida. At age 12, she won a scholarship to dance in LA with the Debbie Reynolds Dance Studio. Lindsay attended Blake High School for the Performing Arts and graduated from Rollins College with a Minor in Dance. She has danced professionally at Walt Disney World and Busch Gardens Tampa. Lindsay currently dances for Feld Entertainment touring the world with Mickey's Magic Show.

Dress by Betsey Johnson, \$375 available at THE BEAUTY SPOT, shops in College Park and Downtown Orlando. Style by Tim Marvaldi and makeup by Liz Marvaldi, MARVALDI STUDIO in Winter Park. Jewelry by REYNOLDS & CO. JEWELERS on Park Ave. in Winter Park, earrings 18kt 2 tone with 2.48ct diamonds \$7,950, 14kt yellow gold color style necklace with 2.21ct diamond and 1ct side diamonds \$12,000, 18kt 2 tone 4ct diamond bracelet \$11,500.

