

Dance.tech Shines in 2016 Competition Season

Submitted by: Karen Stemen



Fresh off their 2016 Competition Season, the Dance.tech Performing Arts Company has garnered high praise from judging panels and accolades galore. Competing amongst top studios from up and down the East Coast, students have proven themselves as a force to be reckoned with at all ages, from 5-18, and in all styles, from tap to contemporary, and everything in between. Highlights from the season include an award for Choreography, presented to Miss Caitlin Burton for her teen contemporary piece “Islands”, and an award for Technical Excellence, presented to student Caroline Stinespring for her performance of her solo “Slow It Down”. The Senior Elite team was inducted into the League of Champions as a Critics Choice Award Winner, and video of their performance can be viewed on www.locdance.com.

Several talented Dance.tech dancers traveled to Washington, DC in October to take classes from renowned teachers and choreographers at Artists Simply Human, The Workshop Experience. Seven year-old student Riley Putallaz was recognized by ballet faculty member Judy Rice for her passion and dedication to the art of dance. Studio Owner Karen Stemen is a strong supporter of exposing students to dance at the regional and national level. The experience is not limited to dance competitions but also dance intensives, master class workshops and summer dance intensives from renowned dance companies.



For Dance.tech dancers, the honors are just getting started as the competitive season draws to a close. Dancers take advantage of every opportunity to hone their craft, and more often than not, scholarships are the result. For the five members of the Senior Elite team, including Canyon Carroll and Natalie Hamilton of

Roanoke, Caroline and Olivia Stinespring of Blacksburg, and Sarah Whitlock of Giles, the highlight of their season was when their contemporary routine "Ghosts" was awarded a scholarship to fly to Los Angeles this Summer to take master classes from top industry professionals and meet with talent scouts. Other Dance.tech students have been awarded scholarships to numerous National Competitions and workshops in New York City, Ohio, Florida, South Carolina, and Las Vegas, among others.

It is the mission at Dance.tech Performing Arts Studio to offer professional training in the performing arts, and to enrich the lives of every student with a goal of sharing the love of the art of dance that grows into understanding the discipline of dance technique at every training level. Programs include Tutus & Tiaras, Jewels recreational dance classes, and PowerPAC pre-professional classes, offering over 75 weekly classes for students ages 3-adult. Fall classes begin August 8 as Dance.tech kicks off its 18th award-winning dance season and all new students receive a free week of classes.



For more information, please contact Dance.tech at 540.961.6666. The studio website is www.dance-tech.com and online registration is available.