ALL ABOUT CAREER TRANSITION FOR DANCERS

DANCE is a passion.

As a career, it is the fulfillment of a childhood dream — a privilege that many aspired to and few attain. At CTFD, our goal is to keep dancers moving — as performers, as curious inquisitive people, and, when the time is right, as professionals possessing all of the qualities and skills to make success happen, a second time around.

OUR CLIENTS

Dancer-clients come to CTFD from such prominent companies as: Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater; American Ballet Theatre; American Repertory Ballet; Atlanta Ballet; Ballet Arizona; Ballet Florida; Ballet Hispánico; Ballet West; Boston Ballet; Bebe Miller Co.; Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company; Trisha Brown Company; Dance Theatre of Harlem; Carolyn Dorfman Dance Company; Garden State Ballet; Martha Graham Dance Company; Houston Ballet; Hubbard Street Dance Chicago; Joffrey Ballet; Kansas City Ballet Company; Lar Lubovitch Dance Company; Limón Dance Company; Los Angeles Chamber Ballet; Mark Morris Dance Group; Miami City Ballet; MOMIX; Nevada Ballet Theatre; New Jersey Ballet; New York City Ballet; Oakland Ballet; Ohio Ballet; Ondine and Company; Pacific Northwest Ballet; David Parsons Dance Company; Pennsylvania Ballet; Pibodilus Dance Theatre; Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre; The Radio City Rockettes; San Francisco Ballet; Paul Taylor Dance Company; and the White Oak Project — as well as from Broadway, off-Broadway, and national musicals, Las Vegas shows, industrials, and the television and film industries, nationwide.

OUR PURPOSE

Whether dancers are novice performers, seasoned artists at the height of their technical and artistic powers, or professionals on the brink of retirement, CTFD recognizes that they possess the assets and growth potential that every employer seeks and entrepreneurial ventures demand. As the only arts-service organization in the United States dedicated solely to the enrichment of dancers’ post-performing years, CTFD is committed to enhancing dancers’ many attributes through self-empowerment. Unique in purpose (unlike other programs that focus only on “survival jobs”), CTFD helps dancers build their self-esteem and skills as they plan, pursue, and, ultimately, establish rewarding careers to last a lifetime.

OUR PROGRAMS & SERVICES

CTFD provides a broad range of cost-free specialized services and resources. These include: on-one-on career-counseling and related “Career Conversations” seminars, Focus and Support groups; limited educational scholarships and entrepreneurial grants; the National Outreach Project; local outreach to the performers of major dance companies, as well as to pre-professional students of universities, conservatories, and dance company-related academies; CareerLine, a national toll-free telephone number; www.careertransition.org, a comprehensive website; bi-coastal Career Resource Centers; the National Networking Directory; and computer literacy classes. From the perspective of history, since its inception in 1985, CTFD has awarded more than 3,200 dancers in 47 states with an excess of $2.5 million in grants for various levels of education and retraining, and provided approximately 37,000 hours — equivalent to $1.9 million — of informative career-counseling. Essential to building a productive, satisfying future, these services have enhanced the lives of dancers who are attending, or have graduated from, an estimated 170 colleges, universities, and specialized certification programs, both here and abroad.

CAREER CONVERSATIONS

An important series led by career-counselors in New York City and Los Angeles, Career Conversations introduces dancers to the broad spectrum of techniques, strategies, and options that make for a successful transition to a new career. Each workshop concentrates on a specific topic that is presented by an expert guest speaker (or a panel) who participates in a question-and-answer discussion following each session. Of great interest are those workshops that feature dancers as speakers who, having successfully completed CTFD’s program and established new careers, offer practical advice as well as inspiration and motivation. In the first-half of 2006, Career Transition For Dancers held a number Career Conversations both in New York City and Los Angeles.

TEACHING JOBS

(January 23, 2006) — Guest panelists Joan Finkelstein, Director of Dance Programs of the New York City Board of Education; Tracy Strauss of the National Dance Institute; and Amy Kail, a dance and teaching artist, held a discussion and presented resources for dance jobs in the public school system. This included a blueprint on how to acquire teaching jobs in the arts, become part of other artist in education programs, and dance companies who teach in the public schools.

REAL ESTATE

(January 24, 2006) — Guests panelists Annie Simmons & Chad Ward from Autumn Leaf Realty spoke about the opportunities dancers have in the Real Estate business.

FINANCIAL FREEDOM

(March 13, 2006) — Guest panelists included Suzie Jury, CTFD Consultant and budget advisor; and Connie Cohn, Chartered Financial Advisor. The CarCon addressed the ins and outs of debt, taxes, saving and investing one’s money on a dancer’s salary.

THE LEAP PROGRAM

(March 25, 2006) — Mark Baird led a discussion on the “Liberal Education for Arts Professionals” better known as the LEAP program held at St. Mary’s College in Los Angeles.

BUSINESS BASICS

(April 10, 2006) — Marty Handelsman, co-facilitator of the organization’s Business group and representatives from the NYC small business services held an open discussion about the primary steps that are required to create one’s own business.

CAREERS IN TEACHING

(April 25, 2006) — Leah Bass Baylis, Assistant Principal and former head of the Arts Program for the L.A. Unified School District; Kalon Brown, Head of the Dance Department for the L.A. School for the Arts; Perry Brown, CTFD client and Professor at LACSA; Leonard Crofoot, CTFD client and guest artist for the Music Center Guest Artist program and Tony Salas, LAUSD teacher spoke about their unique involvement in teaching and administering dance for arts education programs. Topics covered included opportunities teaching K-12 students in charter, public and private schools, also how to initiate the application process, credentials needed and other requirements associated with teaching in the school system.

INJURIES & ILLNESS

(May 8, 2006) — CTFD held an open discussion with a physical therapist and a workers’ compensation advocate on the topic.

See page 8 for upcoming CAREER CONVERSATIONS.

OUR RESULTS

The exceptional accomplishments of CTFD’s clients reflect the diversity of the dance-community-at-large and the wealth of talent among its members. All of the organization’s clients value the opportunities that CTFD gives them to begin or complete their education as the first step in establishing successful careers that, literally, run the gamut from A to Z, including: advertising; agriculture; alcohol/drug counseling; architecture, environmental and landscape design; arts-management; art, dance, music, and occupational therapies; aviation; bridal consulting; career-counseling; catering; civil, electrical, and recording engineering; computer technology/graphic and web design; corporate job training; costume, lighting, and set design; dance education and history; public and private primary, secondary, and higher education; electrophysiologic diagnosis: event-planning; fashion; film-making; film/music composing; finance, firefighting and paramedic certification; horticulture/floral design; foreign language translation; forestry; fundraising; hair design and cosmetology; interior design; international relations; journalism; law; marine biology; physical therapies such as reflexology, massage techniques, personal training, Pilates, Yoga, the Alexander Technique and Feldenkrais Method, gyrotonics, and aquatic training; medicine; performers’ employment agency; pet care; photography; psychology and psychiatry; publishing; real estate; social work; stage management; television and theatre direction and production; theology; violin restoration; and zoology.

HAPPENINGS

Patricia Kennedy, our 20th Anniversary Chairman hosted the 2005 “Los Angeles Getaway” auction package at her breathtaking La Villa Paradox overlooking Beverly Hills. The package was purchased by Fred and Lenore Kayne, Chris and Jim Holden, and Vicki and Raul Walters. Guests of honor were Hollywood and Dance superstar Patrick Swazye and his wife, Dance/Producer/Director Lisa Niemi. The couples, including

Denise and Brian Cobb, celebrated Il Palio, the 16th century Italian horse race celebrated each year in Siena, and dined on a specially prepared feast to the sounds of live Italian folk music. The guests stayed at the famous Peninsula Hotel in luxury suites donated for the occasion.

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HAPPENINGS

21st Anniversary Jubilee Chair Patricia J. Kennedy, Patrick Swazye, and Lisa Niemi