At 46, it was finally time to have that hip replacement surgery. Career Transition For Dancers came through once again, referring me to several contacts for a grant to help with expenses while I was recovering from surgery (which is scheduled for next month).

I may have lost an identity that I worked very hard to attain. But through that loss, I learned that I have skills I never dreamed I had. I have an intellect I’ve never used. I have strength beyond the physical. And I have learned that I am not alone. Most importantly, Career Transition For Dancers has taught me that my spirit can continue dancing even though my body cannot.

Michael is also a contributing writer for Dance Magazine. Look for his article in the January issue, topic is dancers with hip replacements.

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 aspire to and few attain. At CTFD, our goal is to keep dancers moving.

Moving as performers, as curious inquiring people, and when the time is right, as professionals possessed of all 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 Hispanica; 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; Pilobolus 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 Programs and Services

CTFD provides a broad range of cost-free specialized services and resources. These include: one-on-one 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.

CTFD has awarded more than 3,300 dancers in various levels of education and retraining, and provided approximately 37,000 hours — equivalent to $3.9 million — of innovative 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.

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 consultations; 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; electoneurodiagnostic technology; 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, gyrototics, 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.

Winter Heat

Thursday, March 1st, 2007
Back by popular demand, Career Transition for Dancers and the Harbor Conservatory for the Performing Arts will present our Third Annual Salsa Party at the Copacabana in New York City. Sponsored by Rolex Watch USA and Capezio/Ballet Makers: “March Sizzles, with the Winter Heat!”