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Elite Dance Expands Program With Competition Team

Elite Dance has always enjoyed taking their Performance Company to entertain audiences at local community events and this year they have added a new Competition Team to expand their dancers' performance experience. The Elite Dance Competitive Team received a high gold medal at their very first competition in February for the Nexstar Talent Competition. Team Soloist, Zoey Ruble also competed for her very first time and won first place in the Junior Jazz division.

We asked Owner/Director, Cheri Urie what prompted her to take that step into the world of competitive dance and her response was..."I competed as a child with my hometown dance studio in Dallas, Texas and it was always a lot of fun. Competition also offered me a chance to sharpen my skills as a performer. Over the past few years, I had a lot of request to develop a competition team, so I

decided that it was time to make that opportunity available to my students".

When asked why she did not offer competitive dance until now, she replied "Competitive dance has evolved a lot from when I was a child therefore I was hesitant to expose my students to some of the darker elements that have become prevalent in competition today. Dancers often are pushed to do moves that are inappropriate to inappropriate music wearing very risqué costuming. I decided that since my students were requesting the opportunity to compete, I should be the one to take them so they would not have to go elsewhere where they could end up being one of those dancers doing the inappropriate dances wearing inappropriate costumes. This way, we compete...but we do so with moral boundaries that teaches our kids to respect their bodies and preserve their

innocence. I like to say, we offer Competition with Class!"

We asked Mrs. Urie what sets Elite Dance apart from other dance studio's and here is what she said: "I think what makes us unique in this area is that our focus is not so much on winning trophies, but in offering a quality

program where technique, not tricks, and proper terminology are emphasized. You will not find children parading around in bra tops and booty shorts at Elite Dance. Only age appropriate costuming & music are used and we teach a conservative, classical

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form of dance. Our instructors are seasoned professionals who are highly skilled in teaching a quality dance education in a fun environment for students of all ages. We provide our students with a variety of local performance experiences such as the Tennessee State Fair, Broken Wheel Festival, Nolensville Veteran's Day Parade, Franklin Christmas parade, Nolensville 4th of July Celebration & the Music City Barbeque Festival. In addition to the local community events, Elite Dancers have also performed at the nationally

televised Disney Christmas Day Parade, Music City Bowl half-time show & the Chick-Fil-A Bowl parade. We have hosted workshops with working professionals from the Broadway Musical, Beauty

& the Beast, America's Best Dance Crew, Radio City Rockette's Christmas Show and even an American Idol top 24 Contestant! Our goal is to provide a well rounded program that builds confidence in our students that will serve them well for years to come!"

Elite Dance will hold auditions for the 2012-13 Performance Company and Competition Teams on July 12 for ages 5 - 18. Dancers who wish to audition for the Performance Company are strongly encouraged to take the 4 day workshop "DANCE EXPLOSION" to be held July 9 - 12. Dancers who want to audition for the Competition Team are REQUIRED to take the Dance Explosion workshop. For more information, you may go to their website at www.elitedanceandfitness.com or give them a call at (615)776-4202.