



**ICDF**  
International Christian  
Dance Fellowship

# ICDF NETWORK FOR DANCE TEACHERS JUNE NEWSLETTER

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DEAR TEACHERS AND FRIENDS,

Here is an article written by a very insightful teacher, Kerrie Jessup. Kerrie worked for me many years at my dance school in Toowoomba, Qld, Australia. I loved her approach so asked her to write this:

## Helping students celebrate their strengths and embrace their weaknesses



In any class there can be a range of body types, structures and natural abilities. For example, some children find turn-out and flexibility a challenge while others achieve it without much effort. On the other hand, some students are able to

express their emotions through movement very naturally and beautifully, but for some it can be difficult and almost embarrassing. As teachers, it is important to explain these differences to our student and encourage them to be realistic about their strengths and weaknesses.

An important part of a teacher's role is to identify our students' weaknesses and show them how to work on those areas to improve and become the best dancers they can be. On the flip side we can help them to appreciate and be thankful for the areas they excel in and not to be boastful or feel superior because of them.

When our students come to realise how unique and special they are to God it can help them not to compare themselves to others in a negative way, which can lead to jealousy. Creating a climate where we can value and celebrate each other's strengths (without being puffed up), and rejoice as weaknesses are being worked on and improved (without making others feel inferior), will bring glory to God. This way teachers and students can be involved in encouraging one another to achieve their best.

By Kerrie Jessup

## What is a dance teacher?

- An event organiser
- A costume designer
- A choreographer
- A dance trainer
- A teacher
- A business woman/man
- An advertising guru
- A parent relationship expert
- A child psychologist
- A minister of the Good News
- A pastor
- A mentor
- A public figure in the community
- A family person
- An inspiration
- An encourager

Do you have any ideas to add to this?



Do you have a photo you would like to share?

*Beth Bluett*

## **PURPOSE OF NETWORK for DANCE TEACHERS: Below are the things our network members have been asking. Do any apply to you?**

Are you wanting to serve God or bring influence and values of the Kingdom into you dance teaching?

Are you wondering how to start or how to be effective in this?

Do you feel drawn to use your dance skills for God?

Would you like to be a light in your community in the area of dance?

Do you want to start a dance school or ministry?

Do you want to be excellent?

Do you feel a need to up-skill or would you like to sharpen your skills?

**Would you like support or to connect with others who are already involved in this?**



Are you wondering, “Is it best to become a ministry connected with your church or Christian School or would it be better to start a dance school?”

What is the difference?

**WE COVER ALL THESE QUESTIONS IN OUR NETWORK**

There are many in our Network that are experienced in these areas!

**We invite you to join us**

Please contact me at  
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**Beth Bluett  
ICDF NETWORK COORDINATOR FOR  
DANCE TEACHERS**

