



# ICDF Newsflash

## November 2016

As part of ICDF's vision to see Christian dancers equipped and supported in their calling or vocation, ICDF launched the Diploma in Dance Ministry in 2010, an online course provided alongside Unity College in Australia. The Diploma provides an opportunity to consider various aspects of dance ministry through academic reflection and practical application. The theory is studied online and the practical application is undertaken in your church and community.

## ICDF Diploma

There are 3 trimesters through the year and students can start at any one of them with one or more subjects. Trimesters are 12 weeks long.

### Be rooted, equipped and released

#### TRIMESTER DATES FOR 2017

Trimester 1 February 20 – May 12

Trimester 2 May 29 – August 18

Trimester 3 September 11 – December 1

#### *For course enquiries contact*

Mary Jones at [maryjones11@aol.com](mailto:maryjones11@aol.com)

#### *To view the curriculum and student testimonies go to*

<http://www.icdf.com/node/173>



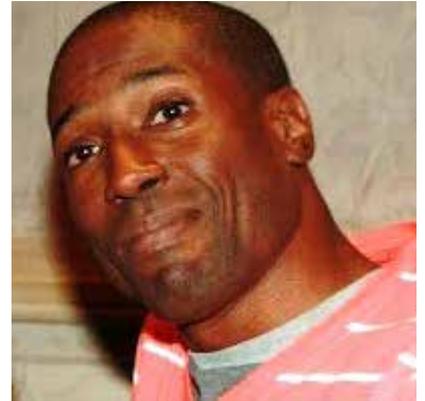
*Photo provided by Darlene West*

The first two students awarded the Paula Douthett Scholarship started the ICDF Diploma at the beginning of this year. Noel Filemon and Romina Paola Cina are both from South America – Noel from Suriname and Romina from Argentina - the first non-English language students we have had. The Paula Douthett scholarship was instigated by the ICDF Foundation in memory of Paula who has been an important pioneer and mentor in dance ministry. It is tax deductible and will award scholarships whenever there is enough money in the fund to pay half the Diploma fees for a student. We asked Noel and Romina if they could write something about their experience.

# Noel Filemon

**I've been looking for something on a certain level that could challenge me and give me the right tools to become more effective in what I already do and have achieved in dance ministry.**

I've been involved in dance ministry for more than 20 years now. In all those years I've done a lot of self-study, participated in dance workshops and conferences in order to equip myself and to share



the knowledge gained with others in the area of Christian Dance and movement. In the last few years I've also been ministering internationally. It is a great privilege and honor to help equip the Body of Christ in such a way. At the same time I know that it is a great responsibility to teach others concerning the ways of God and, in order to do so, we have to study the Word as Paul encourages us in 2 Timothy 2:15 King James Version (KJV)- 15. "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." It has been my heart's desire for many years to get the right and proper in-depth training concerning dance ministry. I've been

looking for something on a certain level that could challenge me and give me the right tools to become more effective in what I already do and have achieved in dance ministry.



Last year I read an ad about the Diploma in Dance Ministry, a dance course offered by the International Christian Dance Fellowship in conjunction with the Unity College in Australia. I have to admit that I've seen the ad about this dance course many times, but the first thing that went through my mind was: "Lord, this is not affordable for someone like me", although in my heart I knew that it was something that I would like to do. That's the reason I didn't pay too much attention to the ad at first but last year when I read about the Paula Douthett Scholarship, which pays for half the fees of the ICDF Diploma, I brought it in prayer to my heavenly Father right away. I said: "Lord you know how much I need this; you know how much I

want this, I really need your favor." I just took a step in faith and applied for the scholarship. After I applied, I waited prayerful and anxious for the answer. After a few months I got an email from Reverend Mary Jones to tell me that I was selected for the scholarship. I felt like the happiest man alive. It was a dream come through. I feel really blessed. To God be the glory, because it is by His grace.

Since January of this year I started with the course and it has been an amazing journey so far. I've been stretched and motivated by all I've learned. It is all that I expected and even more. It is a comprehensive study and it is more than just dance and dance ministry. My horizon has been broadened. I also realize that it is a great honor and privilege to receive teachings from great pioneers like Reverend Mary Jones who willingly share their lifelong experience and knowledge with others throughout the Body of Christ. I successfully completed 2 trimesters and I will start with the 3rd trimester very soon. The course is also an excellent way to connect and fellowship with others.

Noel is the National Coordinator of CDF Suriname. His recent publication "From Bondage to Freedom" <http://icdf.com/en/publications-inspire> gives the story of how he became a believer and was called into dance ministry.

# Romina Paola Cina



**M**y name is Romina, I'm from Southern Argentina and I've been dancing for a long time. Since I met the Lord, dance became an instrument of praise for Him. I am currently doing contemporary dance teacher training at the Conservatory Fracassi. I also

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practice ballet and stretching for dancers in the secular arena. A long time ago I started looking for information related to praise dance and found ICDF. It was a blessing to know what ICDF was doing around the world and I immediately started reading and researching more about their conferences and how dance could be a language to make the Word of God known. I enrolled in the Diploma praying that

I would get a scholarship as differences in our currency made it difficult to afford the full rate. God is faithful and allowed me to obtain the scholarship for which I am very grateful. As soon as I began the Diploma, the Lord put me in charge of a group of people in my church to teach dance, to find deeper levels of intimacy with God and to minister to others. Leading this group was a challenge to me and I really felt very supported by the Diploma Director Mary Jones.



So far, I have completed two subjects and have learnt so much about ministering to God and others. It has been helpful to read about the history and be inspired by stories of other dance ministers. There were many things I did not know about the ministry of praise and worship and now I can pass on to others what I have learnt so they, also, can dance and worship God in freedom. Another thing that has been a blessing to me in the course are corrections of my work by Mary Jones who has been mentoring and counselling me on this journey. I also had the opportunity to meet other peers such as Noel Filemon, a worshiper of God in a country completely different from mine, and see how the influence of his culture in dance enriches his approach to the Lord.

God has placed people of blessing to pursue this course and I really recommend it for all those who are in search of more of the Lord and greater commitment to the ministry of praise in dance, not only to learn and fill oneself but to overflow and give to others.

- Art in Christian ministry
- Biblical foundation and history of dance in the Christian church and community
- Dance in the worship service
- Outreach and community
- Dance class and conditioning
- Leading workshops and intercession
- Project and electives
- ..... and more

