



# DANCE MATTERS

Old Donation Dance Education Program  
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## GRATEFUL FOR OUR DANCE FAMILY

As Thanksgiving draws near, we all take time to think about what we are thankful for. Like the intertwining lines on the border of this column, teachers and parents are linked together to create a support system for our dancers. The dance teachers are thankful for all the support from our dance parents (See Mrs. Lillemo's article on page 2). Our students are also thankful for dance and for ODC. Here are some of their Thanksgiving reflections.



**Monday Students:** - I am thankful for dance because it is my very own creative outlet. Dance is a way to express myself and my dance will not be judged on being right or wrong.  
**Diamond Boyd** - I'm thankful for ODC because it's a place for dancers to live with no fear and we are able to dance with our hearts. **McKenzie Jensen** - I'm thankful for ODC because only 7% of American schools offer dance and I'm thankful I'm a part of that 7%. **Sarah Richmond** - Dance in ODC has become a gateway for my feelings to come out. I feel that dance has given me an outlet - a time to reflect on myself, to discover my personality and shelter my emotions. **Milan Williams**

**Tuesday Students:** - I am thankful for ODC because it lets me and my body use the gift of dance. **Katelyn Villani** - At ODC I am thankful that I actually have a place to create my own type of magic with my body. **Alyssa Kanarr** - I'm thankful for dance because the movement is so beautiful that it is hard to think of the world without it. **Brianne Kordis**

**Wednesday Students:** - I'm thankful for dancing because it gives me more positive energy and helps me see things from a different perspective. **Jessica Bunting** - I am thankful for the fact that the world is able to recognize me for my talents and understand me through my expression as a dancer. **BriJea Colvin** - I'm thankful for ODC because the teachers took me in and taught me so much. I didn't know anything about dance before I came here. My confidence in myself has gone up since being here at ODC. I don't think I would be the person I am if it were not for ODC. **Kayah Tucker**

**Thursday Students:** - I am grateful for dance because it will make you strong but it can also teach you so, so much more than just that. **Jax McAllister** - Dance allows me to talk in a different way. It is like a mother language to me now! It is a beautiful thing!! **Jordan Frankos** - Dance is the best. Why do I dance? To feel free and figure out who I am as a dancer. I am so grateful to be a dancer. It brings out the best of me. **Kyja Reaves** - I'm thankful for ODC because it is fun! **Franklin Walter**

**Friday Students:** - I am thankful that I have been able to stay with the program for 6 years and expand my learning of dance. **Kimberly Stafford** - I am thankful to be at ODC because this is a once in a lifetime school. I am thankful to be able to dance because it has helped me to realize that I can express myself anywhere I go. **Joy-Ann Stevenson** - I'm thankful for the teachers here at ODC who inspire and encourage me to think outside the box and to push myself as hard as I can. I'm thankful for the friends I've made who want me to succeed and who share my love for dance. **Alexia Rochester**

(Editor's note : There were so many wonderful reflections about dance so more will be included in future editions of "Dance Matters.")

## Dance History Fact:

*The Rite of Spring*, is a [ballet](#) with music by the [Russian composer Igor Stravinsky](#), original choreography by [Vaslav Nijinsky](#), and original set design and costumes by archaeologist and painter [Nicholas Roerich](#), all under [impresario Serge Diaghilev](#). The music is widely acknowledged as one of the greatest, most influential, and most reproduced compositions in history. It is iconic for 20th century classical or avant garde European music, with innovative complex rhythmic structures, timbres, and use of dissonance. The scandal of a riot at its 1913 premier, caused by its innovative technique and content, made it one of the most internationally well-known and controversial works in performance history.

## A Big Editor's OOPS



The Date for the Winter Celebration is **Dec. 15 - 19**. The dates have been printed wrong in the past several "Dance Matters" editions. Sorry for the mistake.

