

DARBY'S DANCERS NEWSLETTER

Contact Information

darbysdancers.com

[facebook.com/
darbysdancersnp](https://www.facebook.com/darbysdancersnp)

Instagram:
darbys_dancers

Twitter:
@darbysdancers

256-698-6212

Fundraiser Idea

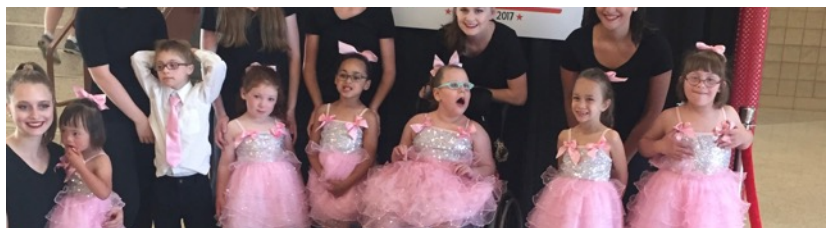
Do your families have plenty of dancewear that their children have outgrown? Have a gently used dancewear sale.

Ask for donations from your families and ask a volunteer to head it up for you. Shoes, costumes, tights, leotards, jazz pants, etc.....all for sale at a great price. All proceeds go to Darby's Dancers!!



Summer Tour #2

June was a very busy month of meetings with prospective new studios, helping studios get ready to launch in the fall and watching beautiful dancers perform all around the Southeast. My travels took me to Hendersonville and Charlotte in NC, Fredericksburg, Ashburn, and Centreville in VA, Greenville, SC and Gainesville and Atlanta in GA. Special thanks to Hannah Lewis, my wonderful niece and webmaster and "all things technical" expert! The highlight of the trip was the recital in Fredericksburg. The children did an awesome job! Thank you Ashley Slemper and Inspire Dance for hosting us the last couple of years. The group will now be hosted by Creative Movement in Fredericksburg, but Ashley will still be the teacher!





Volunteer of the Month

Bailey Pilaka is a coach at Darby's Dancers-Maple Grove and has been there since the program's inception in March 2014. She plans to attend Normandale Community College this fall where she plans to major in special education as a result of her DD experience. Bailey writes, "I never knew what I wanted to do in life until Dawn came in to my dance class and shared this opportunity which led me into Darby's Dancers. Darby's Dancers had made me look at life in a whole new way. Everyone in this program has had such an impact on my life. I have made so many new friends and family through this program". Bailey says she loves to see the joy, smiles and happy tears on the students', coaches' and teachers faces when they hit the stage together. Even though she is going off to college, Bailey hopes to "come back in the fall and continue my Darby's Dancers career". Thank you, Bailey! Good luck!

Dancer of the Month

This precious 6 year old from Edenton, NC is our featured dancer this month! Meet **Averie Hollowell**. Averie is a rising 1st grader at Perquimans Central School in Winfall, NC. Averie was diagnosed with bilateral Optic Nerve Hypoplasia at 7 months old. She has some light perception. With her loss of sight, her hearing has peaked. Nothing slows Averie down! She's bright, bubbly and a quick study. She may not be able to see you with her eyes, but she can see you with her **heart!** Averie became a Darby's Dancer in October 2015 on her 5th birthday at Edenton Dance Stars under the direction of Linda Brown. Her dance buddies were Sarah Jordan and Alayna Damron. In the fall of 2016, Averie began a tap class with her buddy Alayna, and continued to participate in Darby's Dancers with Sarah. Averie looks forward to another season of dance. In Averie's free time she enjoys learning to read Braille and writing on the Brailier. She also enjoys swimming and playing on her play set as well as singing and dancing! She's a born performer and I can't wait to visit with her when we are in Edenton in October!!! Great job, Averie!



Featured Studio

Woodbury Dance Center in Woodbury, Minnesota (near St. Paul) is our featured studio this month. Sisters and owners, Kathy Mueller and Buffy Breen are two spectacular ladies. They have been running WDC for over 25 years! Kathy and Buffy were the 2nd group to join our Darby's Dancers family. They have over 30 kids in their program. Four different classes meet every Saturday morning where the kids, their coaches and all the moms and dads have become friends. If you want to spend a few hours immersed in joy and fun, go to Woodbury on a Saturday morning! WDC was awarded "Business of the Year" in 2016 by the Chamber of Commerce in Woodbury. Their dance studio serves their community in numerous ways, as Kathy and Buffy are well connected and provide many opportunities for kids other than just dancing. Their award from the Chamber was most deserving and their participation in Darby's Dancers helped them to achieve it. Congratulations WDC and thank you for all that you do. You are awesome partners and we love having you as a big part of our Darby's Dancers family!

You can help kids like Averie continue to enjoy being a part of Darby's Dancers by donating to your local Darby's Dancers group or on our website @ www.darbysdancers.com. Our programs are completely free to the children and their families and we rely on donations to operate. Thanks you for considering a donation or sponsorship of a child or group!
