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COLORADO CONSERVATORY OF DANCE'S COMPASS COACHING PROJECT RETURNS FOR ITS FIFTH YEAR

This summer's program will be lead by dance luminary Dominic Walsh

(DENVER, CO, February 28) Colorado Conservatory of Dance's Compass Coaching Project (CCP) returns this summer for its fifth year. This summer's program will be led by dance luminary Dominic Walsh, former Principal Dancer with Houston Ballet and founder and former Artistic Director of Dominic Walsh Dance Theater. He will be joined by Shannon Alvis, former dancer with Hubbard Street Dance Chicago and Netherlands Dance Theater.

Compass Coaching Project is designed for pre-professional and professional dancers and provides a supportive and challenging environment for dancers to continue to train, further develop their artistic voice, establish and reach their professional goals and build their résumé by performing works by an internationally-acclaimed choreographer. Dominic Walsh says, "In today's model, there is sometimes a long transition between student and professional. I believe this is a crucial time for dancers to receive mentorship."

Since its inception in 2018, CCP has welcomed selective pre-professional, trainees, apprentice, corps de ballet, and soloist dancers from Nashville Ballet, Sarasota Ballet, Oregon Ballet Theater, Oklahoma City Ballet, San Antonio Ballet, Festival Ballet Providence, Point Park University, The Hartt Dance Division, University of Arizona and Alonzo King Lines Ballet, BFA at Dominican University, and more. CCP dancers finish the program feeling confident in their abilities to reach their fullest potential and several have returned for a second year to continue to grow and strengthen their artistry. One CCP alumni commented, "Sometimes we are in this limbo between pre-professional and professional and you don't always get the training you need when you're in that place. Compass Coaching Project has allowed me to grow, work in new ways, and find who I am as a dancer."

Dominic Walsh, former Principal Dancer with Houston Ballet and founder and former Artistic Director of Dominic Walsh Dance Theater, was a guest faculty member with Colorado Conservatory of Dance for five years before joining the faculty full-time in 2018. "In the years I have spent teaching/choreographing at Colorado Conservatory of Dance, I'm continually impressed with the values of the organization. Emphasis is placed on the overall art form and the wellness of the artist. Dancers uphold international etiquette and are prepared to work with choreographers from across styles, and encouraged to embrace a 'try anything' attitude."

During Compass Coaching Project, dancers will spend 12 days over two weeks honing both their classical ballet technique and investigating new ways of moving. Each participant will have one-on-one goal assessment meetings with Walsh and Alvis in addition to private rehearsal coaching sessions. The program will culminate with an informal showing including both classical ballet repertoire and new works by Walsh and Alvis. "In the intimate setting of Compass Coaching Project, an artist may, for

example, develop more confidence in contemporary work or grow a deeper understanding of the areas of their technique that feel less natural. They may explore new approaches to their work, and overall one will get a broader view of what possibilities could be a fit for one's attributes," says Walsh.

In order to assure the private attention required to make this program valuable, space is limited to only 20 participants.

AT A GLANCE

WHAT: Compass Coaching Project with Dominic Walsh

WHO: Colorado Conservatory of Dance

WHEN: June 20 - July 2, 2022

WHERE: Colorado Conservatory of Dance
3001 Industrial Lane #12
Broomfield, CO 80020

PROGRAM INFORMATION: <https://ccdance.org/compass/>

WHO WE ARE:

Colorado Conservatory of Dance (CCD) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit arts organization located in Broomfield County. Since 1992, CCD's dance education includes a thriving after-school program, **Move2Learn** residency programs for Title 1 elementary schools, acclaimed **Anti-Bullying Ballet** tours, scholarship programs, and **Sensory-Friendly** performances. Serving over 22,000 students annually, CCD seeks to heighten education, deepen self-esteem, and further the art of dance in a fun and engaging way. CCD makes an important impact for our community and enriches arts education.

Colorado Conservatory of Dance is an anti-racist organization who supports BBIPOC, AAPI, and LGBTQIA+ peoples, as well as all people who have historically been marginalized, oppressed, or underrepresented in our society. We believe in respect for all perspectives, in the value of creativity, in the power of art, and in treating other humans with dignity and kindness. We will not be silent. We will use our platform to end discrimination in the arts.

At CCD, we believe every student deserves the absolute best dance education, regardless of age, ability, aspiration, or socio-economic status. Our program is designed to give students the highest quality dance education in both classic and contemporary styles in a friendly and warm environment. Our syllabus is designed to build strength and versatility in every dancer, allowing each dancer to work in the healthiest, most kinesthetically aware way. At CCD, we truly believe that dance is for everyone and that art can foster community, create positive influence, and inspire the individual, and our faculty, staff, and families reflect every aspect of that belief.

Dance Expressions is an inclusive program with a specifically designed adaptive curriculum, which provides children of ALL abilities with a therapeutic dance experience. Students are given the tools for a successful exploration of dance while being in a safe environment. Students will gain increased body awareness, develop fundamental motor skills, improve self-esteem, concentration and focus, and have fun expressing themselves creatively.

MISSION STATEMENT:

At Colorado Conservatory of Dance, we unleash individual potential and invigorate community through dance.

For exclusive photo and interview opportunities with Artistic Director Julia Wilkinson Manley or cast members, e-mail or call CCD Communications Coordinator Rachel Long at rlong@ccdance.org or 303.466.5685.

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Colorado Conservatory of Dance is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. EIN Federal ID: 46-2961115