

# 2010 Co. Dance Educator Of The Year

With continuing education our main goal, Co. Dance is inspired each season to enrich dancer's lives by producing conventions that enhance and broaden the wonderful experiences they already enjoy in their studios at home. Because of our admiration for the dedication of dance teachers across this country, we established the **Co. Dance Educator Award** to honor teachers in each city that inspire their students through their teaching and passion for the art of dance. Selected from these past regional winners, Co. Dance is proud to present its **2010 Educator of the Year Award to Linda Bernabei-Retter of Retter's Academy of Dance.**

Linda is internationally recognized by Tremaine Dance Conventions, Dance Masters of America, Professional Teachers Association, Al Gilbert Seminars, and Hoctor's Dance Caravan, among others. She has appeared in national dance publications including Dance Spirit, Dance Teacher, Dancer, Dance and Fitness, Dance Teacher Now, and in February of 2005 graced the cover of Dancer Magazine with her husband Darryl Retter. She is currently an advisory board member and writer for Dancer Magazine and has also written for Dance Spirit. In 2008, Linda received the National Luminary Award from the National Association for Moms in Business Organization.

Linda and Darryl Retter are Owners and Directors of Retter's Academy of Dance located in Agoura Hills, CA. Their academy holds the distinguished honors of Best Dance Instruction, Agoura Hills (2008 & 2009); Top 5 studios in Los Angeles (Dance Spirit 2007); Top 50 Dance Studios on the Move (Dance Spirit 2005 & 2008); Dancers Care (Dance Magazine 2007); Top 10 Studios in Southern California (Dance

Spirit 2001); Mr. & Mrs. Dance Teacher (Dance Teacher 2000); and commendations from California State Senator Diane Feinstein in 2000! Creating a safe haven for thousands of dancers, the



Retter's teach more than dance steps. Their goal is to train brilliant dancers and also encourage Leadership, Respect, Loyalty and Tolerance through their many programs. They have established and provide funding for the Al Gilbert and Winston Hemsley Memorial Scholarships which provide financial aid to dance families.

Creator of the Danceitarian Movement, Linda's answer to the needs of the community and the world was to GIVE BACK! Her most prized projects involve the "Dancers Care" campaign that has raised thousands of dollars for Alzheimer's Association, 9/11 Victims, Tsunami Relief, The ONE Campaign to fight Global AIDS and Extreme Poverty,

City of Hope, Dizzy Feet Foundation, Urban Compass, and Plan USA. Husband Darryl Retter and their daughter Renata work side by side to create not only technically brilliant dancers, but caring citizens as well. In 2008, The Thoughtfulness Committee (TLC) was featured and won Real Sports Heroes' Saluting Teamwork for their outstanding community involvement for charitable events.

This exciting motivator, educator, choreographer, and dancer has worked with and/or choreographed for Bette Midler, Robert Guillaume, Lionel Richie, Billy Crystal, Tom Jones, Andy Gibb, Sammy Davis Jr., Michael Jackson, and more. Linda was a "regular" on the television shows "Midnight Special" and "Solid Gold" as well. Her goals are many. High on the list is to instruct dance in a positive manner, to create thinking and intelligent dancers who are not only technically brilliant, but creative and passionate about dance. Daughter Renata lights up her life each day. Linda celebrates 35 years in the dance industry and many of her protégés operate successful dance studios and appear on Broadway, in films, and on television. They are the future of the dance industry, promoting artistic beauty and humanitarian efforts.

Linda Bernabei-Retter feels extremely blessed to be a part of an industry that empowers, educates and inspires young dancers to be the best they can be. From dancer to teacher to designer, Linda's desire to empower young dancers is more than a job. It is her mission! We at Co. Dance are proud to know such an outstanding individual who is so deserving of the 2010 Co. Dance Educator of the Year Award. Her résumé speaks volumes but it is her heart that defines her greatest accomplishments. Congratulations Linda from your Co. Dance family!



## 10 FUN THINGS TO DO IN HOLLYWOOD!

*There are great things to do all around Los Angeles, but for the true Hollywood experience choose from these top picks.*

### #1 - The Forecourt of the Stars at Grauman's Chinese Theatre

Measure your hands and feet against the imprints of your favorite stars. No trip to Hollywood is complete without a visit to Grauman's Chinese Theatre (AKA Mann's Chinese Theatre) to step into the footprints of the stars.

### #2 - The Hollywood Walk of Fame

See who you recognize among the singers, actors, radio personalities and other celebrities honored with stars along Hollywood Boulevard and Vine Street.

### #3 - The Hollywood Sign

There are lots of places with a view of the Hollywood Sign, but one of the easiest spots to see the sign and take a photo is from the viewing bridges at the Hollywood & Highland complex right next to the Renaissance Hotel.

### #4 - Attend a TV Show Taping

This is the best way to immerse yourself in the Hollywood experience. You can get free tickets to be in the audience of a sitcom, talk show or game show. Even in the off season, you can usually find a pilot or game show taping.

### #5 - Universal Studios Hollywood

With thrilling park rides and shows, a real working movie studio and L.A.'s best shops, restaurants and all-new cinemas at CityWalk, Universal Studios Hollywood is a unique experience that's fun for the whole family.

### #6 - Madame Tussauds Hollywood

Madame Tussauds Hollywood Wax Museum opened next to Grauman's Chinese Theatre in September 2009 and became an instant hit, overshadowing its neighbor, the Hollywood Wax Museum down the street with wax figures you can actually cozy up to.

### #7 - LA Hotspots

You too can join the A-List celebrities of the Hollywood nightlife scene. There are plenty of restaurants and clubs for every taste.

### #8 - Hollywood Museum at the Max Factor Building

This is one of the best collections of movie memorabilia around from the silent screen to the present day. They have an extensive Marilyn Monroe display, Cary Grant's Silver Cloud Rolls Royce, Rocky Balboa's boxing gloves, Elvis' bathrobe and Hannibal Lecter's cell from Silence of the Lambs, just to name a few.

### #9 - Kodak Theatre Tour

Have your acceptance speech ready as you stand on the stage where Oscar winners have accepted their awards since 2001.

### #10 - Tour a Historic Hollywood Movie Palace

Grauman's Chinese Theatre tours are every day. You can only tour the Egyptian Theatre on the third Saturday of the month.

