



Contact Us

Studio phone:
515-287-6691

E-Mail:
dance@dance-a-cross.com

Website:
www.dance-a-cross.com

Mission Statement

Our mission is to share our love of dance with each student, enriching his or her life with the knowledge that dancing is a gift from God to be used for His praise and glory.

Dancewear Shop

Store Hours:

Mon, Tue, Thur: 10am-8pm

Fri, Sat: 10am-5pm

Closed: Sun, Wed



1970 Grand Avenue #37
West Des Moines, Iowa
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What is a Christian-based dance studio?

by Chris Palso

I was delivering flyers for the dance studio and met up with an older lady working in her yard. When I told her we have a Christian dance studio her smile disappeared and she said, "dancing is a sin, there is no such thing as a Christian dance studio." I tried to explain that the way we dance is not a sin and in fact we want God to be glorified by our dancing. After talking to her for a few minutes it was apparent that she had been taught from a young age that dancing was a sin and I was not going to change her mind. At Dance-a-Cross we believe dancing and all the arts are a gift from God to be used for His praise and glory. "Let them praise his name with dance." Psalm 149:3

We have done some research and found that there are many Christian dance studios in the United States. In 2007 Susan and I attended a Christian dance workshop near Boston. At that workshop we met other studio owners, instructors and dancers. Interestingly, they don't all look the same. Many Christian dance studios have a strong focus on liturgical dancing, a form of worship that is often used in a religious service. At Dance-a-Cross liturgical is just one of many styles of dance that we offer. Some Christian dance studios have ties to a particular denomination and act as more of a church community than a dance studio. Dance-a-Cross is a dance studio with a Christian mission but we are not connected to any particular church or denomination. Some Christian dance studios pray with the students in the beginning or at the end of each class. It is not our practice to pray with students during class time, however, Susan and I pray for all of our students and staff regularly and we are always available should someone have a special prayer request. We do make every effort to pray with the students before the recital and with our competition team and production team before they perform in public.

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Below are four elements that are a part of most dance studios, along with a description of what makes Dance-a-Cross a Christian-based dance studio.

Music

About 70% of the music we use at Dance-a-Cross is Christian music. We use contemporary Christian music, modern worship music, and gospel music. The other 30% varies greatly and includes big band music, pop music, Broadway show music, and children's songs like "Kermit the Frog,"

Costumes

As our culture continues to change, it is getting harder to find appropriate costumes for our young lady dancers. A costume that is acceptable to one parent may not be to another. We are very conservative and sensitive to this issue and spend many hours each year choosing fun, attractive costumes that we consider appropriate for our dancers.

Dance Choreography

Our dance choreography is done by several different instructors at Dance-a-Cross, but it all must pass the approval of our owner/director, Susan Palso, to ensure that the movements are appropriate and modest for our young dancers. Her standard for our choreography is simple. It should be pleasing to God when He watches our students dance.

Recitals and Productions

When our dancers perform in public at churches, shopping malls, the recital, and the annual Christmas production, the message should always come through loud and clear. We want God to be glorified by our dancing!