

DOWNTOWN DAY CAMPS

K-8th Grade Camps: Day Camp | Sleep-Away Camp

212.766.1104 x 250

< www.downtowndaycamps.com



IE LETTERS NEWS IN BRIEF EVENTS ADVERTISE CONTACT US     SEARCH Go

Stepping Out: Downtown Dance Factory Makes Its Stage Debut

CARL GLASSMAN Share

It's barely a year ago that two moms with children in Tribeca's Preschool sat in a cafe on Greenwich Street, sketching out plan for a new neighborhood dance school, the Downtown Dance Factory. One of them, Melanie Zrihen, had a business ground and the other, Hanne Larsen, had run a successful dance school in her native Australia. Neither imagined then that would end their first season with 200 children—most under age of five—on the stage of the 900-seat Tribeca Performing Center theater, dancing before a nearly full house.

"I said maybe in three, four, or five years we will be a big high venture that we can actually have our performance in a great professional theater," Zrihen recalled.


Together, the school presented 17 performances—one from each class and each with its own costume and choreography led by Larsen, who also taught most of those classes.

The recital last month capped a first year of popular classes called "jazz/hip hop fusion" "street hip hop" and "lihop" that draws children more attuned to the moves they see on music videos than to classic ballet steps (though tutus and leotards were available for 3- to-5-year-olds).


One of Larsen's four children are boys as are two of Zrihen's three kids, so the women were keen on getting boys into the school and they succeeded with a high-energy hip hop class.

The women credit their successful first year to such pop offerings. "If we can tap into what kids like and teach them to dance," said Larsen, "that's realistic."






COSMOPOLITAN
HOTEL - TRIBECA



An Affordable
Downtown Hotel

92Y TRIBE
DAY IN
WINTER/SPR
LECTUR
AND CLASS
ON SALE NO

TRIBECA
DENTAL
CENTRE



Paul Smith
LULU GUINNESS
and
CHARLIE METCAL
a bloke you never heard

WORKING CLASS
Emporium.com
A CREATIVE OUTLET

EDWARD'S



cold weather g
15-16

Shoofly

42 hudson st, nyc 10
mon-sat 10-7 sun 11

Duane Park Patisserie



Delicious, Beautiful
Affordable

