



NASHVILLE, TN
AUG 28-31, 2025

"Unity in Community"

HOSTED BY



FACULTY



JASON
AMBROSE



JEREMY
ARNOLD



MAUD & CHLOE
ARNOLD



NICK
BASS



KASSIDY
BRIGHT



LISETTE
BUSTAMANTE



DUNCAN
COOPER



JENN
FREEMAN



HANNAH
GOSSETT



ROBERT
GREEN



ANDYE J



CHRIS
JACOBSEN



CAROLINE
LEWIS-JONES



MARCEA
LANE



SIENNA
LYONS



LINDSEY
MORGAN



GINA
PERO



SABRINA
PHILLIP



JUDY
RICE



DERRICK
SCHRADER



JACKIE
SLEIGHT



DJ SMART



CHONIQUE
SNEED



JULIE KAY
STALLCUP



GIGI
TORRES



ROBERT
TSAI



CHRISTIAN
VINCENT

GUEST SPEAKERS



MISTY
LOWN



JAMAL
SIMS



ALICIA
GRAF MACK



DANA
WILSON



JENNIFER
JONES



SALEEMAH
KNIGHT



MELANIE
GIBBS



MICHAEL
IAN CEDAR

HOTEL/VENUE



Omni Nashville Hotel
250 Rep. John Lewis Way South
Nashville, TN 37203
615.782.5300

EVENT SCHEDULE



NASHVILLE, TN
AUG 28-31, 2025

**CLASS
KEY**

SEMINAR **PANEL**
MOVEMENT **SPEAKER**

THURSDAY	MAIN STAGE Broadway A-E Sponsored By Jo+Jax	ROOM 1 Legends A-D	ROOM 2 Legends E-G	ROOM 3 Broadway G-H	BUSINESS ROOM Broadway J-K	EXHIBIT HALL Broadway F
6:30 - 8:00 PM	Registration & Check-In Open - Ballroom Foyer					CLOSED
7:30 PM	DEC KICK OFF PARTY “ BOOTS & BLING ” *MAIN STAGE BALLROOM					
FRIDAY	MAIN STAGE Broadway A-E Sponsored By Jo+Jax	ROOM 1 Legends A-D	ROOM 2 Legends E-G	ROOM 3 Broadway G-H	BUSINESS ROOM Broadway J-K	EXHIBIT HALL Broadway F
6:30 - 7:30 AM	Registration & Check-In Open - Ballroom Foyer					CLOSED
7:30 - 9:00 AM	 DEC WELCOME BREAKFAST *MAIN STAGE BALLROOM Featuring Misty Lown - FEEDBACK AS FRIEND 					OPEN 8:30-10:30 AM
9 - 10:00 AM		COMMERCIAL HIP HOP NICK BASS 	HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR TECHNICAL JUDGING SCORE DJ SMART 	STUDIO OWNER ROUND TABLE	ENHANCING YOUR BRAND MAUD ARNOLD & CHLOE ARNOLD 	
10 - 11:00 AM	JAZZ TECHNIQUE JACKIE SLEIGHT 	GUIDING AN INSPIRED IMPROV EXPERIENCE JENN FREEMAN 	TAP MAUD ARNOLD & CHLOE ARNOLD 	BUSINESS BACKBONE: 6 FUNDAMENTALS OF SUCCESS MELANIE GIBBS 	MORE THAN JUST DANCE: BUILDING YOUR DANCE FAMILY NANCY GILES 	CLOSED
11 - 12:00 PM	THE ESSENCE OF CLASSICAL BALLET JASON AMBROSE 	BUILDING STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AGES 3-12 LINDSEY MORGAN 	HEELS SIENNA LYONS 	MANAGING PARENTS DEC COUNCIL 	SUMMER DOWN TO A SCIENCE BECCA MOORE & DANI ROSENBERG 	
12 - 2:00 PM	LUNCH ON OWN/EXHIBITORS					OPEN 12-3:00 PM
2 - 3:00 PM	UNCONVENTIONAL JAZZ DERRICK SCHRADER 	COMMERCIAL CHOREOGRAPHY ANDYE J 	PREPARATION FOR DANCE MAJORS JUDY RICE 	FINANCIAL FITNESS MISTY LOWN 	LEAD THROUGH YOUR GENIUS MICHAEL IAN CEDAR 	
3 - 4:00 PM	HIP HOP HANNAH GOSSETT 	BALLET FOR BEGINNERS JUDY RICE 	CROSS-TRAINING & INJURY/PAIN MANAGEMENT IN DANCERS JENN FREEMAN 	RENTING VS. OWNING DEC COUNCIL 	CULTIVATING COMMUNITY GIGI TORRES 	CLOSED
4 - 5:00 PM	JAZZ/ACROSS THE FLOOR DJ SMART 	FOUNDATION & PRINCIPLES OF BALLET/SETTING CLASS STRUCTURE JASON AMBROSE 	JAZZ FUNK SIENNA LYONS 	FACING FAILURE: THE TRUTH ABOUT TRYING ROBERT GREEN 	STAGES OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT LINDSEY MORGAN 	
5 - 6:00 PM	FINDING YOUR ARTISTRY THROUGH YOUR EXCELLENCE ROBERT GREEN 	CHOREOGRAPHER'S TOOLBOX DERRICK SCHRADER 	BUILDING EXECUTION FROM THE GROUND UP GIGI TORRES 	 FEATURED SPEAKER BEYOND THE STAGE: COLLECTIVE RHYTHMS OF DANCE, COMMUNITY & EMPOWERMENT JENNIFER JONES 	TEACHING FUTURE TEACHERS ANDYE J 	
6 - 10:00 PM	EXPLORE NASHVILLE - A NIGHT OUT ON THE TOWN!					

SATURDAY	MAIN STAGE Broadway A-E Sponsored By Jo+Jax	ROOM 1 Legends A-D	ROOM 2 Legends E-G	ROOM 3 Broadway G-H	BUSINESS ROOM Broadway J-K	EXHIBIT HALL Broadway F
8 - 9:00 AM	BALLET FUN-DAMENTALS DUNCAN COOPER	CONTEMPORARY SABRINA PHILLIP	POLICIES WITH PURPOSE BRIE VALENTI CRANE	DANCE TEACHER ROUND TABLE	RHYTHM/MUSICALITY/ HISTORY JEREMY ARNOLD	OPEN 8-10:00 AM
9-10:00 AM	HIP HOP JAMAL SIMS	ARTISTS & ATHLETES INITIATIVE GINA PERO	GYROKINESIS CHRIS JACOBSEN	DO'S AND DON'TS GUEST ARTISTS DEC COUNCIL	STOP THE DRAMA: LEAD WITHOUT LOSING YOUR COOL MICHAEL IAN CEDAR	
10-11:00 AM	JAZZ CHRISTIAN VINCENT	ROBERT TSAI CAROLINE LEWIS JONES	INCLUSIVITY & SPECIAL NEEDS IN DANCE KASSIDY BRIGHT	SUMMER PROGRAMS & RECITALS ENROLLMENT: IDEAS & INCENTIVES DEC COUNCIL	CREATING A NEW TEACHING VIBE THAT ATTRACTS DANCERS & PREVENTS BURNOUT FOR YOU AS THE TEACHER JULIE KAY STALLCUP	CLOSED
11 - 12:00PM	HIP HOP LISETTE BUSTAMANTE CHONIQUE SNEED	PROFESSIONAL PATHS FOR THE BALLET DANCER DUNCAN COOPER	THE ANATOMY OF EXTENSIONS CARA DIXON	FEATURED SPEAKER IMPORTANCE OF TEACHING CULTURAL PRACTICE & FOUNDATIONAL ORIGINS OF JAZZ DANCE IN THE STUDIO  SALEEMAH KNIGHT	MANAGING GRIT & GROWTH: STRATEGIES FOR NAVIGATING GROWTH, PAIN MATURATION & INJURY ROBERT TSAI	
12 - 2:00 PM	LUNCH ON OWN/EXHIBITORS					OPEN 12-3:00 PM
2 - 3:00 PM	JAZZ PERFORMANCE TECHNIQUE CAROLINE LEWIS- JONES	IDEAS TO SPARK CREATIVITY HANNAH GOSSETT	SONIC EMBODIMENT JEREMY ARNOLD	MONETIZING YOUR STUDIO DEC COUNCIL	NERVOUS SYSTEM SECRETS GINA PERO	
3 - 4:00 PM	LYRICAL FUNDAMENTALS CHRIS JACOBSEN	COMMERCIAL STYLE JAZZ MARCEA LANE	FLOORWORK & TRANSITIONS SABRINA PHILLIP	FEATURED SPEAKER THE STUFF WE DON'T TEACH IN DANCE CLASS  DANA WILSON	BUILDING A STRONG RECREATIONAL FOUNDATION PROGRAM IN YOUR STUDIO JULIE KAY STALLCUP	CLOSED
4 - 5:00 PM	HIP HOP KASSIDY BRIGHT	JAZZ STAYING CURRENT + ROOTED IN ITS HISTORY CHRISTIAN VINCENT	THE BALANCED EDUCATOR LISETTE BUSTAMANTE CHONIQUE SNEED	10 WAYS TO INCORPORATE MENTAL WELLNESS PRACTICE IN THE STUDIO DANSCEND	YOUTH PROTECTION ASSOCIATION FOR DANCE JENNIFER BRAST	
8 PM	 CHOREOGRAPHER'S CUP SPONSORED BY <i>Inside DANCE</i> ***FREE ADMISSION - ALL ATTENDEES ARE WELCOME! AWARDS CEREMONY TO FOLLOW *MAIN STAGE BALLROOM					

SUNDAY	MAIN STAGE Broadway A-E Sponsored By Jo+Jax	ROOM 1 Legends A-D	ROOM 2 Legends E-G	ROOM 3 Broadway G-H	BUSINESS ROOM Broadway J-K	EXHIBIT HALL Broadway F
7:30 - 9:00 AM	FINAL EXHIBIT HALL <i>SUBMIT ALL RAFFLE TICKETS WITH THE DEC STAFF NEAR THE MAIN ENTRANCE OF THE EXHIBIT HALL BY 8:45AM</i>					
9 - 9:45 AM	STUDIO OWNER ROUND TABLE	-	-	DANCE TEACHER ROUND TABLE	-	-
9:45 - 10:00 AM	VENDOR PRIZE ANNOUNCEMENTS					
10 - 11:00 AM	 FEATURED SPEAKER - MAIN STAGE JAMAL SIMS ●					
11 - 12:00 PM	 FEATURED SPEAKER - MAIN STAGE - "Dynamic Leadership" ALICIA GRAF MACK ●					
12 - 1:00 PM	DEC PANEL & CLOSING REMARKS *MAIN STAGE BALLROOM      					

EVENT BREAKDOWN

Movement Classes

Get moving with our incredible faculty! From fresh, high-energy combos to in-studio techniques and creative tools, each class is designed to spark new ideas and elevate your teaching. Leave inspired and ready to bring exciting choreography and methods back to your studio.

Seminars

Join a dynamic lineup of industry experts as they unpack the latest trends, smart strategies, and real-world challenges in dance studio management. Walk away with actionable insights you can put into practice right away.

Panels

Take part in interactive roundtable discussions with studio owners and DEC Council Members. These sessions encourage open dialogue, idea-sharing, and collaboration on both the opportunities and challenges facing the dance industry today.

Speakers

Throughout the weekend, be inspired by thought leaders, innovators, and seasoned professionals from every corner of the dance world. Whether you're a studio owner, instructor, or dancer, you'll gain valuable knowledge and fresh motivation.

Exhibit Hall

Explore our Exhibit Hall during select hours and connect with leading presenters, sponsors, and companies making waves in the dance industry. Discover products, services, and partnerships that can help your studio thrive.

Kickoff Party - "Boots & Bling"

Kick off the weekend in style at our "Boots & Bling" Welcome Party! On Thursday, August 28th at 7:30PM in the Main Stage Ballroom. Bring your best mix of cowboy boots and sparkling bling for a night of live music, delicious food, refreshing drinks, and plenty of mingling with fellow studio owners, teachers, and guests.

Welcome Breakfast

The official kick off to DEC starts on Friday, August 29th at 7:30 AM with a warm welcome from the Dance Educators Collective Producers and Guest Speaker, Misty Lown. Join us in the Main Stage Ballroom to fuel up for a day full of learning, connection, and creativity.

Choreographer's Cup

On Saturday, August 30th at 8PM, experience the excitement of the Choreographer's Cup—a showcase celebrating the artistry of top choreographers in the industry. Finalists will present their work for a chance to win a cash prize and be featured in *InsideDance Magazine*. FREE ADMISSION for all attendees.

Closing Remarks

Wrap up the weekend with a closing panel led by our DEC Producers. Together, we'll reflect on the highlights, celebrate the connections made, and send you home energized for the season ahead.

GENERAL SESSION ROOM ASSIGNMENTS

Main Stage Ballroom - Broadway A-E

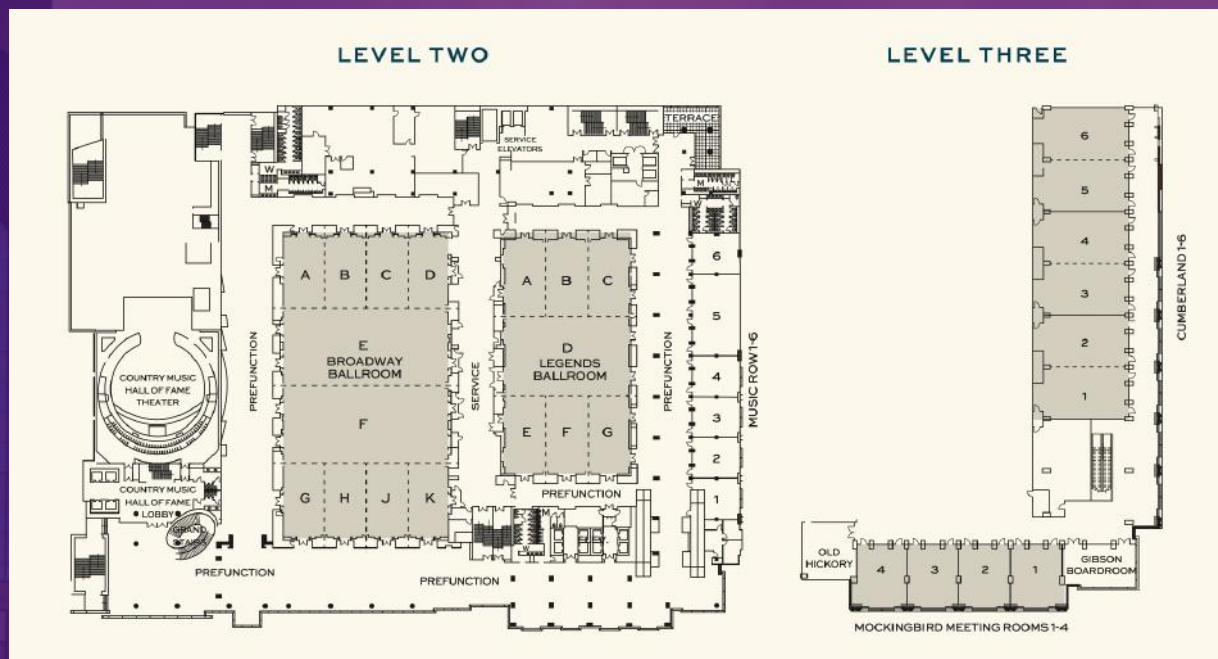
Room 1 - Legends A-D

Room 2 - Legends E-G

Room 3 - Broadway G-H

Business Room - Broadway J-K

Exhibit Hall - Broadway F



REGISTRATION CHECK-IN TIMES

Check-in to pickup your Attendee Lanyard, DEC book bag and Handbook for the event!

Registration Desk Hours:

Thursday, August 28th: 6:30PM-8PM

Friday, August 29th: 6:30AM-7:30AM

WAIVER

All registered Attendees must complete the waiver at the QR code below to pick up your registration materials.



EVENT SPONSORS

Jo+Jax

Booth 103
Main Stage Sponsor

inside DANCE

Booth 3
Choreographer's Cup Sponsor

EXHIBIT HALL DETAILS

Location: Broadway F Ballroom

Friday Hours: 8:30AM-10:30AM / 12PM-3PM

Saturday Hours: 8AM-10AM / 12PM-3PM

Sunday Hours: 7:30AM-9AM (Vendor Prizes Announced at 9:45AM in the Main Stage Ballroom)

EXHIBIT HALL DIAGRAM & KEY

DANCE EDUCATORS COLLECTIVE 2025

08/29/25 - 08/31/25

OMNI NASHVILLE HOTEL - BROADWAY BALLROOM F - NASHVILLE, TN

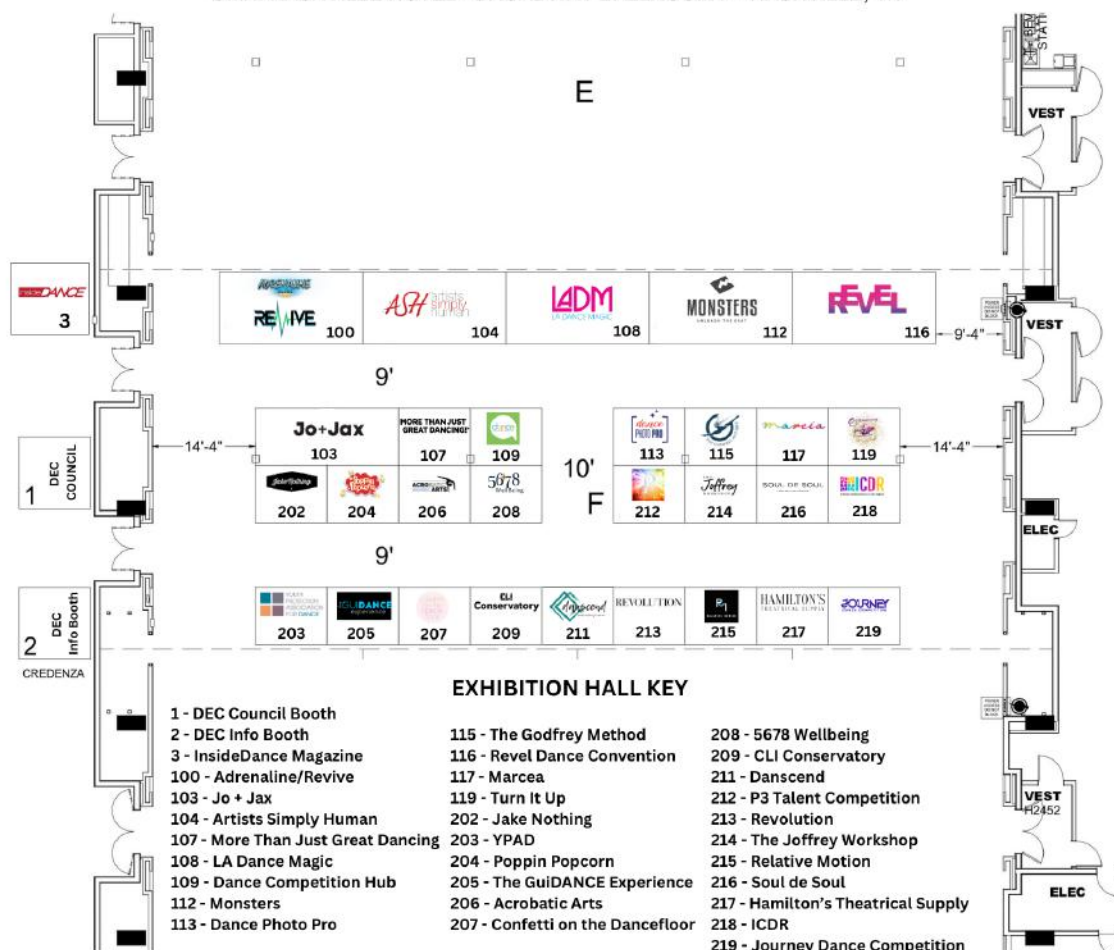


EXHIBIT HALL PRIZES

We are thrilled to give away over **\$10,000** in prizes from the DEC Producers and Exhibitors! Visit each exhibitor booth to receive a raffle ticket, the more booths you visit, the more chances you get to win **big**! All tickets must be turned into the designated spot in the Exhibit Hall (*near the main entrance*) by Sunday, August 31st at 8:45AM.

Exhibit Hall Bingo Card - Extra raffle tickets are available if you complete the Exhibit Hall Bingo Card found in your DEC bag you'll receive upon check in! Complete the Bingo Card to receive an extra **5 raffle tickets**!

SPONSOR & EXHIBITOR PRESENTATIONS

Join our Sponsor and Exhibitor presentations given throughout the weekend to connect and learn more about our incredible sponsors and vendors! See below for the detailed schedule.

Location: Music Row 5 Ballroom

Friday, August 29th

10:30AM-11AM - 5678 Wellbeing

11AM-11:30AM - International Competitive Dancer Registry

11:30AM-12PM - Dance Photo Pro

3PM-3:30PM - Danscend

3:30PM-4PM - Relative Motion

4PM-4:15PM - YPAD

4:15PM-4:30PM - Jake Nothing

4:30PM-4:45PM - Health Made Simply Dance

Saturday, August 30th

10AM-10:30AM - Jo + Jax

10:30AM-11AM - Journey Dance Competition

11AM-11:15AM - The Godfrey Method

11:15AM-11:30AM - Acrobatic Arts

11:30AM-12PM - Revolution

3PM-3:30PM - Inside Dance

3:30PM-4PM - Soul de Soul

DANCE EDUCATORS COLLECTIVE COUNCIL



AMIE
HOLLBORN



BECCA
MOORE



BRIE
VALENTI-CRANE



DANA
BAILEY



DANI
ROSENBERG



EILEEN
STOGNER ARNOLD



JOANNE
CHAPMAN



MISTY
LOWN



NANCY
GILES



NIKKI
GYFTOPOULOS



PATTI
EISENHAUER



STEPHANIE
CAMPBELL



STEVIE
STILSON



SUE
SAMPSON-DALENA



SUZANNE
CITERE



TONIA
BLOMQUIST

NOT
PICTURED:
MELISSA
HARGETT



TRACEY
ANDERSON

DEC Council Booth Hours

(Located right outside of the Exhibit Hall)

Friday, August 29th

12PM-1PM - Stephanie Campbell, Becca Moore, Dani Rosenberg, Sue Sampson-Dalena, Joanne Chapman and Dana Bailey

1PM-2PM Melissa Hargett, Brie Valenti-Crane and Tonia Blomquist

Saturday, August 30th

12PM-1PM - Patti Eisenhauer, Eileen Stogner Arnold and Stevie Stilson

1PM-2PM Nikki Gyftopoulos and Tracey Anderson

Sunday, August 31st

8AM-9AM - Misty Lown, Amie Hollborn, Suzanne Citere and Nancy Giles

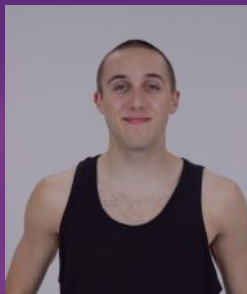
CHOREOGRAPHER'S CUP



ANGELINA
DIAZ



AZUKI
UMEDA



BRADY
MICHAEL



BRADY
ROWAN



CRYSTAL +
OLIVIA



DOHA
ABOUNOUADAR



ELEVATED



ERIK
SOSA



HALEY
DAVIS



ISABELLA
LOWIN



JARED
BAKER



KELLY
DEMELIO



LEXI
THEODORE



LIV3LIHOOD



MATT
SMITH



MICHAEL
SUSTEN



NIKKI
CHAREST



RUSSELL
TANENBAUM



SOFIA
SANCHEZ



STEVEN
BLANDINO



SYDNEY
BURTIS



TOMMY
TIBBALL

Date: Saturday, August 30th

Time: 8PM in the Main Stage Ballroom

Prizes:

Winner - \$25,000 Cash Prize and Cover Story and featured in Inside Dance Magazine

First Runner Up - \$10,000 cash and feature in Inside Dance Magazine

2nd Runner Up - \$5,000 cash and feature in Inside Dance Magazine

PARKING

Current overnight valet rates vary between \$60-75/night (depending on business levels). DEC attendees will receive a \$10 discount applied at check-in and will remain the same throughout the guest's stay. There is no self-parking onsite for the hotel.

Self-parking is available at the Music City Center Garage (adjacent to the hotel) and is available for \$35+ tax per day, without daily in-and-out privileges. Garage entrance is located on Sixth Avenue between Korean Veterans Boulevard and Demonbreun.

NASHVILLE SCENE & THINGS TO SEE

Country Music Hall of Fame

The Country Music Hall of Fame Museum is accessible from inside the Omni Nashville Hotel and gives attendees the opportunity to be immersed into the history, sound and culture of country music with exhibits sharing the stories, artifacts and voices of industry legends. General Admission and Guided Tour Tickets are available

The Opry

Celebrate 100 years of the Opry at the Grand Ole Opry Theater by catching a show to celebrate Opry 100 - where every show is filled with superstars, newcomers and legends and it's never the same show twice!

Honky Tonk Highway

Nashville's Honky Tonk Highway, located on Lower Broadway, is a row of honky tonks pumping live music into the streets from 10am to 3am and there is no cover charge! Check out the different bars and music scene that you can only find in Nashville

The Bluebird Cafe

The Bluebird Cafe is one of the world's preeminent listening rooms. Located in a small strip mall outside of downtown Nashville, the 90-seat venue is unassuming in appearance but some of the most significant songwriters and artists have performed on their stage including Garth Brooks, Keith Urban, Taylor Swift, Faith Hill and more!

Check out the link below for additional First-Time Visit Suggestions:

<https://www.visitmusiccity.com/nashville-trip-ideas/first-timer>

CONTACT INFO

Onsite Questions -

Please check out our Registration Desk or text 615.777.0484 for any questions during the event.

Email: info@danceeducatorscollective.com