

## Northwest Dance Project to Premier 'Summer Splendors'

Company recently won Audience Award in German dance competition

By Brian Stimson  
Of *The Skanner News*

High off their recent competition win in Germany, The Northwest Dance Project will present their "Summer Splendors" show featuring premieres from choreographers Sarah Slipper, Carla Mann, Loni Landon and Lauren Edson at their studio and performance center.

Unlike many of their big scale performances, Summer Splendors will take place in their intimate studio/performance space at 833 N. Shaver St. (at Mississippi Avenue) in Portland. The contemporary ballet show runs June 9 through June 18. Tickets are \$30 in advance or \$30 at the door. Tickets are available through the project's box office at [www.nwdanceproject.org](http://www.nwdanceproject.org) or [boxoffice@nwdanceproject.org](mailto:boxoffice@nwdanceproject.org) or 503-828-8285.

"Our in-studio shows have been an incredible

success," says Sarah Slipper, founding artistic director of the Northwest Dance Project. "There is just something so special about seeing the company perform in such an intimate setting and really getting to see how physically demanding dance is

Choreographic Festival in April.

"Some seats are literally one foot away from the dancers," he said.

Each performance has space for only 70 seats.

In Hannover, the Northwest Dance Company competed

While they had been accepted into the competition, the competition said they would not pay for their plane fare because Ihsan Rustem, the company member who had applied in the firstplace, was in the European Union.

Within three weeks, Lewis raised enough money through donations to buy nine airfares.

"I felt it was an opportunity we couldn't pass up," he said.

Lewis is currently looking to find other opportunities to perform in Europe. Next January, the company plans to attend the prestigious APAP presenters conference in New York, the largest performing arts industry event in the nation.



In Hannover, the Northwest Dance Company competed against 15 other pieces to bring home the Audience Award – taken by ballot from the sold-out performances

and experiencing the emotional and theatrical nuances of the works."

Executive Director Scott Lewis says that a performance in their studio space is much different from one of the likes they performed in Germany at the 25th annual Hannover

against 15 other pieces to bring home the Audience Award – taken by ballot from the sold-out performances. While in Europe, Lewis said the company was able to secure an agent to represent them overseas.

The trip nearly didn't happen, says Lewis.

## Neighborhood Youth Mural Planned 2012

The 2012 King Neighborhood mural project will increase youth involvement, beautify the neighborhood, and increase respect and ownership of the area. The process of creating it will strengthen community bonds and increase the participation of youth in King.

PSU students are currently researching the logistics of mural installation including costs, locations, youth interest, grant opportunities, legalities, and potential community

involvement.

The King Neighborhood Association is seeking to partner with other organizations for financial support, exchange, sharing resources. The Association also welcomes any thoughts, suggestion, or ideas you may have to empower our youth to make positive impact on our community. Meetings are second Wednesday of each month at 4815 NE 7th Avenue. For more see [www.kingneighborhood.wordpress.com](http://www.kingneighborhood.wordpress.com)

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