

DCDC's in-school outreach puts poetry in motion

By Terry Morris
Staff Writer

DAYTON — It was show and tell time on the morning of Thursday, March 5, in the lobby of Chase Bank's Kettering Tower branch.

Students from six Dayton Public Schools demonstrated what they and more than 700 of their classmates have learned during the Dayton Contemporary Dance Company's four-week in-school "Teaching, Learning and Caring" program.

During a warm-up,



Students from Edison School perform during DCDC's "Teaching, Learning, Caring" program. Staff photo by Terry Morris

they chanted a definition: "Dance is ... movement, passion, fun; up, down and all around, with a sizzle."

They interpreted the Langston Hughes poem "Dreams" in movement, showed how math equations translate into choreography and, in a history section, put a timeline of their lives into motion.

The program was designed by Donald E. Hubbard, director of education and community outreach for DCDC. He said the target was to "dance to the curriculum" by integrating dance into specific subject areas. Company dancer Crystal Michelle, who developed

the lesson plans, said, that "when students get up and move, sometimes what they're learning sticks a little better."

Ann Snyder, coordinating teacher in the DPS gifted program, said teachers were included in the training. "My favorite was acting out math problems using costume changes. This program engages both sides of the brain at one time."

Speakers also included Joey D. Williams, president of Chase in Western Ohio; DCDC artistic director Debbie Blunden-Diggs and

board chairman Richard Lapedes. Hubbard said "Teaching, Learning and Caring" began in 2008 with three schools. "We hope we can get support to keep it going next year."

Participating schools were: Belle Haven, Edison, Franklin Montessori, Kemp, Valerie and Wogaman.

For more information about TLC, call Hubbard at (937) 228-3232, ext. 101.

Contact this reporter at (937) 225-2377 or tmorris@DaytonDailyNews.com.

Dance Intensive

WSU will host area dance students from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday during its annual workshop. Faculty and dance majors will lead classes in jazz, tap, modern, ballet,

matron.

Footlights illuminates local theater arts news. Contact this reporter at (937) 225-2377 or tmorris@DaytonDailyNews.com.