

DANCE EXTREME STUDENT WINS NATIONAL DANCE TITLE

London, ON (date) – London performing arts student, Lesley Bramhill, has won national recognition as Miss Dance 2006, at the annual pageant competition of Canadian Dance Masters of America (CDMA), held in St. Catharine's, Ontario.

The 18-year-old student from Dance Extreme in London, achieved top marks in her category at the CDMA convention which featured the leading Canadian dance students and an international panel of judges. As well as being recognized as the overall winner, Ms. Bramhill won the ballet component of the audition.

Canadian Dance Masters of America has been certifying and setting the standards in dance education since 1884. Since its inception, the goals of the organization have been to improve the standards of dance benefits offered to its members and their students.

"It's the first time a Londoner has won the Miss Dance title," said Rebecca Brettingham, artistic director and owner of Dance Extreme. "We are thrilled and extremely proud of Lesley's achievement", she added.

Ms. Bramhill has studied performing arts at Dance Extreme for the past eight years, and is a high school student at Catholic Central Secondary School in London. She has been dancing for more than 10 years and her commitment involves over 20 hours per week in the studio, practicing as well as assisting young dancers. She has been actively competing as a dancer for the past 6 years both throughout Canada and in the United States.

"In addition to her special talents, Lesley truly is a role model for others," Ms. Brettingham says. "Not only does she work hard, but she shares her love of dance with the younger dancers in the studio."

Having won the Canadian title, Lesley will now compete at Dance Masters of America's international competition in Las Vegas. "I feel truly honored to be competing with dancers at this level," Ms. Bramhill said. "It's a dream of a lifetime for me."

Ms. Bramhill plans to continue her dance training and attend university.
(comment about education).

Adds, Ms. Brettingham, "Lesley's success has been truly amazing, it's a pleasure to work with her and our studio looks forward to continuing this relationship as her career progresses."

Five additional Dance Extreme students, participated in the CDMA conference, they included: Emilee Nimetz, Samantha McMeekin, Mary Dora Bloch Hansen, Kaitlyn Lakerdas, and Kaitlyn Bayuk.

"We are extremely proud of the success these young ladies achieved at this level of competition." Ms. Brettingham said. "London is known for its success in the arts, this reputation is continuing to build, particularly in the area of the performing arts".

Dance Extreme Inc. was founded in London, Ontario in 1998, and now has more than 900 students enrolled in its wide-ranging performing arts programs with more than 20 faculty members. The studio offers both recreational as well as competitive dance and now offers a Performing Arts Preschool, unique in the city.

