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For Immediate Release

DANCEWAVE TAKES FIRST LEAP TOWARDS SCOTLAND WITH HELP OF LOCAL BUSINESSMAN

Brooklyn, NY – Dancewave will be holding a press conference next Wednesday, March 10, 2010 to announce that we are halfway towards raising the funds to send the Dancewave Company to the Aberdeen International Youth Festival in Scotland. The press conference will take place on **Wednesday, March 10, 2010 at 5:30pm at PS 77 at 62 Park Place in Park Slope, Brooklyn 11217.**

The Dancewave Company, Dancewave's pre-professional youth dance ensemble composed of 16 dancers aged 13-18, was invited in October 2009 to represent the US at the prestigious Aberdeen International Youth Festival. On January 15th, 2010, after working hard to raise funds for the trip (44% of Company members are on need-based scholarships) **Dancewave discovered that the airfare consolidator used to purchase our tickets had deposited a check for \$8,585 without booking our flights.** The Dancewave Company story and subsequent scam has received extensive press coverage, including articles in *The Brooklyn Paper*, *The Daily News*, and *The New York Post*, and a featured spot on NBC's LX-TV.

Local businesses and community members have rallied to Dancewave's side in the wake of this devastating setback. In December, after reading a piece on the Dancewave Company, **S Clubs Fitness** in Park Slope (www.sclusfit.com) announced a \$10,000 Aberdeen Challenge Match. Dancewave met the S Clubs Challenge last week, confirming for the first time that the Dancewave Company will be able to make the trip as originally planned. Dancewave still needs to raise another \$20,000 to make the trip. Dancewave will also be announcing an airfare donation by **British Airways**, which has officially stepped forward to get the Dancewave Company to Aberdeen. "We believed in our heart that we would make this trip happen in spite of everything," says **Dancewave Executive & Artistic Director Diane Jacobowitz**, "we still have a ways to go, but for the first time our goal is in sight. I hope that people will see our story and help us close that final gap!"

The press conference will feature a check presentation by Nick Kotsonis, owner of S Clubs Fitness, photos with community sponsors, and a Dancewave Company performance of **Flashback / Flash Forward** by Jo Willa Zollar of Urban Bush Women to honor Mr. Kotsonis and S Clubs Fitness.

For day-of directions to the press conference site contact Ginny Nicholson, 212.388.1562.

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ABOUT DANCEWAVE

Established in 1995, Dancewave's mission is to ensure that New York City children and teens have access to the best dance training available. We accomplish this goal by bringing dance into the public schools, offering affordable dance classes, and giving kids and teens the opportunity to train with and perform the work of world-famous choreographers through our pre-professional performing companies. Dancewave serves Brooklyn youth through its many programs: Kids Cafe Festival, The Dancewave Company (formerly Kids Company), The Dancewave Company II (formerly Kids Company II), Young Movers Ensemble, Summer Dance Intensive, D-Wave in Motion, and The School at Dancewave. **For more information Dancewave's programs, please call 718 522 4696 or visit www.dancewave.org.**

ABOUT THE ABERDEEN INTERNATIONAL YOUTH FESTIVAL

The Aberdeen International Youth Festival (<http://www.aberdeenfestival.com>) organizes the world's premiere participatory youth arts festival, with up to 1000 participants, 30,000 audience members, and over 70 events during the two week period. The Aberdeen International Youth Festival (July 27th – August 7th, 2010) is the highlight of Aberdeen's cultural calendar and the major summer arts event in North East Scotland. Celebrating the best youth talent from all over the world, the Festival brings Aberdeen to life with dazzling entertainment, music, theatre and dance. As participants, the Dancewave Company will perform 7-9 times at multiple cultural venues over a 10-day period. They will also have the opportunity to attend workshops, visit heritage sites, and sample local food and customs.

ABOUT THE DANCEWAVE COMPANY

The Dancewave Company (formerly Kids Company) is Dancewave's premiere pre-professional performance company. Composed of 16 teens aged 13-18, the Dancewave Company trains with and performs groundbreaking work by a different renowned choreographer each semester. Past choreographers include Garth Fagan, Twyla Tharp, Mark Morris, Paul Taylor, Susan Marshall, and Bill T. Jones. The Dancewave Company has performed at such venues as the Governor's Arts Awards, Jacobs Pillow, the Met, the New Museum, the Kitchen, and the Brooklyn Art Museum. Most importantly, this program has a lasting impact on kids' lives: 100% of Dancewave Company members have been accepted into college, many with full scholarships.