

1518 Fox Chase Drive

Sewickley, PA 15143

August 28, 2008

Ms. Stacie Mellor Theard

Executive Director, VIPdance

832 Maryland Ave.

Metairie, LA 70003

Dear Ms. Mellor Theard,

Our daughter, Olivia Brendel, dances with Elite Dance by Damian in Pittsburgh, PA. She attended VIP Regionals in Youngstown in February and most recently attended VIP Nationals in Sandusky. We wish to commend you for VIP's very impressive "Dancing for Charity" program. It not only benefits the charities, but more importantly, it sets a fine example to the dancers.

We are writing to thank you very much for VIP's \$622 donation to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, on behalf of Elite Dance by Damian, and to ask you to consider the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation as one of the three VIP "Dancing for Charity" charities for 2009. Our family knows this disease personally as two of our children have Cystic Fibrosis ("CF"), including our little dancer, Olivia.

Olivia performed a solo, Fever, in the Junior Broadway category at Nationals, for which she received a "high gold" (see enclosed photo). Our little girl's performance caught the eye of Christie Zimmerman who presented her with a Judge's Award for potential. Ms. Zimmerman told the audience to watch out for Olivia because in 5 years she would be "amazing". Earlier in the year, at the Onstage New York convention, this same solo was given a Judge's Award for exceptional energy.

Most people would be surprised to learn that this little dancer who has such potential and who performs with such high energy suffers from a life threatening disease and has a life expectancy of only 39. One would also be surprised to know this little girl spends hours every day doing physical therapy and aerosol

treatments to keep her lungs clear and has to take medicine every time she eats just to digest her food and grow properly. What is truly "amazing" is that she dances at all.

Coincidentally, at Nationals, Center Stage Dance Studio performed a small group routine to "Fly" by Celine Dion. We were probably the only people in the audience who knew that Celine Dion wrote the beautiful words, "fly, fly precious one, your endless journey has begun" in memory of her niece who died of CF at the age of 16. This, along with the explanation of "Dancing for Charity" in your competition program, inspired us to bring the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation to your attention.

We were very touched in May when 23 of Olivia's Elite Dance by Damian teammates and 13 of their parents joined our annual CF Great Strides walk-a-thon team, Olivia's Offense. This show of support was heartwarming and meant so much to Olivia. It would be so wonderful to spread this awareness of CF within the dance community to a national level with the help of VIP's endorsement.

We have enclosed several articles and publications about CF and the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. After you read these enclosures, we are sure you will come to the conclusion that the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation is a very worthy charity to support. Year after year, it finds itself near the top of every survey that rates the efficiency of charities. The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation also stands out as a model for "venture philanthropy" by pursuing and hiring biotech companies to test and develop medicines specifically for CF. Thanks to this bold and unique approach, we are so hopeful that a cure for Cystic Fibrosis is only a few years away. It cannot come soon enough for our two children and the 30,000 other children in the US who suffer from CF.

We encourage VIP to help this dream become a reality by choosing the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation as one of your three charities for 2009. With your help, our little dancer, Olivia, will continue to dance with high energy and will have the opportunity to reach her full potential.

Sincerely,



Janet and John Brendel