

# Outrage Dance Company hosts hip-hop explosion

By Chelsi Cheatom  
Sentinel-Voice

This Saturday, Las Vegas' own Outrage Dance Company is hosting Hip-Hop Dance Xplosion, a dance competition, scheduled to take place at the CCSN Cheyenne Campus in the Horn Theatre at 7:30 p.m.

"Hip-Hop Dance Xplosion is the first dance competition in Las Vegas dedicated to hip-hop dancers. We decided to have [this style dance] competition because there has never been anything like it locally," said Barry Yorke, creator of this event. Participating dancers from California, Arizona and Missouri and locals will compete for a \$1,000 cash prize.

Yorke explained the importance of having an event like Xplosion by saying, "I wanted to do something in a positive way for hip-hop. This culture has a negative stereotype that goes along with it. I wanted to change that by showing people that a hip-hop performance can



Sentinel-Voice photos by Isaac Sawyer

**Busting a hip-hop move: Anthony Crisologo (rear) and Elton Graham (front) demonstrate their dancing dexterity.**

be something positive."

According to Yorke, you can expect to see a variety of hip-hop dance styles throughout the show.

"You can expect to see raw street dancers which would be your B2K or Usher type of choreographed dance. We also have break dancers,

poppers and clown dancers better known as Krumpers. I wanted to unite all of the hip-hop dancers and dance styles."

About his own six-person dance troupe, Outrage Dance Company, Yorke said, "Each person has a different style that they bring to the table."

Yorke is the choreographer, as well as a performer with his dance company. The dance company has been performing together since December 2000. They were formerly known as Special FX Dance. Under their old name they appeared at many events, including community showcases and local events throughout the summer. Their performance at Xplosion will be their first one under the new name.

Along with performing with his diverse dance group, Yorke also teaches hip-hop dance classes called "Hip-Hop 2k". The classes are taught in back-to-back six week sessions throughout the year at the Las Vegas Dance Theatre Studios in North Las Vegas. The classes are open to anyone who would like to learn the art of hip-hop dance.

Tickets at the door are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Visit their website at [www.outragedance.com](http://www.outragedance.com) to get more information about the event, the performers or dance instruction by Yorke.

## Bone Marrow

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The procedure for becoming a member of the registry list is simple: giving a sample of blood to match your tissue type and answering some questions about your health are all that is required of potential donors between the ages of 18 and 60 in good health.

Oscar Correa, recruitment specialist for National Marrow Donor Program in Phoenix, Arizona commented about the work of his organization.

He said, "We are a non-profit organization committed to educate the community about the need to register as a member of the National Marrow Donor Program. We work diligently to recruit individuals, especially minority candidates to become bone marrow/stem cell donors. Marrow matching goes along racial/ethnic lines.

"We focus on antigens from individuals [which determines] skin color, hair color, and eye color... [it is important that] we first try to find matches from family members. From there we concentrate on finding matches from racial/ethnic groups of people who have similar traits and are comparable matches," Correa said.

He continued, "Each month across the country we have an estimated 3,000

cases of individuals who are seeking a donor match and there's a 1-in-100,000 chance a donor will be found for a Hispanic patient, and a 1-in-150,000 chance a donor will be found for an African-American patient. Caucasian patients average a 1-in-100 chance that a donor will be found due to the number of Caucasians on the registry list."

Beverly Wehmer-Black, executive director of the Newton Black Foundation spoke about the event and the need to expand minority recruitment on the registry list.

"This is a bone marrow registry drive and stem cell registry drive. What we are trying to do is to educate and influence members of the African-American community and other minorities to become registered on the National Bone Marrow Program list. We need people to be blood typed for bone marrow donation. Today's drive is the first combined efforts of the Newton Black Foundation and the National Bone Marrow Program," said Wehmer-Black.

"It is imperative that we try to get as many people to become members of the registry list because when African-Americans go through a bone marrow transplant process, the possibility of the host patient and donor hav-

ing a rejection due to the DNA not being comparable is increased. The under representation of minorities on the registry means patients diagnosed with life-threatening blood diseases are less likely to find a potential match. So it is important that we get more minorities registered to make a difference in the lives of those suffering from these debilitating conditions," she added.

Some of the individuals donating blood at the bone marrow/stem cell drive offered their reasons for deciding to participate in this event:

Kelly Marshall said, "Pretty much, I feel good about doing something positive to help somebody else. If I'm able to be matched with another person that is in need then, hopefully, I'll be able to save a life. The process didn't take long and it was easy to donate the blood. It was painless."

Jai Ray, who came with his friend Marshall, said, "When I considered [participating] today, I knew that this was something that's necessary...I could make a difference in someone else's life."

Local entertainer Janis Carter expressed, "I am enthused and overwhelmed to be a part of this event."

Participant Kristine

Ellison said, "It was an easy process. You just fill out the application form, giving some history about your personal health. After that, you have some blood drawn, and knowing that you can help someone else suffering goes a long way to give them a new chance to survive. It was a great experience and I look forward to the opportunity to helping someone else. It

gives me a warm feeling inside."

Community outreach advocate Toni Mims commented, "I'd rather be a donor able to donate while I'm alive instead of being dead."

Angela Richards, who was personally motivated in memory of a close friend, said, "I was a little excited, I had a friend who died needing a bone marrow trans-

plant, but because she was of mixed origin, they couldn't find a matching donor. I just wanted to help."

Anyone interested in learning more about becoming a bone marrow or stem cell donor can go to [www.marrow.org/2unite](http://www.marrow.org/2unite) for information and contact the National Bone Marrow Donor Program at 1-800-MARROW-2.

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