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News > Local News

## Dancers use graduation to give back to charity

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

By EMMA FLANIGAN

Special to The Oakland Press

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The dancers at Joe Cornell Entertainment have chosen to turn their graduation dance into an act of kindness to charity.

Some 300 sixth graders chose the Bear Hug Foundation, a non-profit organization, to receive their support and fundraising profit from their graduation dance.

Joe's Crew is a philanthropic addition to the Joe Cornell dance classes designed by brother and sister and co-owners of Joe Cornell Entertainment — Steve Jasgur and Becca Schlusel.

Joe's Crew raises pledges to sponsor their 90 minute dance-a-thon. Children who raise the most money qualify for raffle prizes. This is the third year that Joe Cornell Entertainment has designated a worthy non-profit organization to receive fundraising efforts along with support from the dance program. In fact, Joe's Crew's efforts have raised more than \$15,000 for the charity the dance program chose for the past two years: Kids Kicking Cancer.

The goal of Joe's Crew is to protect children from the rapid growth of rudeness and carelessness throughout the world, and through that, turn them into tomorrow's leaders through the desire to help those in need.

"I am blown away by the dedication of our dance students," Steve Jasgur says of his students. "They are so eager to help others. The energy toward this fundraiser is outstanding."

The 90-minute dance-a-thon will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 24 at the Orchard Mall in West Bloomfield, with prizes given to the children who raised the most money, and profit going to the Bear Hug Foundation.

Joe Cornell Entertainment is located on Northwestern Highway, Southfield 48034. The phone number is 248-356-6000.

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