

Soles4Souls Shoe Drive

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Shoes, a dancer's best friend

The Historic Jonesborough Dance Society conducted a Shoe Drive for Soles4Souls during the month of January. Over 4,000 pairs of shoes were collected for the Nashville, TN based nonprofit which distributes shoes to those in need all over the world. The shoe collections centered around the two scheduled dances for the month on January 7th and 21st. However, feature stories in two local newspapers and support from the local public radio station WETS-FM created interest from all over the region. Drop off sites were strategically located around the area

where donors could collect at their local churches or neighborhoods and bring to the sites. A phone number was also published whereby volunteers could be dispatched to homes or businesses to pick up donations. A local moving and storage company now has volunteered to ship the shoes to Nashville. The person who brought in the most shoes during the month received a certificate granting free admission to all Historic Jonesborough Dance Society sponsored events for all of 2012. The winner was Sam Jones who collected 309 pairs of shoes. Volunteers gathered at the dances to collect, sort and pack shoes for shipment. Since the goal of 2012 pairs collected was reached, a free dance was awarded to the community.

Lots and lots of shoes

“The shoe drive was a way to rally our dance community around a wonderful cause” commented event organizer, David Wiley, president and founder of the Historic Jonesborough Dance Society. “I was looking for a fun way to kickoff the new year. We all depend on shoes for our dance program. It was easy to connect the dots and reach out to everyone in the community to gift extra shoes to those in need. I never realized that the response would be so strong. As we came to the end of the campaign, I was hoping to inspire other dance communities around the country to conduct their own shoe drive for Soles4Souls” added Wiley.



For more information, contact Soles4Souls.org.

For information about CDSS affiliate group HJDS, see Historic Jonesborough Dance Society.

(Photos courtesy David Wiley)