

Ellen Weinstein

Class of 1975

Since leaving Vestal, Ms. Weinstein has gracefully risen through the ranks of the world of dance. The Artistic Director for the National Dance Institute since 1995, Ms. Weinstein joined the NDI in 1985 as a teacher/choreographer and served as Associate Artistic Director from 1989 to 1994.

As an artistic consultant for NDI's national outreach programs, she has conducted residencies, teacher training seminars and set works in major cities across the country. As an artistic consultant for NDI's international exchange program, Ms. Weinstein has worked with children and artists in Russia, Israel and India. Most recently, she traveled to West Africa at the invitation of the United Nations' Millennium Villages Initiative.

Prior to joining the National Dance Institute, Ms. Weinstein danced professionally with the Savannah Ballet, the Garden State Ballet, Joan Millers Dance Players and the Kevin Wynn Collection. She and the NDI have received many prestigious awards, including the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities "Coming Up Taller Award" and the Governor's Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Art and Culture of New York state. In addition, her choreography "*Wade in the Water*" was featured at the White House during a State Dinner hosted by President and Mrs. Clinton and at Carnegie Hall in New York.

Additional choreography credits include the Disney film "Off Beat," many commercials, the New York Philharmonic's Young People's Concert and The Public Theater's 50th Anniversary Celebration at City Center in New York.

Ms. Weinstein currently lives in New York City, but returns to Vestal often to visit family and friends.