

Dance Marathon is a student run philanthropy dedicated to supporting oncology patients being treated at University of Iowa Children's Hospital. It is a year round organization that culminates with a 24 hour long BIG Event in February. To date, Dance Marathon has raised over \$8.6 million dollars for children being treated right here in Iowa City.

### **History of Dance Marathon**

In 1994, a unique and motivated group of students, in conjunction with the Children's Miracle Network, created Dance Marathon at The University of Iowa. A year's worth of planning and hard work generated an impressive first year total of \$31,000 and included 26 wonderful Families.

The dedicated students at The University of Iowa continue the tradition of providing emotional and financial support to children with cancer and their families.

### **The Entire Program**

The University of Iowa Dance Marathon is a student organization that provides year-round support to youth cancer victims and their families. The BIG Event is a 24-hour Dance Marathon where students assemble to celebrate the children survivors and remember the children who have passed away throughout the year. Students plan and participate in Family Events, Mini-Dance Marathons, Miracle Games, silent auctions, and dinners. Additionally, they participate in other University of Iowa sponsored and affiliated activities and events, the majority of which are all philanthropic.

The primary goal of these activities is to raise additional money for children with cancer and to educate the community about the struggles and triumphs of these little warriors. Please continue through the site to find more information on these marvelous activities and events.

### **Organizational Overview**

The University of Iowa Dance Marathon is governed by an Executive Council comprised of four Executive Directors and six Directors. Each member of the Executive Council has numerous chairs and committee members who assist in the coordination and creation of Dance Marathon each year. The Executive Council, Chairs, and Committee Members make up what is known as the Leadership Team.

The Executive Council is advised by the Children's Miracle Network and The University of Iowa Office of Student Life.

### **The Actual Event**

University of Iowa Dance Marathon Main Event is a 24-hour long dance marathon. All Dancers that have raised the required amount of money are invited to participate in "The BIG Event." All the Families sponsored by Dance Marathon participate in the event and many do so for the full 24 hours.

The BIG Event requires that Dancers remain standing for the full 24 hours and no caffeine or watches are allowed. To pass the time, live entertainment is provided throughout the event; in addition to, a lively DJ. Live entertainment includes performances by local bands, University Bands, University Dance and Theatre Groups, Dance Marathon Family Speakers, and many more exciting acts.

For more information - [http://www.uiowa.edu/~dancemar/dancers/why\\_dance.html](http://www.uiowa.edu/~dancemar/dancers/why_dance.html)