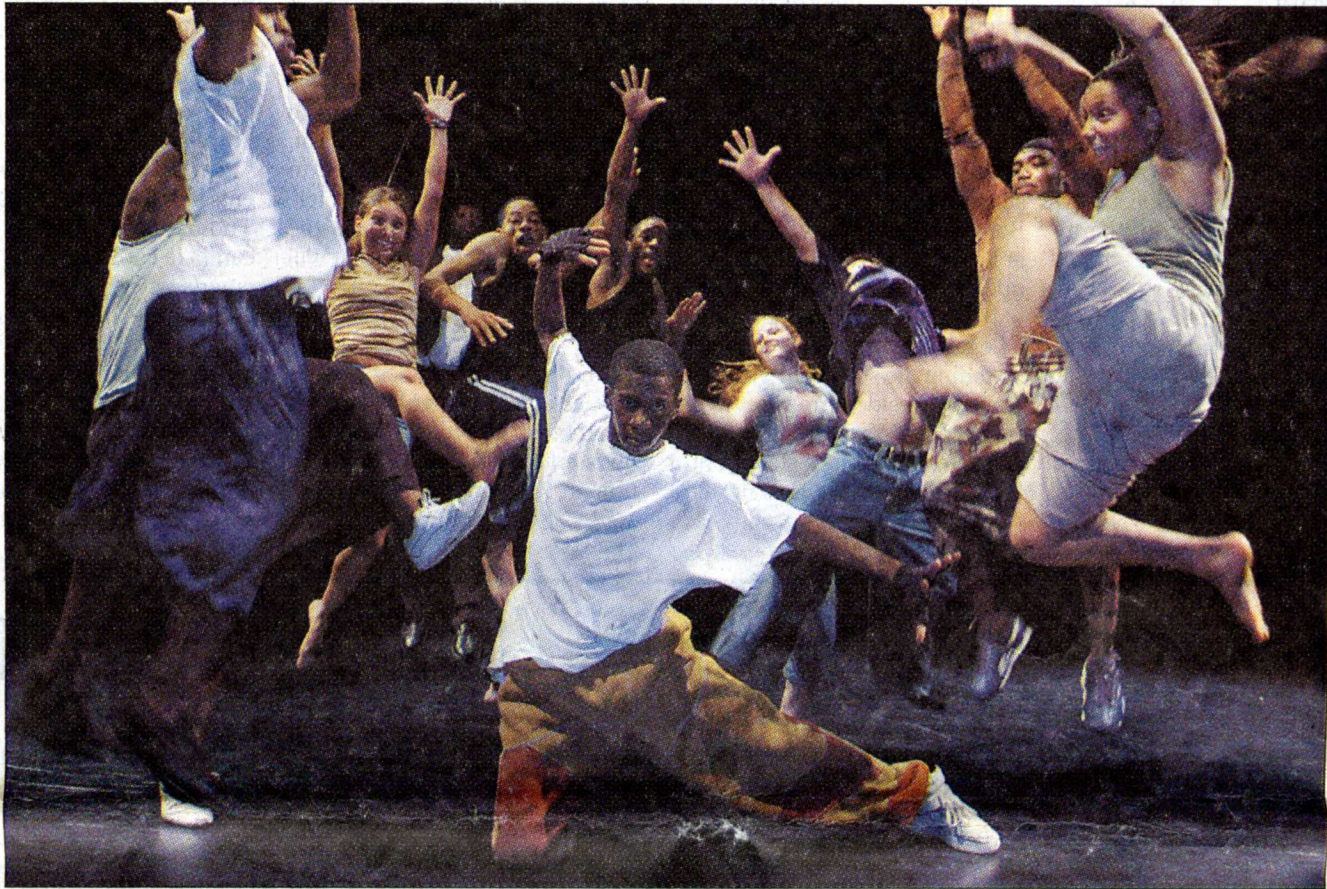


# 'Requiem for New Orleans: A Hip-Hop Eulogy'



STAFF PHOTOS BY T. ORTEGA GAINES – ogaines@charlotteobserver.com

Twilight Repertory Company is a dance troupe that includes UNC Charlotte faculty and students. The group recently was accepted to perform this month at the NYC Fringe Dance Festival. Twilight will perform Tuesday in Charlotte.

## Big Easy life chronicled

*Musical stage show to raise money Tuesday in Charlotte, before heading off to New York*

BY EMILY A. BENTON  
ebenton@charlotteobserver.com

Some performers with the Twilight Repertory Company giggled during a recent rehearsal as they were assigned the roles of prostitute, church lady, drunk and "white bread" couple.

The idea of these characters bumping into each other on a Charlotte street may be far-fetched.

But for a place like New Orleans, in its golden days, the stereotypical characters fit.

"In a sense, New Orleans as it was has died. That's what we're recognizing," James Vesce, troupe director

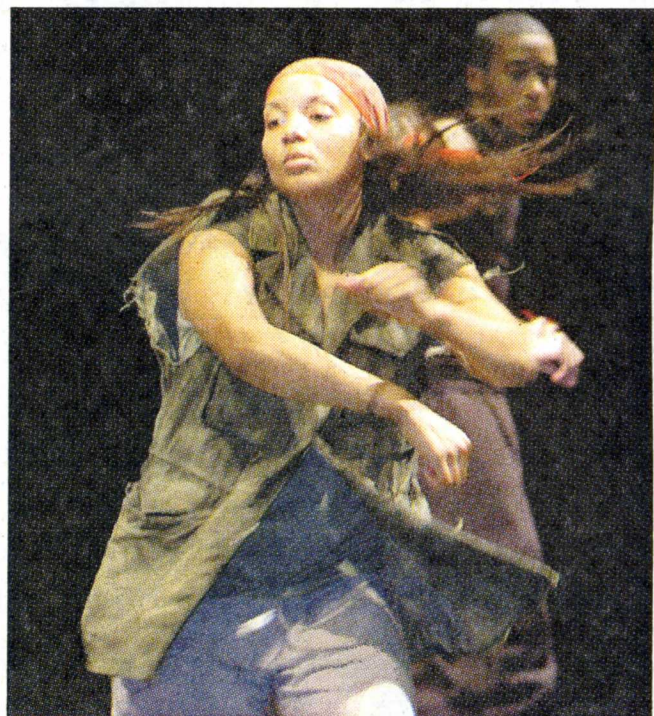
and UNC Charlotte assistant professor, tells his cast of students and alumni.

The group of 11 dancers, musicians and actors will perform Vesce's "Requiem for New Orleans: A Hip-Hop Eulogy" at the 10th annual New York Fringe International Festival Aug. 14-20. "Requiem" also will be performed at UNCC on Tuesday to help the group raise money for the trip.

The story's dance, words and music cover New Orleans before, during and after Hurricane Katrina.

Twilight first performed the piece in December as a

SEE TWILIGHT | 4J



Jennifer Roberts and Darryl Colson practice during a dress rehearsal Thursday.

