Dre Company
Learn To Step
Chicago Style Steppin'

ANDRE "DRE" BLACKWELL

President & CEO of Dre and Company

CHICAGO STYLE STEPPIN'



DANCE • INSPIRE • EMPOWER

CHICAGO STYLE STEPPIN'

Andre Blackwell, more affectionately known as Dre, is one of the most accomplished steppers and premier dance instructors in Chicago. His intense love for Steppin' and unique vision motivated him to master his dance skills, earning him top honors in local and national competitions. In 1998, he founded Dre and Company in response to his interest in spreading this art form and repeated requests from the public for steppin' instructions with his unique and debonair style.

Dre, a highly respected figure in the entertainment industry for his talent, was featured and acknowledged in the July 2003 edition of VIBE Magazine. He is a sought-after advisor, having been chosen as a co-choreographer and dancer for various R. Kelly projects and events, including the "Step in the Name of Love" video in 2003, the 2003 Vibe Awards, the 2003 Billboard Music Awards, the "Happy People" video in 2004, and joining R. Kelly & Jay Z on the "Best of Both Worlds" tour in 2004 at New York City's Madison Square Garden. His most notable performance was choreographing a step routine for the national anthem during the HBO broadcast of the Hopkins versus Taylor fight at Mandalay Bay on December 3, 2005.

Dre offers instruction for all skill levels, focusing not only on partnering techniques such as following and leading but also on individual footwork and freestyle. He has played a crucial role in shaping some of Chicago's top competitive steppers and step instructors. Besides teaching in Chicago, he has conducted workshops in various cities nationwide including Atlanta, GA, Los Angeles, CA, New York City, NY, Washington, DC, Las Vegas, NV, St. Louis, MO, Dallas, TX, and many others.

Dre Blackwell is one of only five Masters Category champions in the 32 year history of the World's Largest Steppin' Contest. Additionally, he has secured first place in numerous contests across the United States.

Dre finds immense joy in observing the growth of his students' progress and sharing the love of Chicago style steppin'.

Dre is one half of the dynamic duo that produce and host the elite 'World's largest Steppin' Contest Pre-Party' event for 15 years. He is also a member of 10 Deep productions, producing and hosting upscale steppin' events.

FOR PRIVATE AND GROUP LESSONS, CONTACT DRE:

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AWARDS & ACCOLADES

EARLY CAREER & RECOGNITION (2003–2022)

2003	Featured at the Vibe Awards alongside R. Kelly; profiled in the June 2003 issue of VIBE Magazine, among other national recognitions.
2004	1st Place, Masters Category — National Dance Competition, Houston, TX.
2005	Annual Steppers Academy Award — Outstanding Dedication to Youth in Dance-Steppin'.
Sept 2005	1st Place, Original Category (21–40) and 1st Place, Walkers Category — Rope Entertainment 1st Annual Steppin' Competition, Houston, TX.
Oct 2005	1st Place, Original Category (21–40) and 1st Place, Trio Category — V103 World's Largest Steppers' Contest.
Mar 2006	1st Place — Salaam Productions “Millions More Movement” Steppin' Competition.
Jun 2009	Featured and interviewed in Sister to Sister Magazine.
Sept 2010	Featured and interviewed in Ebony Magazine.
Jul 2011	1st Place, Masters Category — Chicago's World Largest Steppin' Contest.
Feb 2012	Dance instructor for a workshop series in Alaska; featured guest on Windy City Live for a dance demonstration and interview.
Sept 2007–Present	Dre and Company and ChiSteppers.com serve as annual presenters of the Opening Gala for Chicago's World's Largest Steppin' Contest (WLSC) — celebrating the 32nd anniversary of WLSC and the 16th anniversary of the Opening Gala in September 2023.
Feb 2016	Steppers Achievement Award — Good Deeds International.
2019	Steppers Achievement Award — World's Largest Steppers Contest, featuring the Majestic Gents.
2021	Featured on Chicago P.D. as an extra dancer; also appeared on Windy City Live alongside legendary stepper and “Godfather of Steppin'” Mr. Sam Chapman.
2022	Featured on the sixth season of The Chi as an extra dancer and instructor for the show's leading characters.
Feb 2022	Featured on ABC 7 during Black History Month as an instructor alongside legendary stepper Sam Chapman.

WORKSHOPS, TOURS & FEATURED EVENTS (2023–2025)

Feb 2023	Capital Jazz Cruise — Steppers Workshop
Mar 2023	Shades of Blue Workshop — Indianapolis, IN
May 2023	Stepper's Workshop — Cleveland, OH
Sept 2023	World's Largest Pre-Party Opening Gala — Host & Producer
Oct 2023	The Nike Experience Workshop — Houston, TX
Dec 2023	New Year's Eve Celebration, ABC News with Val Warner — Chicago, IL
Jan 2024	The Capricorn Explosion Event with 10 Deep Productions — Host & Producer
Feb 2024	Capital City Jazz Cruise — Steppers Workshop
Apr 2024	Black and Bling Dallas — Steppers Workshop
Jun 2024	Tea Time and Friends — Steppers Workshop
Jul 2024	Big City Weekend, New York City — Steppers Workshop; Country Club Hills Summer Fest — Steppers Demonstration
Aug 2024	Shades of Peach — Atlanta, GA (DJ debut)
Sept 2024	“The World's Largest Opening Gala” — Host & Producer with Terrance Pratt
Nov 2024	Midwest Affair — Toledo, OH — Steppers Workshop
Jan 2025	Capricorn Explosion — Host & Producer; Command Stepper's Event, St. Paul, MN — Steppers Workshop; United Steppers of Atlanta — DJ; Black and White Affair, Waukegan, IL — Host
Feb 2025	Capital Jazz Cruise — Steppers Workshop
Mar 2025	The DREAM TEAM Workshop — Houston, TX; The Big Arkansas Ball — Steppers Workshop
Apr 2025	Blue Elite Experience — Plainfield, IN — Steppers Workshop
Jun 2025	Birthday With The Stars — Las Vegas, NV — Steppers Workshop

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS & ENGAGEMENTS

— Became the first stepper to perform at the Obama Presidential Library, alongside ABC 7 news anchor Samantha Chatman.

— Appeared on the televised talk show Mama, I Made It!, dancing alongside Chicago actress LisaRaye McCoy.

— Received an award from MSBU Milwaukee.

— Invited to step in the 92nd Bud Billiken Parade with Congressman Jonathan Jackson.

— Serves as standing DJ at Kelli's, a Chicago nightclub.

— Led a steppers demonstration for the Urban League Women's Board aboard the Spirit of Chicago yacht.

— Taught a stepping class at the Black Women's Expo.

— Serves as DJ for Paradise Productions' number one stepper set day party.

— Host of the upcoming World's Largest Steppers Contest Pre-Party, presented by Dre & Company — September 18, 2026.