

A CWA member who makes a difference **CloseUp**



Leslie Ulrich is a CWA member in New York City and a Radio City Rockette.

How did you become involved with CWA?

After moving to New York City in 1993, I received a CWA mailing and was struck by the fact that it was a women's organization. I'm often appalled by what some of the other women's organizations are doing and I love that CWA is fighting for what I think would be the traditional values! I log onto the Web site and send the prepared e-mails to my representative.

I'm especially interested in how different groups are trying to change the definition of the family. My colleagues practice a variety of lifestyles. I think God has me here in the art world to be a light to them. I have friends who I dance with at Radio City who are walking like Christians and are no longer in the gay lifestyle. They are really successful in the business; one has been the lead in a Broadway show.

What changes these people's lives is when they experience love from us personally and when we let them know what we believe. That's why I'm excited about Christians getting into the arts.

Tell us about this spring's all-day Project Dance concert.

For years, three of us Rockettes have tried to create outlets for dancers to use their gifts for the Lord. After the events of September 11, two friends had a vision for a big outdoor Christian dance concert in Times Square. The goal was to bring a message of love and hope to the city through dance. We wanted to share that hope and love comes from our relationship with God through Jesus Christ. God brought in 170 dancers from all over the United States and I saw the Holy Spirit come down on Times Square like I've never experienced before.

I was in charge of evangelism during the concert. The dancing drew a crowd all day and people were moved and wanted to know why we were there. One gentleman went home and brought his daughter back because he wanted her to see dance being used in a positive way. People prayed to ask Jesus into their lives.

How do you see God working in New York?

Here at Radio City, dancers have given their lives to Christ and they probably wouldn't have been reached if God hadn't put Christians that they respected and connected with into their field. We're seeing the church become more supportive of artists working in the church and in the marketplace. My prayer is to see Christians move to New York and get into producing and writing works of art so that there are more redemptive pieces. The only way to redeem the culture is to send Christians into the cultural centers. 

CWA of New York has many opportunities for you to make a difference! Call 1-800-458-8797 to find out how to get involved in New York or in other states.