

"FootNotes"

Ballet Arts Centre Newsletter

September 2009



SCHOOL POLICY

WELCOME BACK!

On behalf of *BALLET ARTS CENTRE OF WINCHESTER* we would like to say "welcome" to all of our new students and to our returning students as well. We are very excited as we celebrate our 20th year of dance! We are looking forward to a wonderful year with lots of celebrations and special events, so get ready for some good hard work and lots of fun! The purpose of our monthly "FootNotes" newsletter is to keep you informed about all upcoming calendar events and any news pertaining to our school.



Each new student should come to the office to get a BAC Handbook that contains information regarding the school and its policies, along with a calendar for the 2009-2010 dance year. Any returning student who would like another copy of the handbook may pick one up in the office. Please take the time to read through the information, as some of our policies are new or have changed slightly. Here are some quick reminders regarding dress code, tuition, and the calendar:

* Students should arrive on time and in proper attire for class. We do not expect everyone to have everything he or she needs for class the first few weeks, but hopefully all students will have their dress code by the beginning of October. At that time the dress code policy will be adhered to in all classes. Hair should be pulled up and off the face and neck for all classes, *preferably in a bun*. You will not be permitted to take any class with your hair down or without proper attire. This pertains to young children as well as our older students. No t-shirts, sweatshirts, jewelry or gum in class, please.

* You may enter our studio from the back entrance near the parking lot or from the front at street level; there is parking available in both places. Next to our rear entrance is the *ARTSPACE EATSPACE*. Please use this area to enjoy any drinks or food that you may bring into the building while you are waiting for classes as we ask that *no food or drinks be allowed in our waiting area!* This includes parents and siblings as well. Children using the bathrooms should be accompanied by an adult. Please use the changing room for changing and the bathrooms only when necessary.

NUTCRACKER AUDITIONS!

Our beloved NUTCRACKER ballet returns once again this year! Auditions will be held on Saturday, September 26th at 1:00 P.M. for ages 7-9, 2:30 P.M. for ages 10-12, and at 3:45 for ages 13 & up here at the studio (see attached notice). Rehearsals are on Saturdays for all children's parts and will meet for approximately 8 weeks, with the possibility of a few Sunday rehearsals for certain parts. This is a wonderful opportunity for ballet students who have a strong love of dance and would like to be a part of a performance experience that will remain in your memories forever! Commitment to the rehearsal schedules *a must*, so please be sure that your schedule will allow for you to be available if you are selected for a part. We hope to see many of you at the auditions. NUTCRACKER performances will be the weekend of December 5th and 6th, 2009.



* STUDENT APPRECIATION * MOVIE WEEKEND!

We will be kicking off our 20th anniversary year of celebrations with a special event to show our appreciation to BAC students and families! Join us October 2nd and 3rd at the NextDoor Theater (adjacent to the studio) for a free screening of some of our favorite dance movies. The movie for students ages 13 and up will be shown Friday evening, October 2nd, from 7:30 to 10:00 p.m. Younger students and their families are invited to come (over →)

Visit our new Website!

Ballet Arts Centre is pleased to announce the arrival of our brand new website! You can now visit www.bacw.com to get all the latest news about classes, events, and performances at BAC! All of our forms and notices will now be available to download online as well.

The website also features a 'testimonials' page for both BAC students and parents who wish to express something they love about BAC. If you would like to send us a testimonial, please email us your quote with a small picture to balletartscentre@comcast.net and we will post it on the website!

We hope that this new website will make it easier for you and your family to be informed about all the latest happenings at BAC. We will be celebrating our 20th anniversary all year long, so be sure to check back often for announcements on all of our special events!

*** MOVIE WEEKEND * ...continued**

on Saturday afternoon, October 3rd, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. for ages 3 to 8, and from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. for ages 9 to 12. Space is limited to the theater's capacity, so if you plan to come then **please call or come to the office to sign up** for the movie you will be attending. We hope you will join us for a relaxing weekend of movies, popcorn, and lots of fun!

*** STUDENT OF THE MONTH ***

As part of our 20th anniversary celebration year, BAC is introducing a new "Student of the Month" recognition that will highlight some of our most dedicated and passionate students. Each month, teachers will choose students from different age groups to be featured in our special "Student of the Month" area here at the studio. Teachers will choose students who display the qualities of a dedicated dancer, such as a strong focus and effort, coming to class prepared and on time, team spirit, perseverance, a positive attitude, and a love of dance that shines though! We have so many wonderful dancers at BAC that it will be very difficult for us to choose!

CLARAS CHOSEN FOR NUTCRACKER

Congratulations to BAC students Emily Jerant-Hendrickson and Gina Mantica who have been chosen to dance the role of Clara in our 2009 Nutcracker ballet! They have been hard at work in rehearsals and have been busy preparing all summer. We know that they will do a great job and will be a lovely addition to the performance!

*** TUITION REMINDER ***

Tuition is paid in three installment payments over the course of the year. We encourage you to take advantage of our Auto-Pay system which allows your tuition to be charged automatically from a credit or debit card, making it easy to remain timely and avoid late fees. Tickets, costumes, and boutique items may also be conveniently charged to your account if you are signed up for Auto-Pay. *Please take note of the due dates for tuition, as late fees will be applied to all overdue payments if you are not signed up for Auto-Pay.* Any student who wishes to withdraw from any class must do so by filling out a withdrawal form in the office. Withdrawal forms should be filled out *prior* to an upcoming installment due date in order to not be charged for that installment payment. Students who do not notify the office when dropping a class will be responsible for payment until notification. Any questions regarding tuition should be directed to BAC Office Manager, Lauren Boyle. All holidays and vacations are accounted for in the tuition schedule. The vacation and holiday schedule is as follows:

- THANKSGIVING BREAK**.....November 25th – 28th
- WINTER BREAK**.....December 21st – January 3rd
- FEBRUARY VACATION**.....February 15th – 20th
- APRIL VACATION**.....April 19th – 24th

***We DO hold classes on most Monday holidays.**

*** ADULT DANCE CLASSES ***

Don't let the kids have all the fun! Ballet Arts Centre of Winchester is offering a new session of dance classes just for ADULTS! Our Fall Adult Class Session will begin September 22nd, 2009, and we are having a **FREE trial week** September 14th through 18th for you to come and try any class on the Adult schedule for free!

Our Adult Classes run in convenient 6-week sessions and all classes are make-up friendly. We also offer discounts if you sign up for more than one class, or if you sign up with a friend. Join us for a new and exciting way to get in shape while having fun in a safe and comfortable environment! This session will offer Jazz, Ballet, Yoga Conditioning, and TapFit classes. Visit our website at www.bacw.com to download the 2009 Fall Adult Class Flyer, or call us at 781-729-8556 for more information. We hope to see you there!

*** PHONE COMMUNICATION ***

As many of you know, our computer system is able to send email alerts and confirmations, and BAC often uses email as an additional form of communication with parents. However, we ask that you please **do not** correspond with the office via email, as we are unable to respond to these messages in a timely fashion. Please be sure to call the office at 781-729-8556 with any questions or concerns you may have.

*** OUR WONDERFUL FACULTY *
AND STAFF**

We are very pleased to welcome back our returning teachers.....Lorraine, Jen, Cheryl, Lily, Stephanie, Billy, Heejin, Marcia, and Marianne! We are happy to welcome back Miss Audra after a brief absence while she completed her Master's degree. Also teaching will be our director Miss Debbie, and Lauren will return as Office Manager as well. We look forward to a year filled with lots of new and exciting energy along with our performances, activities, and events!

*Welcome to all as we dance into
our 20th year at BAC!*

