

Creative Arts Center Newsletter ~ November 2006

Hello Creative Arts Center Families!

I can't believe that it's almost December and this is the first opportunity I have had to be "in touch" with you all. After the long, hot summer, it's been great seeing you all and meeting so many new students. The past few months have been very busy with the start-up of the new fall schedule and several dance events.

In September members of Premiere Dance Company were treated to a trip to Spokane to see the musical "Chicago". The 15-member group left Helena on September 24th. The dancers attended class at the Ballet Arts Academy with Peggy Goodener and our longtime friends Sally and Phillip Broadbent opened their store, The Empire Dance Shop, for our dancers to stock up on much needed dancewear and shoes. I even heard there was time to shop at the mall! Our troupe of 29 returned to Helena on Sunday, September 24th.

As the calendar turned to October, PDC's Nutcracker season officially opened! Auditions were held and the cast of 76 was set. Rehearsals, the Art Walk, the Parade of Lights, and the library performance have kept us all hopping. In the middle of all of that, we even managed a trip to Billings for the annual Montana Dance Arts Association's Fall Workshop.

So, finally, I am welcoming you to the CAC's 2006-07 dance year. I along with the CAC faculty am dedicated to providing you and your family a dance experience that is not only educational, but also inspirational and rewarding. Dance is a perfect way to learn about dedication, commitment and to see that hard work really does get rewarded.

~Charlene White, Director

Festival Of Trees Performance

(Nutcracker Dancers: Don't confuse this with PDC's Festival performance)

Saturday, December 2nd 12:30-1:00 Helena Civic Center Ballroom

Once again, some of the CAC students will be performing at the Festival of Trees, I'm sure you've all heard the Christmas music playing! Students to perform: 3-4 year-olds (Tue AM & Thu PM classes), Pre-Ballet classes (5 & 6 year-olds), A, B, C Ballet classes, Jazz I, Inter. Jazz, Jazz III/IV, Tap Rep, Hip-Hop Jam

Students should arrive at the Civic Center by noon. Please enter on the West side (Benton Avenue) and enter through the door that is south of the stage door (green room) entrance and meet in the main lobby. We will proceed to the ballroom as one group. Parents who stay to watch must pay the admission fee.

There will be a rehearsal for Charlene's classes on Friday, December 1st, 4:30-6:30 at the studio (the classes that are underlined above). There will be a run-thru for all performers on Saturday, 10:45-11:45 AM. Students will be dismissed and should head straight for the Civic Center. These rehearsals are especially important for our younger dancers to experience performing in front of others.

We will discuss costumes in classes this week. We keep this very simple! Save that money for your holiday spending!

Please let us know if you/your child will not participate. We will also be taking some trips to retirement homes during the week of Dec 18th. We'll keep you posted!

Schedule Changes due to Nutcracker Rehearsals

Please make note of the following changes in the CAC dance class schedule:

Wed., Nov. 29 th	No D Ballet class
Fri, Dec 1 st	No Jazz II, III, IV
Mon, Dec 4 th	C Ballet will end @ 6:00, No D Ballet
Wed, Dec 6 th	C Ballet will end @ 6:00, No D Ballet
Mon, Dec 11 th	No C & D Ballet
Tue, Dec 12 th	No A Ballet
Wed, Dec 13 th	No C & D Ballet
Thu, Dec 14 th	No Inter. Jazz
Fri, Dec 15 th	No classes will be held

Make-up Classes: Students may make-up their missed classes as follows. You do not need to make them up this month, as I know schedules are very busy. You can wait until after the New Year if you prefer. Double check to make sure your make-up class is being held if you decide to do it in December.

D Ballet Make-up = E1 Ballet (Mon & Wed 3:30-5:00)

C Ballet Make-up = B Ballet (Tue & Thu 4:00-5:00)

A Ballet Make-up = Pre-Ballet II (Thu 6:15-7:00)

Inter. Jazz Make-up = Jazz II (Fri 5:30-6:30)

If these classes don't work for you, see me and I can offer other classes for you to make-up in.

Premiere Dance Company's 15th Annual Production of The Nutcracker

Don't miss this year's performance. It's a must for every aspiring dancer! The dancers will amaze, the costumes will delight and our new Kingdom of the Sweets sets will be something to see! This is Helena's original and longest running production of this magical, holiday, ballet tradition.

Show Times: Saturday, December 16th at 7:30 PM and Sunday, December 17th at 2:00 PM
Performances will be held at the Helena Civic Center

Tickets: Get yours now! They're selling like hotcakes! They are available in the CAC office, Monday thru Friday 2:30-6:30 and at the Helena Civic Center. General admission tickets are also available at Leslie's Hallmark Stores and the Carriage House Salon.

Prices: Box Seats: \$18 Reserved Seats: \$15/Adults \$12 Students/Seniors General Admission \$10

Note: There are three "Nutcrackers" being performed in Helena this year, make sure your tickets are for Premiere Dance Company's at the Helena Civic Center on the 16th or 17th!

Have you seen PDC's Raffle Item Table? Great prizes including \$1000! Tickets are available in the office or from any cast member dancing in the show.