November 5, 2015 - Volume 2, Issue 10



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## THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Thank You Families,

CONGRATULATIONS TO **AVA DEVINE** FOR WINNING OUR FIRST EVER HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST! LOOK FOR HER PHOTO TO BE IN OUR UPCOMING FAMILY NEWS AD AS THE WINNER!

Since November is the month we focus on giving thanks, I want to START my note to you with those words instead of simply ending it in that manner. THANK YOU to our dancers who walk through our door every single day and week with your bright, shining faces and smiles, and fill our studio with joy and laughter! Thank you to the parents who drive them each day to and from and figure out your schedules and taxi services to get them to their dance classes! Thank you to the siblings who are a part of the sit and wait gang! Please know you are appreciated! What a blessing!

You have all received information on our class schedule and the updates we have made to it. We have combined the classes that did not meet enrollment requirements, and shifted classes to meet the faculty components at TDW. We hope to see our day program expand in the spring.

Our Master Classes were a great success. Thank you to all of our dancers who took advantage of the training. Our next one is scheduled for December 6th and is "Head Shots and Comp Cards" with Valarie Hoffman. For students who audition anything, they are in need of a headshot, and this event is open to all of our studio. So if you are interested in signing up for a slot, watch for information to be posted.

You have also received information on our June 4th recital, **#danceislife**. While our recital is not required, the hard work and training that your dancer has put in for the year is rewarded through the performance. The recital is the place where the self-confidence and growth comes to fruition and students learn what the reward for their hard work and dedication feels like. Not to mention, that the performance is super fun for the dancers!

Please remember that our software does not allow our office to send the newsletter except via DropBox. You will need to either download the Dropbox app, visit our website and click on "newsletter", or read a courtesy copy located in the lobby.

As with each of our TDW Newsletters, this one is filled with a great deal of very exciting news and information that is important and pertinent to our studio and thus, your dancer and family. Please take time to read through the entire document.

Our studio will be closed for Thanksgiving Break, Thursday November 25-28, 2015.

Merde'

Cheryl

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

### **☼** NOVEMBER

### November 11: Nutrition Response Testing Informational Session @ The Dance Warehouse - 6:00pm

Dr. Daren Fitzpatrick of Natural Solutions Health Improvement Center is a Chiropractor and Nutritionist offering safe, natural solutions for many health problems. Please join us to learn about Nutrition Response Testing and Designed Clinical Nutrition and how they can restore the foundation of health! Come find out about how your nutrition choices responds to your organs and systems. A very cool and simplistic way to understand your body and the internal aging of your body and organs.

November 26-29: Thanksgiving Break/Studio Closed

### **O** DECEMBER

December 1: Recital Deposit and Participation Forms Due - \$50.00 per class

**December 6: Master Class – Headshots and Comp Cards –** Open to the public! Time slots will be available for sign-up in the lobby beginning November 16<sup>th</sup>.

December 11-13: Adrenaline Dance Competition/Convention in Orlando

December 14 -19: Observation Week @ The Dance Warehouse

December 21 - January 3: Christmas Break/Studio Closed



## INSIDE THE CLASSROOM

For those family members who are unable to observe your dancer in class, this section of our newsletter will give you an overview of what they are doing and learning in class each month and information that faculty would like for parents to know. Don't forget to plan now and join us for Observer Week December 14-19th to watch your child in action from start to finish in their class!

### **♥**TDW - SABA

Ballet Academy I/II: We are continuing to work on technique, as well as pirouettes.

Ballet Academy III/IV: This past month we have been working on a variation from Le Corsaire.

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### **O**MISS KERI

**Pre/ballet:** We will continue working on basic ballet skills/positions, rhythm, and coordination. We continue to work on the carriage of the arms and class etiquette.

**Ballet I:** We are continuing to work on our balance, strength, discipline and concentration. They will be introduced to additional allegro movements and spacial awareness in the coming weeks.

**Ballet II:** We are beginning to learn the articulation of the feet and ankles and rotation of the hips. We will be focusing on our balancés and keeping our hips square.



**Ballet III:** We will continue with our balance and strength while using grace and precision while moving freely across the floor. There will be more difficult progressions across the floor, mostly focusing on our channé and piqué turns at faster tempos.

**Ballet IV:** As these girls progress, they we will begin to explore more challenging barré exercises, turns, slow balancés (adagio exercises), and complex combinations. And as always turn out, placement, and alignment.

**Pointe:** we are continuing to strengthen our legs and ankles. In the coming weeks, I will be working on strengthening exercises while en pointe to ensure

safety and confidence during both barre and center work. We had 2 new girls join our pointe class, which I and the girls are super excited about.

### **☼** MISS TIFFANY

Lyrical I: This past month we have been continuing to work on technique, also working on balancing, extensions and pirouettes.

Int. Acro: This past month we have been working on hand stands, walkovers and aerials in class.

**Teen Hip Hop:** We have been working on different choreography and styles of hip hop.

### **OMISS AMANDA**

**Pre-Jazz:** This month we have been working on different combinations every week. I am working with the girls on trying to pick up choreography more quickly as we move to merge with Jazz I.

**Pre-Tap:** This month we have been working on single buffalos, drawbacks, shuffles, cramp rolls, and shuffle steps, just to name a few. We also have been working on different combinations. There has been major improvement with these girls.

**Jazz I:** This month we have been working on different combinations every week. I am working with the girls on trying to pick up choreography quicker.

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**Hip Hop I:** As the classes have combined, this month we have been working on different combinations every week. We are focusing on a certain skill with each combo, such as musicality, arms, chest pumps, faces, or bending the knees.

**Tween/Teen Hip Hop:** Since my style is a different style of hip hop, I have been working to introduce the dancers to the musicality, accents, weight change, focus and choreographic styles. I look forward to continuing.

#### MISS CHARITY

**Jazz II:** We are doing progressions in class each week and working on jazz pas de bourree and triplets, jazz walks, chasses and including turns and leaps. We are continuing work on our kicks including: hitch kicks and fan kicks and turns including: pirouettes, piques turns, coupe turns, and pencil turns.

Int. Leaps and Turns: Intermediate Leaps and Turns has been working on turns in a la seconde, pique and double pique turns, leg grab turns and pirouettes into a leap (saute de chat.) We are working on leaps out of turns, such as calypso and straddle leaps.

Beg Leaps and Turns: Beginning Leaps and Turns has been working on pirouettes, pencil turns, coupe turns, and soutenu turns. We have been going over proper placement and body alignment for turning. We continue to work on chaine and pique turns across the floor. We have begun working on calypso leaps out of chaine turns.

Lyrical/Contemporary IV: We have been working on choreography in a combination and improv techniques, including blind improv and improve exercises. We worked on combinations emphasizing plie. Worked on a combination.

**Adv. Leaps and Turns:** Advanced Leaps and Turns has been working turns and changing our spot in our turns. We have been working on balancing and core techniques and how to self-correct when we are not achieving what we are attempting.

Jazz III: Jazz III has been learning tilt jumps, pas de bourree entournant, double axel turning, ronde verse through a tilt jump into coupe turns. We have been working on a combination to Run Away Baby for a few weeks.

Lyrical/Contemporary II: Our class has been working on improv techniques, including blind improv other improv exercises. We have been working on a combination in class for a few weeks.

Combo II: Beginning ballet class learning first position, second position: plie, tendue, pas de cheval, soute, and passe walks. He are doing arabesque walks across the floor and chasses as well. We work on our butterflies and sitting stretches. In tap we shuffle, and flap, and worked across the floor: heel toe, toe heel. We have been working on Shuffle step and shuffle hop step. We have begun working on buffalos. In tumbling we work on front rolls, monkey hops, snakes, and table walks and puddle jump leaps.



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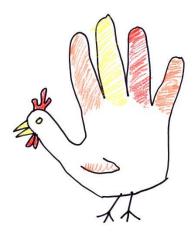
**Tap I:** They are really understanding and maintaining the rhythm of the Military time step. They are continuing work on cramp rolls and making them faster. We have begun working on pickups at the barre and across the floor, backward flaps, four and five point riffs, the waltz clog, double buffalos, and drawbacks.

**Musical Theatre:** We studied the work and history of Bob Fosse this month. We watch video clips of his choreography and choreo inspired by him. Each student also researched Fosse and shared notes with the class about him. We worked on a combination to All That Jazz in the style of Bob Fosse.

### **☼** MISS CHERYL

Jazz IV: We continue to work lines and holding them accountable for the basics of traditional jazz while building upon their skill. Advanced combinations and tempos push them to push beyond their comfort level to reach new levels of advanced ability. We have begun to work on a Christmas combination that is fun for the class that they will share with family and friends during observer week. They have been measured for recital costumes during the month of October and we are excited to welcome family and friends at Observer Week!

**Tap III:** This class is a moving along a very nice pace and I am very pleased with the work they are doing. While tap has been a challenge for some they are sticking with it and working through the coordination components that are proving to be a challenge. We have begun a combination and they are doing well with it. We look forward to sharing it during Observer Week!



**Tap IV:** This class is moving and shaking. They are trying new combinations of steps and sounds that are challenging and musically advanced and this is fun to work together on. They are supportive of each other as each class member works to get different steps and combinations and they have really made advancements in just a few short months. We look forward to sharing with you in December!

**Tap II:** This class is a fun class that is working hard. They want to have those skills that allow them to know tap and understand it. They are working to understand the difference in the dynamics of the feet and legs and balance that come in to play versus when they are dancing jazz or contemporary. They are moving quickly and have begun a combination to share during Observation Week. I am so proud of them!

**Combo I:** These dancers are working hard and are using good listening skills to understand what we do and when we do it. We are working hard on Right and Left and have moved from side steps to working on Chasse's with our R and L and and

Grande Jete's on our R and L. We have also begun work on Toe Heel versus Heel Toe. This is a tough concept. We have also begun short combinations in Ballet and Tap to share during Observation Week with family and friends!

**Combo II:** These dancers are still working very hard. We have added spotting and turns. Flap, heel, heel and Buffaloes to our steps as well as short dance combinations in Ballet and Tap to share during Observation Week. I could not be more excited to see what these dancers do in the coming weeks.

Lyrical/Contemporary III: This class is such a fun class. Hungry to dance and soak it all up. I look forward to pushing them to try different styles and movement that is challenging for them. Learning to reach beyond where they believe they can, sink lower than they think they can sink, finding those moments in the music.. that is part of what we will explore this season, continuing to push technique. Combinations are on the floor now and we are working to create the aesthetic quality that dancers must have to be a complete dancer! We look forward to sharing all we are doing during Observer Week!

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## INSIDE THE WAREHOUSE

#### O DRESSING ROOM

The Dressing Room is being enjoyed by all of our dancers and we are so excited to have this room for your use. We would like to ask you, however, to please pick up after yourselves. Each night we are spending time picking up clothes and trash that is left in the middle of the floor and on the benches. Please respect the space that we have created for you and pick up after yourselves. Otherwise, the dressing room will have to possibly be closed for a time. Please be courteous of others and parents help keep our dancers changing in the dressing room versus the restrooms please. Thank you!

### **OBSERVATION WINDOWS**

Please remember our walls in the back are not soundproof. When you are observing in our hallways, we ask that your keep your volume to a whisper so as not to distract our students. We also ask that you please keep your children quiet in that area as well. Thank you!

## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT OF THE MONTH



### **AMANDA SAMMONS**

Amanda is currently enrolled at Florida Gulf Coast University. She has been dancing for 12 years at Kim Halls School of Dance, located in Brandon, Florida. She grew up training under Charity Molloy and Kim Hall Perez.

She has trained in all genres of dance including tap, jazz, ballet, pointe, hip hop, lyrical, contemporary and competed for 10 years on the with "Artists Unleashed" at Kim Halls. Amanda has consistently received overall scores, judges choice awards, and costume awards. She has also had the opportunity to study and train with top industry professionals such as Travis Wall and Stacey Tookey.

Amanda hopes to influence the minds of others with her passion and love for dance. She has great ambition in what she does, always trying to learn something new and never giving up. Dance has always been there for her and always will be a very important part of her life. Try one of Miss Amanda's classes – you can catch her here Monday-Wednesday rocking them!

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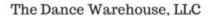
## DANCER'S HAVEN

### ©REFER A FRIEND

If you refer a friend, and that friend signs up and pays for the month of classes, you can receive 50% off for one of your classes that you take for the month!

#### **©** CONNECT WITH US







@TDWFortMyers



@The\_Dance\_Warehouse

## COMMAND PERFORMANCE NEWS

Families, please note that we work very hard to make sure that the team gets every bit of information that is necessary. It is also important to remember that some of our events and offerings are for our general audience. Therefore, it may be important for you to check your email, Facebook page of The Dance Warehouse, and the Command Performance Facebook group. I continue to try and put information in everyone's hands in every feasible manner possible, but will always make it accessible to the largest audience we are serving for the particular event so that we are meeting our customers' needs.

### **№** NOVEMBER REHEARSALS

November 14, 2015

• 10am-12pm: Sophie & Audrie

• 12pm-2pm: Sarah & Payton

2pm-4pm: All Dressed Up

November 21, 2015

• 9am-11am: Queen of Peace

• 11am-1pm: Sophie & Peyton

• 1:30pm-3:30pm: Ava & Peyton

• 3:30pm-5:30pm: Shaped Like a Gun

• 5:30pm-7:30pm: Taylor & Gabby

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### **♥** FACEBOOK PAGE

Remember to join our team Facebook page so that you will see current information on an on-going basis.

### **☼** REPORT CARDS

Report cards can be submitted in the front office. There is designated receptacle marked "Report Cards" to the left (beneath the window) when you walk into the office. Thank you!

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

December 1: Secret Santa

TBA: Command Performance Team Christmas Party & Secret Santa Reveal

## TDW DRESS CODE

Please note that ALL dancers must be within code to participate in class.

Please refer to your student handbook for our dress code. For ballet, all students must have hair in neat, clean bun. Pink, footed tights and black leotard are required for all general ballet classes. Ballet is our only specific dress code requirement.

**TDW-SABA** has a specific dress code with a different color leotard required. Please refer to your informational packet for this.

Used rehearsal tutus, if needed, are for sale. See Ms. Cheryl.

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### DANCING AHEAD

### **©** <u>DEMONSTRATOR / TEACHING ASSISTANT PROGRAM</u>

If you are Middle School or High School student and are interested in being a class Demonstrator/Assistant, please let the front desk know. This is an opportunity to learn how to manage a class, teaching skills and the other side of running a studio or teaching a class. It is a great skill to hone prior to going off to college! You never know what job you may get! This program is also available for Lee County School District volunteer hours.

### Current demonstrators and/or TAs include:

Tap II: Peyton Wittenborn

Lyrical/Contemporary I: Sophie Rose Roland

Jazz II: Peyton Thomas Jazz III: Ava Devine

Ballet I: Audrie Riverneider

Ballet II: Emma Oppet

Ballet III: Chloe Harrington

## SUSAN NEIKAMP STUDIOS

Susan Niekamp Studios has a few shout outs!!!

Congrats go out to Abby Fletcher for being picked to perform in Tampa with the All-State Chorus.

Congrats go out to **Chloe Loman** for receiving a Superior on her talent show performance at school.

Congratulations to **Isabel Isenhower**, **Carlee Isenhower** and **Henry Crater** for their performances in "Flat Stanley" with Creative Theatre Workshop.

Congrats to **Ayla Mayo** for being booked her second time to perform at Starbucks this month. She played at the Surfside Starbucks on Cape Coral on October 24th.

Congrats to **Cody Vagle** for performing The National Anthem. at the Autism Speaks Walk in Estero Community Park & Rec Center Oct 24th. Also seen that day were **Lolina Munoz** and **Amanda Pasler** performing vocal solos. **Audrie Rivernider** danced to "Pure Imagination" and **Gabriella Rodriguez** danced to "I Couldn't."

Congratulations to Abby Fletcher for her performance at Italian Fest at The Alliance for the Arts on October 25th.

SUSAN NIEKAMP

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If you are always looking side to side, you will never move forward!

Dance Strong!

