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THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Happy February, Dance Families! Spread the love!

As we move further into 2016, the studio is abuzz with all kinds of activity! In this exciting time, please be sure to read all emails and handouts that come your way to ensure that you have all of the information necessary to keep you and your dancer updated. We will do our best to communicate through as many avenues as possible.



The recital is becoming more and more of a presence in the studio as costumes are being ordered and choreography has begun in class! We're very excited to bring you the #danceislife recital – June 4th is going to come very quickly, and we can't wait for you to see all of the progress your dancers have made throughout the year. Please check out the "Important Dates" section of this newsletter for deadlines and other timeline information for the recital. All of this information can also be found in the #danceislife recital packet, which is located in the new document bins in the lobby.

Congratulations are in order for our Command Performance girls – they represented The Dance Warehouse beautifully at the **Shake the Ground** competition in Cape Coral in the last weekend of January. They brought home all Golds & High Golds in their respective categories, as well as multiple special awards and recognitions (a full breakdown can be found in the Command Performance section). We're all proud of you, ladies!

Be sure to check out our "Spotlight" section this month. Our students are making their mark all over the place – on the professional stage, on the academic grid, and in the arts throughout Lee County.

We also want to warmly welcome back Mrs. Vera for a few short hours during the week. It is a blessing to have her back with us. Come and say hello on Monday or Wednesday afternoons!

The Dance Warehouse is glad to have all of the families onboard during this exciting time of year, as teamwork becomes absolutely essential to prepare everything in time for the recital. Thank you for your commitment to our studio, to your dancer, and to the performing arts!

Merd	e,
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Cheryl

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UPCOMING EVENTS

☼ FEBRUARY

February 5-7: Dance League Competition - Orlando, Florida

February 15: President's Day – STUDIO OPEN

February 19-21: Star Systems Competition - Lakeland, FL

☼ MARCH

MARCH 1: RECITAL COSTUME BALANCE DUE!

March 12: Command Performance Showcase

March 12: THE STYLES Gala benefitting The Wounded Warriors Project

March 18-20: Revolution Competition – Lakeland, FL

March 19: Moulin Rouge Can-Can Performance

March 27-April 3: SPRING 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. We're looking forward to the #DANCEISLIFE RECITAL, happening on June 4, 2016!

⊘MR. BEN

Musical Theater: This month has been a lot of fun! As attendance has risen, we have had some fun exploring some Broadway classics. We waltzed to "Ten Minutes Ago" from *Cinderella* and went back to the 50s with "Born to Hand Jive" from *Grease*, all while learning a little bit about the history of the shows and Broadway itself. The enthusiasm that the dancers show while doing this choreography is so much fun to work with! To start this month off, we'll be learning about the Broadway hits *Once on This Island* and *Pippin!*

☼ MISS CHERYL

All of Ms. Cheryl's classes will be focusing on technique and finding the feeling through the music and performance for the more advanced classes. In the younger classes, we will be continuing to focus on actively listening, connecting steps together to create combinations and therefore creating our dances for the recital. Spring semester is where we begin to

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see the technique really come to fruition for our dancers and they see the improvements in their abilities and skill. Choreography for the recital has begun – about 10-15 minutes of class time will be devoted to learning the dance! So whether your dancer is participating in the recital or not, they are still having fun learning the dance and working on technique.

MISS KERI

Pre Ballet: Our grandé jetés and alternative chasses are looking great. In the coming weeks, we will be learning our chainé turns and piqué turns.

Ballet I: We will be working on focus in the upcoming weeks. When we focus, we can accomplish and learn much, much more. We are working on our grandé jetés and proper body alignment.

Ballet II: We are working on more complex movements: allegro (faster movements) in the center, tour jetés, vocabulary, proper foot placement, and pirouettes, pirouettes, pirouettes!

Ballet III: Complex progressions are our focus. Our goal is to see a combination 2 or 3 times, in turn, the dancers picking up new movement quickly and effectively. And as always...focusing on technique and using their turnout. I am trying to have the students be 'present' throughout class. No slouching at all, walking with their feet turned out, and engaging their core.

Ballet IV: We have been working and will continue to work on the mental and physical stamina to learn and perform more complex and longer combinations of steps with a higher degree of accuracy.

Pointe: We are continuing working off of the barre, doing turns across the floor, and pirouettes.



INSIDE THE WAREHOUSE

❖ RECITAL NEWS AND UPDATE

The recital deadline has passed, and we now have a firm final list of participants! We're very excited for choreography to begin in class. The costume picture board will be up soon!

Please keep in mind that the balance for costumes is due on **MARCH 1, 2016**. This means the other half of the costume cost will be charged to your account and payment will be due that day. Thank you for your attention to this deadline.

The **RECITAL FEE** will be due on <u>APRIL 1, 2016</u>. This will be \$90.00 for each student. It will include two tickets to the recital on June 4th, and a recital t-shirt for the student.

☼ DADDY/DAUGHTER DANCE

More information will be coming soon! If you're interested in participating, please mark your calendar with the rehearsal dates that were listed in the recital packet. It will be important that you attend! Dads are required to attend a certain number of rehearsals. Sign up sheets will be posted!

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SUMMER EVENTS

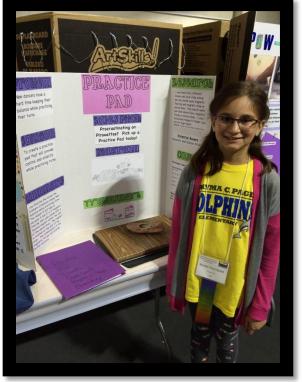
Another super exciting and fun SUMMER is on our horizon! We have **JUDY RICE (Ballet)** and **TYLER MUHLENKAMP (Jazz)** confirmed at this time, with several others in the process of being finalized. We have lots of exciting news coming soon - join us for a great summer of training, fun and dance!

SPOTLIGHT

2016 THOMAS EDISON INVENTOR'S FAIR

Congratulations to **Kiana Valett** and **Brooke Dore-Smith** for their successes at the Inventor's Fair! They're some smart cookies! Check out pictures of them with their awards and displays below.





Have an accomplishment or exciting news you wish to share? Let Ms. Cheryl or one of your teachers know!

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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











@The_Dance_Warehouse

Tag us with #TDWFM!

COMMAND PERFORMANCE NEWS

♦ SHAKE THE GROUND RESULTS

YOU THERE (S. Roland, P. Wittenborn)

- Competitive Primary Duet/Trio #2 OVERALL
- High Gold

TROUBLE (A.Devine, P. Thomas)

- Competitive Junior Duet/Trio #4 OVERALL
- High Gold

PURE IMAGINATION (A. Rivernider)

- Competitive Petite #5 OVERALL
- Special THE SHOW MUST GO ON Award!
- High Gold



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SEND ME ON MY WAY (P. Wittenborn)

- Competitive Primary #10 OVERALL
- Special YOU GOT FEET Award!
- High Gold

COOTIES (L. Roland)

- Competitive Petite #7 OVERALL
- Gold

I'M IN HERE (S. Roland)

- Competitive Primary #11 OVERALL
- High Gold

FEVER (P. Thomas)

- Competitive Senior #4 OVERALL
- High Gold

IT DON'T MATTER (A. Bachenberg)

- Gold

STAR STRUCK (G. Basey)

- High Gold

A LITTLE PARTY (A. Scarmozzino, A. Bachenberg)

- Gold

LIVE IN LIVING COLOR (E. Kelly, K. Valett)

- Gold

STRANGE BIRDS (A. Devine)

- High Gold

AVA DEVINE won a Peridance scholarship!

PEYTON WITTENBORN won the Judge's Aspire Award!





© <u>BALLET</u>: A reminder to ALL CP team members: You are REQUIRED to be in 2 Ballet Classes per week!

We are now in our busiest time of the year! ABSENCE WILL NOT BE TOLERATED GOING FORWARD! It is absolutely imperative that each dancer is in EVERY class and at EVERY rehearsal in its entirety! This is the responsibility of EACH team member. Parents and dancers please plan accordingly.

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Information will be handed out shortly for all of the Summer Events we will be offering.

❖ FACEBOOK PAGE

With competition season in full swing it is very important that the CP page be a vital form of communication. Check that page on a regular basis, along with your emails please.

☼ IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS

February 5-7: Dance League

February 15: Day Rehearsal

March 12: Command Performance Showcase

March 12: Evening Performance – THE STYLES Gala benefitting The Wounded Warriors Project (Payton, Sarah, Halle, Sarah, and Ava)

March 18-20: Revolution

TDW DRESS CODE

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

*At no time should socks be worn in the studio as shoes. This is a danger to all dancers and a liability to the studio.

*All students should have hair secured neatly for ALL classes.

General Ballet Classes: All students must have hair in neat, clean bun. Pink, footed tights and black leotard are required for all. Ballet is our only specific dress code requirement.

TDW-ABA has a specific dress code with a different color leotard required:

Dancewear Solutions: COTTON PINCH-FRONT LEOTARD

CL1610 Adult \$16.95 SA, MA, LA, XL

Used rehearsal tutus, if needed, are for sale. We have two available. See Ms. Cheryl.

We also have used shoes for sale – check the store for available sizes, and checkout at the front desk!

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SUSAN NEIKAMP STUDIOS

©CONGRATULATIONS ALL AROUND!

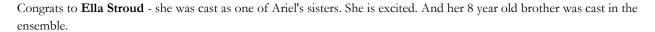
Congrats to **the studio** for being blessed with the opportunity to perform back-up vocals with Kristin Chenoweth in Naples.

Congrats to **the studio** for a second amazing opportunity to perform back-up vocals for yet another huge artist. We will be sharing the stage with Barry Manilow on both February 1st and February 6th.

Congrats to **Isabel Isenhower**, who made All County Orchestra, All County Chorus and All County Dance this year!! Way to go Isabel!!

Congrats to **Aurora Badia** for her interview on the TV show The Morning Blend. Aurora won Best of Youth Artist.

Congrats to **Hailey Mader**, who was cast as Flounder in *The Little Mermaid Jr*. And has her own solo singing part.



The Mayor of Naples John Sorey shared Ayla Mayo's performance picture on Twitter.

Congrats to Chloe Lowman for being cast in ensemble of Thoroughly Modern Millie.

SUSAN NIEKAMP

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

