



Carlson's School of Dance

November, 2007

CRA TAX CREDIT FORMS for 2007

are due at the Studio by December 31, 2007. Please be aware that you may need to fill in two forms: one for January to June (if you danced with us then) and one for September to December.

Forms are available in the studio dressing rooms, at the studio office or on our website under the download button.

website

www.carlsons.ca

email

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WHAT'S HAPPENING IN NOVEMBER

Watching Week is Saturday, November 3 to Friday, November 9.

November 12 classes are adjusted for the holiday day off:

- Studio **A** and **B** classes will start at 1:15
- Studio **C** classes will start at 12:30

The **Triple Threat Dance Convention** in Vancouver is on the Nov 23-25 weekend. With all teachers away, **there will be no classes Sat, Nov 24.**

(Go to the Triple Threat web page, www.triplethreatdance.com, to watch a video of **Justin Timberlake** dropping in at the Toronto convention!)

DANCE FESTIVAL NEWS

The deadline for the Cowichan Music Festival is December 15.

The Cowichan Music Festival falls Feb 25-March 2 this year. Carlson's will be closed that week to allow for performances and for other students to watch festival events.

Dancers in classes that will be performing in the festival **will receive an envelope in November detailing the fees required for the entry.** The fees must be received by your teacher before December 8.

Solo and small group entries are the responsibility of the dancers and parents. Completed entry forms with fees (made payable to Cowichan Music Festival) may be left at the Studio Office before December

15 and we will deliver them with our Group Entries.

Masterclasses are available with the adjudicators in Ballet, Jazz and Tap at a cost of \$15.00. These classes are a great opportunity for dancers to work with a variety of talented teachers without the expense of travel and course fees that are usually involved. You must register on the festival entry form by December 15.

We will be holding a Group Practice at the Cowichan Theatre on Sunday, February 10 from noon to 4 p.m.

Other Dance Festivals

For information about other dance festivals on the Island, please refer to their web sites.

Victoria DanceArts Festival: www.greatervictoriadanceworks.com/dancearts.htm
Deadline for entries is January 15

The **Upper Island Musical Festival** in Nanaimo: www.nanaimomusicfestival.com
Deadline for entries is January 15.

DANCERS ON STAGE

This December, a number of our students are participating in local stage productions. **Guiliana Mansueti** is dancing the role of an angel and **Jessie Foster** is a mouse in the Alberta Ballet's production of *The Nutcracker* at the Royal Theatre in Victoria. You can see them Friday, November 30 at 7:30 pm, Saturday, December 1 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, December 2 at 2 p.m. (Phone 250.386.6121 or 1.888.717.6121 for tickets, or through www.rmts.bc.ca)

At the Chemainus Theatre, **Emma Tow** and **Parker Schmidt** are both members of the cast of *Miracle on 34th Street*. You can watch them at many dates through November to January as members of the "Blue" cast which includes:

8 p.m. shows on

November 15, 17, 22, 23, 29, December 1, 2, 6, 7, 13, 15, 16, 20, 21, 27, 29, 30, 31, and January 3

2 p.m. shows on

November 22, 24, 29, December 1, 6, 9, 13, 15, 20, 23, 29, 31, and January 3, 5.

(Contact 246-9820 or www.chemainustheatrefestival.ca for tickets.)

COWICHAN DANCE CONNECTION

Steps Ahead Dance is hosting a Cowichan Dance Connection dance workshop in ballet, modern jazz and pilates on January 12, 2008. Dancers 8 years and older are invited to attend the day-long event, which includes an evening performance of dancers from local dance schools. It's priced at \$35-\$45. Please see your teacher for an entry form if you are interested in attending.

WHY TAKE DANCE EXAMS?

At Carlson's School of Dance, exams are offered in Ballet, Tap, Modern Jazz and Hip Hop. Not every dance school offers exams but we choose to because we feel that exams benefit dancers in a number of ways. Exams give the children a goal to set for themselves and they work hard to achieve it. As they grow in dance they learn to work on their own technique without comparison to other students; exams help them measure their progress. When a student passes an exam she has demonstrated a standard that is recognized all over the world. If she moves to a new dance school, her level of dance is immediately and clearly known. In B.C., Secondary School Fine Arts credits are given for RAD Grades 5 and up (and for similar levels in the ISTD and AID'I). Exams also give parents a standard of measurement as their children move through the dance syllabus.

The School also benefits from using Exams in that there is a technical standard set for the school; it gives us a valid credential that is measurable internationally. Our teachers always have a high standard and work hard for and with the children but the exam program adds another dimension. The impending exam forces the teacher to require a certain standard from every child taking the exam. She can't let the child enter the exam underprepared. Even the dancers who do not take the exam are benefiting from this preparation because the standard of the whole class is rising.

The fees for exams are paid to the international associations. No money is retained by the School except that which pays for the pianist who plays for the exams.

**The deadline for the next order of Carlson's Gear will be
November 7 to ensure delivery before Xmas. Call Pam Thomson
at 701.0900 or 701.7387.**