



Carlson's School of Dance

November, 2008

Costume deadline is approaching... November 15

A letter will be mailed this week to those who have not yet paid their costume deposit. Some costumes and fabrics are being purchased now, especially for festival pieces.

Most costumes will be covered by the \$40 or \$60 deposit but an extra amount may be requested for some. The costume is the property of the dancer.

Make cheques payable to "Carlson's Costumes".

website

www.carlsons.ca

email

info@carlsons.ca

Address

3272 Sherman Road
Duncan, BC
V9L 4B4

Phone

746 6456

Fax

746 6475

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN NOVEMBER

- **November 6, 7:30 p.m.**
Ballet Victoria's
The Firebird
Cowichan Theatre
- **November 10 & 11 classes**
will all run as usual.
- The **Triple Threat** is on the Nov 21-23 weekend. With all teachers away, **there will be no classes Sat, Nov 22.** (Go to the Triple Threat web page, triplethreatdance.com, to see the latest additions to the staff and to watch an intro video—are you in it?)

DANCE FESTIVAL NEWS

The deadline for the Cowichan Music Festival is December 13.

The Cowichan Music Festival falls Feb 27-Mar 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 6.

Solo and small group entries are the responsibility of the dancers and parents. Completed entry forms with fees (made payable to Cowichan Music Festival) if left at the Studio Office before December 13,

will be delivered 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 13.

We will be holding a Group Practice at the Cowichan Theatre on Sunday, February 15 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.victoriadanceworks.ca Go to "Festival 2009"

Deadline for entries is November 15 (Competitive) and January 15 (Performance)

The **Upper Island Musical Festival** in Nanaimo : www.nanaimomusicfestival.com

Deadline for entries is January 15.

CARLSON'S NEWS

- **Watching Week** will be from **Saturday, November 29 –Friday, December 5.**
- **Carlson's Hip Hop Dancers** added their special brand of entertainment to **Magical Michael's Teen Showcase** on October 17. The crowd was treated to a duet by **Cody Ridley and Kendall Kloosterman**, the Junior Boys' Hip Hop Class which included: **Timothy Allen, Patrick Cools, Parker Schmidt and Michael Slang**, and the debut of this year's **Senior Hip Hop Class** number.
- Remember to fill in your **CRA Child Fitness Tax Credit Form** and bring it to the Studio before December 31. You can pick up the form at the Studios, the Office or download it from our website.
- The Royal City Youth Ballet's version of **The Nutcracker** will be at the Cowichan Theatre on Sunday, December 7 at 2 p.m.

COWICHAN DANCE CONNECTION

Steps Ahead Dance is hosting a Cowichan Dance Connection dance workshop in ballet and more, on January 10, 2009. Dancers 8 years and older are invited to attend the day-long event, which includes an evening performance of dancers from local dance schools. The workshop priced at \$24-\$40. 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 AIDT). 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.

CHANGES TO RECITAL DATES

Because Cow High has changed it's Graduation Banquet this year, we have had to reschedule our Recital to **June 19 and 20** with the corresponding Rehearsals during the week of June 15-18. **Please revise your calendar!**