

MILDURA BALLET & DANCE GUILD INC.

NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2010

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www.milduraballetanddance.com.au

CLASSICAL GRADED EXAMINATIONS

Classical Grade 1-5 examination and presentation dates are the **6th and 7th of September**. All students should have received a CD with music and should be practicing work at home. Class attendance is of the utmost importance at this time. Students and parents should refer to the student handbook for correct uniform requirements. Character skirt length is mid-calf. A waist elastic is also required for classical examinations, available at Flex n Groove.

A note will be distributed soon outlining the specific date and time for the examination.

A rehearsal with the pianist will be held Sunday 5th September times to be confirmed.

JAZZ & TAP CSTD EXAMINATIONS

CSTD exams will be held on Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th August. Good luck to all students. You have worked hard over a long period. All you have to do now is be confident and enjoy the experience (with a friendly smile for the examiner!). Keep practicing and your hard work will pay off.

Libby Kennedy

EISTEDDFOD PHOTOS

The last date for Eisteddfod photo orders for classical students is the 13th of August, order forms and money need to be in by that date. Photos are still available for viewing and ordering upstairs in Studio 1.

Photos will be sent home with students the following week starting Monday the 16th of August. Any questions please contact Jo Cottrell

ACCOUNTS

All term accounts have now been sent, please ensure account is paid within 14 days. For any queries on your account please contact Robyn O'Brien. Invoices will be sent this week for all examination classes and students will not be able to sit exams if the exam fee has not been paid. As the Guild is a Non-Profit organisation this must be strictly adhered to.

The following classes need class representatives:

**SENIOR JAZZ
INTERMEDIATE BRONZE TAP
JAZZ TAP 4**

Please contact Robyn O'Brien at the office if you can help. The class rep provides a vital link between the teacher and the class and is particularly important coming up to concert time.

Contacts

Office (Mon/Tues 10am-2pm):
Robyn O'Brien 5022 0516
President:
Trish Arnold 0400 238 783
Treasurer:
Joanne Allen 0408 257 423
Complaints/Concerns Officer:
Sue Bowditch 0438 539 532

STAGE USE

The Guild will use the Stage at the Arts Centre for the last time on the 19th August. Contemporary Classes are being rescheduled to Studio 2 and there will be some changes to the timetable for this TBA. Jazz/Tap 1, 2 & Junior Jazz classes will be held at the Medimurski Hall same day and time. The Hall is located on the corner of Fifteenth Street and Deakin Avenue and has excellence facilities for dance classes, the Guild has previously held a number of classes at this venue.

COMING UP

CSTD Tap & Jazz Exams 23 & 24 July
Classical exam rehearsal with pianist 5 September
RAD Classical exams Grade 1-5 6-7 September 2010
Costume Check Week beginning 4 October
Concert photos (Full Costume) 16 October (TBC)
Junior Concert Performance 26-28 November
Matinee Performances (Senior Classical Students Only) 1-2 December
Senior Concert Performance 2-4 December

TAP AND JAZZ UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

The uniform requirements for Tap and Jazz are stated in the 'Student Handbook'. Classical students present for class with impeccable grooming and jazz and tap should be no exception. Over the next few weeks, I would like to see the following:

Hair in a bun

Plain black headbands are acceptable to keep fringes off the face. A black ribbon tied around the bun is also acceptable.

Black leotard for Jazz and Tap

The black leotard is a plain high back leotard, this is the same as the ballet leotard but with the high back, the leotard may be long sleeved if you prefer. You may also have black crossover/wrap for the cooler months. Some students currently wear the 'dance' knitted long sleeve tops - these are ok until they no longer fit but please do not purchase them in future. The black 50th anniversary T-Shirt is acceptable to wear to and from class and for warm ups ONLY, however will need be removed for class. A fitted leotard and crossover is the only way for teachers to see the positioning of the body.

Jazz

Black fitted shorts or knee and 3/4 length leggings with flesh coloured jazz tights. Bootleg pants are not ideal as they often cover the child's foot.

Tap

Black tulip skirt with flesh coloured tights OR knee and 3/4 length leggings with flesh coloured tights
Black and ballet pink leg warmers are acceptable over winter.

I realise it can be extremely cold in studio 2 so early morning or late night classes may be permitted to wear a warmer jumper until they have warmed up adequately. This includes the Guild black polar fleece jackets.

Smart grooming for class will improve the level of discipline. It also makes it easier for parents when purchasing dance attire in the future. I appreciate your support on this matter and look forward to seeing all my students really looking the part for dance class.

Libby Kennedy

JAZZ/TAP PRESENTATIONS

75 students participated in jazz and tap presentations on Thursday 5th and Saturday 7th August. The students performed for one of the Guild's former jazz, tap and contemporary teachers Mrs Belinda Hudak.

Mrs Hudak was able to give the students some valuable feedback and was particularly impressed with the standard of our Level 4 Jazz students (intermediate jazz).

The presentations provided students with an 'exam' experience and a chance to showcase the hard work they have been doing in class. Congratulations to all who participated - this experience gives you some valuable know-how for exams in 2011.

Libby Kennedy

CONCERT PREPARATION

The 2010 Annual Concert Performance preparation is underway. Many first costumes have or are being completed with costume packs to be distributed over the coming weeks. You must complete a permission note to consent to the concert and commit to fabric purchase, once signed you are responsible for payment of the fabric pack even if your child does not participate in the concert performance.

Please check dates on the first page, it is important that costumes are ready for the photo shoots, these need to occur early to allow time for the photos to be inserted into the program and allow time for the program to be printed. Many parents are available for sewing advice/assistance, if you need help please ask around. If you do need to engage a dressmaker, please ensure that you ask around for recommendations and get an estimate of price first, as with any trade, there are good and bad and parents have been caught in the past with poor quality or extreme expense.

NO PATTERN SHOULD EVER BE REMOVED FROM THE STUDIO, PATTERNS SHOULD BE TRACED OFF AT THE STUDIO AND LEFT THERE FOR OTHER PARENTS TO TRACE.

As the performances this year will be at the Mercy theatre, there are a number of changes to protocol which the Guild must adhere. These main changes relate to signing in and out procedures and authorized persons backstage. **Strictly NO PARENT/GUARDIAN OR PERSON will be allowed to be backstage area at any point unless they are on the duty roster and have signed in.** Students will be signed in at the back stage entry and no authorized person will be permitted past this point.

Strictly NO MOBILE PHONES will be permitted backstage. All mobile phones will be required to be left at the sign in desk and will be returned to students upon sign out.