



*Abbott's Performing Arts Center*

## **ON YOUR TOES**

**August, 2009**



BACK TO DANCE CLASS! I trust this newsletter finds all of you well rested, and ready to get back to classes and perfect our dance technique. First of all, CONGRATULATIONS on a WONDERFUL recital. May 31<sup>st</sup>, was our annual spring recital, and it was a terrific show. If you haven't seen a video and would like to order one, please email [Take2ok.com](mailto:Take2ok.com) – or give Take 2 Video a call at 405-844-1055. They did a great job of capturing the kiddos at their best. If you are new to our studio and want to see what all the “hoopla” is about, pick up your copy- your child will LOVE it! It was a great show. Our Show next year is already in production meetings with the staff. The Date at the theater has been set for Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup>- Mothers Day! What a great way to spend the day with the family! FYI-Dates for the theater are done by lottery- and ...this is the date I got!! I would have loved a later date, but we WILL make it work! It won't interfere with finals, graduations...I am keeping my fingers crossed on proms! I am not sure of our “theme” but will let you know asap!

BIG NEWS- that I wasn't aloud to talk about – APAC Dancer- Ms. Diana Lee- made it all the way to Las Vegas Week, on So You Think You can Dance TV show. She MAY have some “air” time at the New Orleans City Audition, but ...shhhh.. She got cut at Las Vegas Week. She was bummed, but they were definitely looking for certain types- but Diana...We KNOW you can dance! Congrats on getting so far. She is our Second APAC dancer to make it to Las Vegas Week- along with Raul Machurro- we are very proud! Mitchell (my son- the famous Mitchell) said- well mom, you have had your Julliard Girl, and your kids on So You Think You Can Dance, you can die a happy dance teacher! LOL! He is a pretty funny kid- and he knows what makes his momma happy!

APAC DANCE TEAM Scores Big at San Antonio Nationals. The dancers were TOP SR. Dancers- #1 in the nation for their “Maps” dance, and our Jrs. Were #2 in nation for their “YOU” dance. We won many high points, and had many soloists recognized, and our graduating Sr., Miss Hillary Walker, won overall TOP DANCER, and Miss Starbound. What a way to finish a competitive dance year! Hillary is now at U of Arizona doing the dance thing there. Natalie Eramo is also at U of A with Hillary, Christian and Lindsey Georgalas are at Point Park, Allysen Hooks is a Senior at Julliard. Kristen Stanley is a Senior at Ok. City University, and Amy Crowson and Sarah Stanley are at State University of New York at Purchase. Kyle Santolini is dancing on a cruise ship- I think he is in Germany. Kenny Riveria is at American Acadmey of Musical and Dramatic Arts in LA. GOSH I miss these kids!

Our two Seniors this year are Blaire Ostendorf and Nicole Koch. They are both Seniors at HSPVA (the High School for the Performing and Visual Arts-here in Houston). Both have been at APAC since they were little bitty pre-school dancers, and both girls spent time this summer in NYC, at the Joffery Contemporary Dance Workshop. Both girls will be working here at APAC and I hope all of you will get to know them...before it is time to send them off to college! Man, time flies when you are having fun!

Ms. Abby Spitzer will be managing the front desk. Abby has been a long time student, and recent employee of APAC. She pretty much knows EVERYTHING about EVERYTHING in the whole world, so if you have any questions- just ask Abby! In addition to working for us here at APAC, Abby will be attending UofH and continuing her dance teaching here with us!

I would love to introduce you to my fantastic staff for the 2009-10 dance year. Ms. Angela Dickens Holms has been at APAC since she was in kindergarten. Angela was a member of our APAC dance team, and won many, many awards. She graduated from HSPVA, and U of Arizona (where she had a full dance scholarship) . She is now on staff at HSPVA, and several other dance studios here in Houston. BUT APAC is her home, and we are thrilled to have her back!

Lenorris Arnold comes to us this year as the master Jazz/Contemporary/ Tap Man. Lenorris got his training from Melissa Hooks and was a very successful competitor with "Masters-the upper level" dance team. Lenorris is very much in demand to judge dance competitions and to set choreography on teams throughout the Nation. We are very excited to welcome him to the APAC Family!

Ms. Sarah Nave will be heading up our Hip Hop classes, as well as bringing her expertise in jazz and ballet to the school. Sarah also attended HSPVA, and has been on staff with many dance studios, and master teaching organizations. We are thrilled to have Ms. Sarah and her groovy moves back at APAC for the season!

Ms. Traci Carpenter is BACK! We are so excited that she has found time in her BUSY schedule to fit us in this year. Traci will be teaching the lyrical classes on Monday nights. Traci has been a student of mine since she was a pre-schooler. Traci was a very successful member of our APAC Dance Team. She was the Captain of her H.S. Drill Team at Cy-Creek, and has earned a great reputation in the drill team and competition world for her unique and innovative Choreography. Traci was a member of the Stutters at Texas State. Currently, Traci is the Drill Team Director at Clear Creek High School, and is on staff at major drill team organizations. We are THRILLED to get her back in the studio with our APAC dancers!

Grace Wilson is currently at HSPVA where she is a dance major. Ms. Grace is still a member of our APAC Dance Team, and often wins high point awards for her solo performances. Grace has been assisting with classes for several years, and had her very own classes last year. She has the heart and patience of a saint, as as Mitchell says "the teacher gene". Ms. Grace will again be teaching some of our younger dancers, and they will adore her!

I will have everyones resume (including my own) up on the website. Be sure to check the website for important dates- recital information, studio holidays, and such. If you have any questions- PLEASE email me or Ms. Abby at [apacoffice@gmail.com](mailto:apacoffice@gmail.com). My home email is [apacdanc@comcast.net](mailto:apacdanc@comcast.net) and I would be glad to answer any and all questions you may have!

I hope you love my studio, my staff and have a WONDERFUL Dance YEAR!

Paula Abbott Barry