



ON YOUR TOES

August 2007

Welcome to APAC's 20th Year in the dance education field! We have had some great moments over the past 20 years. I can remember every little dancer who has danced "on the boards" here at APAC. Many dancers have started here when they were the tiniest of dancers, and remained until they graduated from High School. I still have them returning to the studio from College. It has been a very gratifying 20 years. I hope that all of this years dancers will have a wonderful experience at my school.

Very Special Welcome to our new dancers and their parents. We are happy to welcome you and look forward to getting to know each and every one of you. I hope to see you all featured in our Student Spotlight in years to come.

Our recital this year will be EXTRA SPECIAL. We will be holding it at the Hobby Center for the Performing Arts in Downtown Houston. It will be a great experience for our dancers to dance in a true, professional theater. We will have two shows on Sunday, June 22nd, 2008. We will have a full sovenier program where you can buy ads to wish your dancer good luck, or for a special momento to remember this extra special show. We will send info home about that soon. We are sending home info on the recital this very first lesson, so that you can plan and budget it in to work with your family.

We usually do a recital earlier in the dance year, but due to scheduling issues with the theater, we will have our recital in June. Our dance classes will run thru June 14th. Our Summer Session for Competition dancers will be held in the mornings beginning June 2nd for three weeks. So if you are planning your life 11 months in advance, like I do- I hope this info helps!

We have an outstanding staff here at APAC. Most of our teachers were former APAC dancers themselves! Please check our website for our staff info. All of our staff come from performing backgrounds and have been teaching for several years. Please feel free to ask them about their backgrounds. You can rest assured that each of us here at APAC are qualified dance professionals. Check out our website www.apacdance.com Here you will find the latest info on Recitals, Competitions, and Students spotlights, and Staff information. We also have a link to print your own costume order forms, and measuring charts to help you choose the best size for your dancer. Click on Recital and scoll down to important info, to find that link. I will post newsletters at least every two months. Please check the website to see any news updates.

Our office hours here at the studio are Mon- Friday from 4:30-7:30pm, and on Saturdays from 10-noon. If you need to get in touch with us outside of office hours, the best way is by email. My email address is apac@houston.rr.com , I will let you know when my Comcast kicks in! Mrs. Susan Belknap will be at our front desk. Mrs. Susan is Ms. Kristen Vickers MOM- and has been at the studio in some capacity for 20 years! If she don't know the answer to your question, no one does!

Our APAC COMPETITION TEAM Dancers had a wonderful, busy, summer. They attended the Starbound National Talent Competition in Lake Tahoe, NV in late July. We won TOP DANCE STUDIO- Grand National Champions for our Sr. Dance, "Death to the Fairy", we got Third in Showcase for our Jr. Dance, "King of May", we got Sixth in Showcase for our Sr. Dance, "Both Hands" and Ninth in Showcase for our Jr. Dance, "I'm a Woman". We were Thrilled. Taylor Fitch got 2nd top Jr. Soloist, and Maddie Sheedlo got 10th Jr. Soloist. Natalie Eramo, Lexie Houghtaling and Hillary Walker were in the top of Sr. Soloists. Hillary Walker was the #1 Dancer, Teen Miss Starbound, and Top Soloist. Hillary and Christian Garza were Top Sr. Duet, and Natalie and Lindsey Georgalas were 8th Top Duets in the Sr. And Maddie and Katlyn Vincik were in top ten Jr. Duets. ALL AND ALL, it was pretty exciting. Our Production dance, "TEXAS" best was featured and placed 5th in the Showcase. There were Thousands of dances, so we are very proud of our dancers! Congrats kids! Now the hard part comes in learning all our new team dances for our upcoming season. We will have a special Gala Performance for our Solos, Duets and Trios in April. I hope all of you will come and check out our APAC Talent! More info on that later.

FYI- there is a phone in our studio lobby for the convenience of our customers. This phone does not ring for incoming calls, but you can make outgoing calls. Please limit calls to 2min.

FOOD AND DRINKS are not permitted in the dance rooms, lobby or hallway areas. We do provide a snack bar area. Your cooperation is appreciated.

We do not allow unsupervised children in the hallway, lobby or kitchen. Please keep waiting children, sibling with you. Please no coloring, jumping or climbing on furniture or walls.

Dancers are allowed to be dropped off 5 min. before their dance class starts. Dance should be picked up promptly after class, ESPECIALLY the last class of the evening. Your children are not supervised by staff members after their scheduled class time. Please educate them as to your rules for picking them. We do not suggest that they run out to your car alone, as our parking lot is quite busy, and dangerous. If you will be running late, please info the front desk, and have your child sit with them until your arrival. Be sure to check with them for their babysitting rates.

REMINDER- we will be strict with our dress code. Ballet is a strict discipline and is steeped in tradition. Students are permitted to wear black leotards, with pink tights. No shorts, bare legs, or t-shirts are allowed in Ballet Class. Hair is to be pulled up off the neck. We hope that parents will help support us in upholding this tradition, and encourage their dancers to come dressed appropriately for each lesson.

Today, we are sending home a packet with each dancer. It is this newsletter, a recital info packet, an important dates and studio holidays info sheet, dress code and guideline of manners for dancers. If they don't make it home with one of these sheets, please stop by and pick one up.

I know this is going to be a great 20th dance year. Our recital theme this year is "Give our regards to Broadway". It will be our pleasure to work with your kids, and to watch them grow into beautiful dancers and people! Here's to another great year~Love ya kids

~Ms. Paula