

STUDIO WEST *Dance Academy*

March/April 2019 Newsletter



Spring Showcase 2019 is Coming!

The costumes are pouring in, which means it's hard to find Ms. Trish under all the piles! So...be on the lookout for our class-costume-reveal boards to be posted in the main building and at the Beat Box after Spring Break! Costumes will then be handed out soon after. Ms. Trish will email each group individually as their costume hand-out day approaches.

The full Spring Showcase schedule will be coming out soon; including picture times (May 13-18), dress rehearsal times (May 28-31), and performance times (May 31-June 2).

And, to add to the excitement, Spring Showcase shirts and performance DVDs will be available for pre-order in April!



Coppelia Coming to Olympia this Easter Weekend!

Have you heard the news? Studio West Dance Theatre presents Coppelia on Easter Weekend, April 18-20th at the Washington Center for the Performing Arts. This romantic-comedy ballet is sure to entertain audiences young and old with a tale filled with mischief and mistaken identities. Studio West first premiered Coppelia seven years ago and it is exciting for us to bring back this production that is so rich with history in the ballet world. You will not want to miss Studio West's talented dancers take the stage in this beloved ballet full of youthful energy and playful humor! Get your tickets today by contacting the box office at (360) 753-8586 or by visiting <http://www.washingtoncenter.org/organizer/studio-west-dance-theatre/>



We Dance to Make a Difference

We shared a beautiful evening last month of wine, dine, and dance at our 11th Annual Dance to Make a Difference (DTMD) at The Washington Center for the Performing

Arts. Dancers from across the Puget Sound performed new works in honor of two fabulous non-profits: Family Support Center of South Sound (FSCSS) & Homes First. We will announce the fundraising total soon. This year, we saw the biggest audience in our gala history! Thank you to all staff, volunteers, sponsors, dancers and attendees who made this a marvelous night! It really feels great to be able to use our talents to give back to the community!

Continued Support for FSCSS and Homes First

We may have wrapped up another successful gala, but our partnership and support for FSCSS and Homes First will continue throughout the year. Just this past Saturday March 16th, our EDGE dancers hosted a Hip Hop Dance Party with FSCSS's Camp HOPE America – Washington campers. On April 18th, we will host campers for an Evening at the Ballet during the Coppelia performance. As spring arrives, we will plan volunteering events with Homes First to help maintain the homes they manage. Be on the lookout for more information, and to volunteer and help us make a difference in our community!





Calendar of Upcoming Events

Sat 3/23

7:00 pm, Dance Festival Northwest.

Sat 3/30

1:00 – 2:30 pm, FREE ballet master class for ballet levels 5-8 with Joshua Grant.

Mon 4/1 – Sat 4/6

Studio closed for Spring Break.

Thu 4/18 – Sat 4/20

Coppelia ballet at the Washington Center for the Performing Arts.

Fri 4/26

7:00 pm, EDGE, Beat Box Jrs. and Tutus & Tennis Shoes perform at Arts Walk.

Mon 4/29

Summer registration opens at noon!

Tue 5/7

Spring Showcase tickets go on sale at noon!

Mon 5/13 – Sat 5/18

Spring Showcase photo week.

Sat 5/25

Last day of classes for 2018-2019 school year session.

Mon 5/27

Studio closed for Memorial Day.

Taking the Next Step: Level 8 students Naomi & Cole are doing just that!

Our advanced students dance every day and take several classes a week, however this does not mean that they all want to pursue a career in Dance. Dancing is good for you regardless of what your future plans are...for so many reasons! However, SWDA does offer such high-quality training that if your dreams are to join a professional dance company, we can help take you there! Studio West currently has two students that are spreading their wings after training with SWDA for the past ten years. Level 8 students: Naomi de Jesus and Cole McMason are making this move as they venture outside of SWDA to continue their professional training.



Hearts in Alice in Wonderland. I've been able to develop my artistry and acting skills, which are just as important as ballet technique in becoming a well-rounded dancer and performer."

Cole will be training on a merit scholarship this summer with the Pacific Northwest Ballet (PNB) School in Seattle. Cole chose the PNB program over scholarship offers at other prestigious programs such as San Francisco Ballet School. This past year has been key for Cole's preparation towards a professional dance career. Earlier this season, Cole stepped into the principal role of Cavalier in The Nutcracker and is currently preparing for the title male role of Franz in Coppelia. It has been a valuable opportunity for Cole to receive additional coaching for both roles from Joshua Grant, soloist with Pacific Northwest Ballet.

What will Naomi and Cole miss most about their time at Studio West? Both answer quickly and without hesitation – the relationships with their friends and teachers. Cole reflects, "I have an advantage over Naomi, in that if I miss my friends and family, I can drive down from Seattle on a weekend to visit. I will miss the relationships I've developed with my teachers though. They know me and care about me, they know what I'm capable of, and they know when I should push to do my best and when I need to ease up in order to stay healthy. It's this relationship that allows me to continually improve and put in my best performance. I will miss that guidance, but I will need to figure out some of that for myself and develop new relationships at PNB."

We wish Naomi and Cole a big MERDE as they take this next step towards their pre-professional dance training!

This summer, Naomi will attend the Joffrey Ballet program in Chicago and has already been accepted to the Joffrey Conservatory Program in the fall. Having trained with Joffrey Ballet last summer, Naomi is familiar with their challenging and diverse program. "The Joffrey program isn't limited to a specific genre or method. I like classical ballet, contemporary, jazz, hip hop, and training in different dance forms helps me be a more versatile dancer," observes Naomi, "I'm very grateful for the performing opportunities I've been given at Studio West, such as partnering with Joshua Grant for the role of Sugar Plum Fairy in The Nutcracker, and performing as Queen of



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