

WELCOME

We welcome everyone to the 2010-2011 School Year at Sonoma Ballet Conservatory. All of us here are looking forward to another year filled with growing through the art of dance. All of us at the Conservatory are delighted and honored to be able to share our love of dance with your family in what promises to be an exciting year for SBC!

SUMMER DANCE WORKSHOP ROUND-UP

Thank you to all the dancers who participated in our VERY well-received Summer Workshop Performances! Your hard work in class and effort in both shows definitely counted! We had more performers this year . . . and bigger audiences. The compliments keep coming in, and we are very proud of your accomplishments!

Look on the back page for some of the comments we've received. Haven't returned your Feedback Survey? Don't worry—just drop it off at the office at your earliest convenience.

You can still order a DVD of the performances as well as photos and souvenir color programs. Look for ordering information in the studio. All the photos that appeared in the program are available. If you don't see your photo on display at SBC, just ask. Also, extra Black and White copies of the August 7 Workshop Performance program are available at the SBC office.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who made the production possible and to the parents for allowing us the chance to share our love of dance with your children this summer.

Summer Dance Workshop 2011 is already being planned. The dates are set for July 11-August 6 (4 weeks of classes and rehearsals), August 8-12 (Rehearsal Week) AND August 13 (Summer Dance Workshop Performances at the Sebastiani Theatre). While it is possible for us to work around family vacation schedules during the first two weeks of the Workshop, it is much appreciated by all the teachers and choreographers if participants are present at ALL classes and rehearsals. If at all possible, we ask you to consider scheduling vacations before or after the Summer Dance Workshop. Thank you for your understanding.

NOTE: If you still have a costume piece in your possession . . . or a borrowed leotard . . . or a book from the SBC library, please return them during the first week of classes. Thank you.

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS!!

Happy September Birthday to Kayla Alcorcha, Isabel Falls, Jocelin Garcia, Erin O'Reilly, Siobhan O'Reilly, Sierra Pine, Mckayla Salceda, Megan McAuliffe, Payton McAuliffe and Mia Winders.

WORKSHOP WITH WASHINGTON BALLET DANCER

August 9, 10 and 11, SBC was blessed to have Morgann Frederick, a soloist with Washington Ballet in Washington DC, as a guest teacher for a three-day in-studio workshop. Her professional advice and insight into the real world of being part of a working ballet company was invaluable! Her dance combinations and exercises were challenging, but her positive energy and unending encouragement made every dancer successful.

Ms. Frederick began each workshop with instruction in Gyrokinesis exercise. Gyrokinesis is a conditioning and balancing system of movement that encourages the spine and joints to stay **open** and **strong**—both important characteristics of a quality dancer.

After attending a recent Washington Ballet performance, Jennifer Stahl from Pointe Magazine writes, "In each piece, Ms. Frederick was never the first dancer my eye was drawn to (save for when she was showing off those runway-diva struts in Fonte's *Bolero*). But once I spotted her, she was captivating. Every move she made—whether it was a big developpé à la seconde or a simple turn of her head—had an intention behind it. Her eyes, her face, her very being seemed to be fully in the present, focused on each step of the choreography. It was very internal. Yet despite eye-popping tricks or look-at-me projection, it was exhilarating. She seemed to be dancing for her, not anyone else—and thoroughly enjoying it."

Ms. Frederick enjoyed the SBC students who attended the workshops and she WILL return for future workshops to be announced.

**"WORK HARD, WORK SMART,
WITH INTENTION FROM YOUR HEART."
MORGANN FREDERICK**

SBC'S FIRST FULL-LENGTH BALLET PRODUCTION

We are very excited to begin formal rehearsals for *The Snow Maiden* on Saturday, September 11. *The Snow Maiden* story includes everything from Ice Crystals to Snow Angels and is a Winter Fantasy production that will quickly become a Sonoma entertainment tradition!

NOTE: All potential dancers must have participated in the Summer Dance Workshop in some capacity and be registered for the 2010-2011 School Year. Look below for information regarding other performing opportunities this school year.

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The week AFTER Labor Day, on Thursday and Friday, September 9 and 10, choreographer Brooke Byrne will be observing all regular classes for levels Threshold through Advanced in order to refresh her memory about our dancers' skill levels and physical attributes so that she can complete casting for *The Snow Maiden*. It is important that you be on time for class and "on your toes" in particular on these 2 days!

Rehearsal Schedule for Saturday, September 11

2:15-3:00: Elementary 1 & Elementary 2 GIRLS

3:00-4:00: Elementary 2 & Intermediate 1

4:00-5:00: Intermediate 1, Intermediate 2, Advanced

**Boys and Threshold dancers
to begin rehearsing at a later date to be announced**

NOTE: No rehearsal on Sunday, September 12.

Sunday rehearsals will begin on September 19

All dancers will be measured for costumes during the first two weeks of classes.

If you are still interested in participating but have not returned your "Dancer Letter of Commitment", please call the studio at 938-1424.

An additional fundraiser production has been added to our calendar! Sometime in the Spring (exact dates to be announced), SBC will be partnering with The WillMar Center for Bereaved Children for the production of *The Magic Toy Shop*. We are very excited to have a second quality rehearsal and performance opportunity to offer our dancers!

**FOR NOW . . . LET'S BEGIN OUR JOURNEY
TO THE LAND O' SNOW!**

CALENDAR

Our next holidays will be Monday, September 6, Labor Day. If you want another copy of SBC's 2010-11 School Year Calendar, please ask at the office or check online at www.sonomaballet.com/2010-2011_Calendar.html and click on the link for 2010-2011 School Calendar.

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT SUMMER DANCE WORKSHOP 2010

We loved that our daughter had the opportunity to learn a variety of dance styles. She loved the lecture time and learning about the history of ballet. She absolutely loved performing, and she loved spending so much time with other girls who love ballet and dance.

I love how you, Jonathan, Brooke and Lisa are so kind to us! It's like a massive family of dancers.

I really enjoyed meeting new friends and teachers . . . and everyone was kind.

She loved seeing herself as a ballerina. We loved the theater experience at the end of the workshop.

My daughter enjoyed all aspects of your program. She particularly enjoyed being on stage for the first time. I enjoyed the enthusiasm of the children. The staff was great! Very courteous, kind, patient and professional.

I liked having the experience of a real summer program and all the amazing teachers. It's one of the "highlights" of my year. It's a lot of fun.

A fabulous experience! The summer workshop set high expectations for the students, and the spirit was such that they rose to meet those expectations with joyful hard work. It was a wonderful bonding experience with friends, and they came away with a lot technically, too.

Fantastic!