



January 2010 news from berkeley ballet theater

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FUNDRAISING UPDATE / TUTU MATCH

December was a great month at BBT. We reached \$2095 in donations, and with the hard work of families and volunteers at the Nutcracker performances we have met our \$5000 goal. Great job!!!

This semester, we are looking forward to an exciting spring performance, which will include an all-new production of *The Sleeping Beauty* and new fundraising goals. We want to have eight new stunningly beautiful tutus made. Ashraf Habibullah, with the help of his company Computers and Structures, has set up a matching grant and will match all donations up to \$5,000. We already have \$500 toward this goal. These high-quality costumes will be available for BBT to use for 25 years, and will be appropriate for a wide variety of productions. Invest in the future of BBT today by donating toward a group of gorgeous and inspiring professional-quality costumes.

Thus far, BBT has a 28% participation rate, which means that nearly three-quarters of our families do not contribute to fundraising campaigns. Foundations offering grants often look at this figure to determine the value that families place on non-profits whose services they utilize. So please remember that no amount is too small: even a nominal donation helps us to increase the percentage of our families participating. Thanks!

NUTCRACKER RAFFLES SET NEW RECORD

Incredible prizes and adorable soldier sellers contributed to a record-breaking total of \$3250 raised at the raffles. Huge thanks to chair Terry Tao.

ARTISTIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Each year, BBT's Artistic Staff recognizes a few students in Levels 4 through 7 for their talent and hard work (we consider ALL of our Pre-Professionals wonderful artists). While these awards are not monetary, they convey our admiration for these students. We appreciate their innate abilities as well as

their efforts, consistent attendance, and gracious classroom deportment. Please join us in celebrating their gifts and achievements.

Level 4 – Christopher Hahn, Anna Kate Walker

Level 5 – Kyra Frye, Olivia Holston

Level 6 – Zoe Canteras, Nic Rios

Level 7 – Louanne Scordato

COLLEGE NIGHT FOR JUNIORS

Wednesday January 13th

6:30-7:30 in Studio B

Susan Weber, BBT's Associate Artistic Director and a certified College Advisor, will present an informational meeting for BBT students, friends, and family members who are current juniors in high school. Parents are encouraged to attend, too. Come with questions.

SIX-WEEK MODERN WORKSHOPS WITH MARGARET CROMWELL

Sessions begin Saturday February 27, from 2:30-4:15 for dancers 11-19 and 4:15-5:30 for students 7-10 years old. After earning her BFA from North Carolina School of the Arts, Margaret Cromwell earned her MFA from Mills College in Oakland. She had the pleasure of dancing with Axis Dance Company for two years and was very honored to join the Margaret Jenkins Dance Company in 2008.

PERFORMANCE WORKSHOP: SEVEN SATURDAYS WITH ERICA ROSE JEFFREY

Beginning on January 9th, dancers in levels 4, 5, and 6 will have the opportunity to learn and perform variations and choreography. A technique class from 2:30-3:30 will be followed by rehearsal from 3:30-5:30. A culminating performance will happen on the JMCA stage Sunday February 21st at 6 PM.

Newsletter: Ilona McHugh, Artistic Director; Susan Weber, Associate Artistic Director; Katherine Pizarro-Grant, layout.

NEW EXTENDED SUMMER PROGRAMS

For the first time, BBT will offer seven weeks of instruction this summer. From July 5-July 23, there will be three weeklong full-day programs for Levels A and B (ages approximately 7-12). All-day C- and D-Levels programs happen July 26-August 13. Then, during the afternoons of the final week, August 16-20, we will provide the first-ever Choreography Workshop, taught by Joanna Poz-Polesky, alumna of BBT and the Alvin Ailey/Fordham University BFA program. Joanna also founded "En Pointe," a Berkeley-based youth ballet company. Students in Levels C and D can take daily morning technique and pointe classes for all seven weeks.

FREE BOYS' DAY OPEN HOUSE JANUARY 31, UPSTAIRS IN STUDIO B

Please invite your male relatives, friends, schoolmates, and neighbors to take advantage of free classes for boys, taught by male instructors. This is our second annual festival, designed to expose boys to the "dance bug." We hope they'll have so much fun that they'll want to continue studying at BBT.

Schedule and faculty:

12:30-1	Daddy and Me for 3-4-year-olds	James Brosnahan III
1-1:30	Dance for 5-6-year-olds	James Brosnahan III
Ages 7 and up:		
2:30-3	Fitness	Dave Kato
3:10-3:40	Capoeira	Carlos Zensay Hill
3:50-4:20	Ballet	Robert Dekkers
4:30-5:00	Hip Hop	Lateef Swain

DESPERATELY SEEKING GRANTWRITERS

If you have hidden research or writing talents, please consider sharing them with BBT. We must continually find new grant opportunities and prepare letters of inquiry, applications, and reports. Please tell Miss Ilona if you're willing to volunteer.

JULIA ADAM TEACHES MASTER CLASS, CHOREOGRAPHS FOR SPRING SHOW

Former San Francisco Ballet Principal Dancer Julia Adam will teach a Master Class for our Youth Company, and will choreograph a short piece for our Spring Show. Julia has recently created *A rose by any other name* for San Francisco Ballet's New Works Festival and a new Nutcracker for Marin Ballet.

"Julia Adam choreographs with a unique vision and an emphasis on story line realized with delightful gusts of whimsy and invention."- Renee Renouf

FUN-RAISER TALENT SHOW / AUCTION SATURDAY MARCH 27

Looking to clean those unwanted holiday gifts off your shelves and out of the garage? Services as well as goods are welcome- our families appreciate all sorts of creative craft experiences, travel opportunities, catered meals, as well as ballet-related goods, artwork, tickets to arts or sports events, wine, books, DVDs and CDs, toys and games, and jewelry. It's a great way to share with BBT while promoting your business, clearing out your closets, and having fun!

Consider what thrilling non-ballet talents you might be willing to display for our BBT community. Students, parents, and teachers each have the opportunity to offer a 3-minute performance. Details in March.

COMPUTERS AND STRUCTURES' GENEROSITY

In addition to creating the \$5000 tutu-match, Ashraf Abibullah has made a \$5000 contribution to benefit our financial aid program. President of Berkeley-based Computers and Structures, Ashraf has supported dance in the East Bay for many years. We are tremendously grateful.

IMPORTANT DATES

Saturdays	Jan. 9-Feb. 20	2:30-5:30
	Performance Workshop	
Monday	January 10	MLK Day
	All classes in session	
Wednesday	January 13	6:30-7:30
	College night for Juniors	
Tuesday	January 25	4:00-6:30
	Julia Adam Master Class	
Sunday	January 31	1:30-5:30
	Boys' Day Open House	
Sunday	February 21	6:00 PM
	Performance Workshop Performance	
Saturdays	Feb. 27-April 3	2:30-4:15 & 4:15-5:30
	Modern Workshops	
Tuesday	March 16	4-6:30
	Michele Miller Master Class	
Saturday	March 27	TBA
	Talent Show FUN-Raiser	