



the pointe! news from berkeley ballet theater

June 2008

JULIA MORGAN CENTER FOR THE ARTS 2640 COLLEGE AVE BERKELEY CA94704 TELEPHONE 510-843-4687

CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!

We are thrilled for our graduates this year, and yet very very sad to see them leave BBT's Children's Division. Our thoughts go with them as they move on to their exciting futures:

- Lauren Alpert to The Juilliard School**
- Trisha Ayllon to CalArts**
- Valerie Balcom to UC San Diego**
- Isabel Umali to SUNY Purchase**
- Sarah Walsh to NYU**

We wish you well and hope to see you at the BBT barre when you come home for school breaks.

SPRING PERFORMANCES

Dancers of all ages shone during our spring performances this year. Four-to-seven-year-old pre-ballet students adorably illustrated "Magical Moving Toys." "La Boutique Fantasque" was a fabulous success, thanks to the wonderful dancers, teachers, and volunteers of our Children's Division, not to mention choreographer Sarah Marcus' heroic efforts during baby Luke's incubation and infancy. The adult program's "Collage" was its most polished and well-attended



performance ever, and adult student Maria Vila, 80, received special acknowledgment as our most senior performer.

Thank you to all who supported these wonderful experiences for BBT's students.

TALENT SHOW FUNRAISER

In addition to tons of fun and talent, the event raised \$4500. Thanks to our many donors, volunteers, and talented participants!

DVDS OF THE SPRING PERFORMANCES: ORDERING INSTRUCTIONS

Go to dancedvdstore.com, click on "DVDs," then "Schools," then on BBT's logo. For \$30 per disk plus tax and shipping you can purchase a copy of the pre-ballet, children's (all performances available), or adult division show.

LEVY TONEY FUND

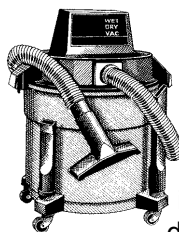
Thank you to all who contributed to the Levy Toney Fund. BBT is sending the family a check for over \$1400. If you'd still like to contribute, please drop a check payable to BBT with "gift for Levy Toney" on the memo line, in the office or through the mail slot. We wish his family the best as they continue to recover.

SUMMER INTENSIVE WORKSHOPS AT BBT

We look forward to another enrichment-filled summer when our students can experience enriched activities like character, modern, variations, jazz, and yoga in addition to an intensive schedule of technique and pointe. Make sure to send in your forms while enrollment is still open! We will be welcoming out-of-town students in Levels C and D for the first time ever- they will stay at the Unit 1 dormitory at UC Berkeley, chaperoned by adult student Marybeth Rice and parent Lisa Baracker.

BBT SEEKS SEVERAL VOLUNTEERS FOR THE COSTUME COMMITTEE

Longtime and indispensable costume committee members Celeste Marx and Mimi Balcom have daughters who have just graduated. While we are grateful that they will continue to help, we would love to find several new volunteers to create, construct, and maintain costumes for our productions. We can use all levels of skill, from expert seamstresses to craftspeople for making headpieces to people willing to wash and fold costumes. Please call Sarah Marcus at extension 111 to volunteer.

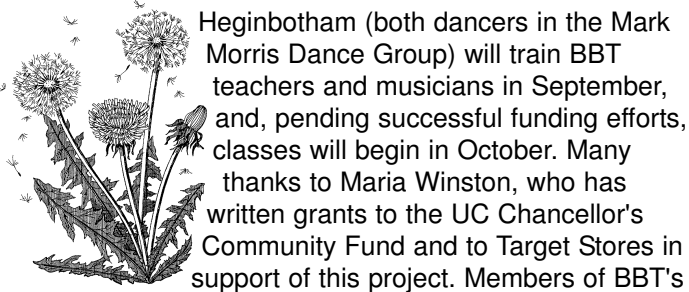


BBT'S APPLIANCE WISH LIST

If you have a heavy-duty vacuum or small electric kettle or coffee maker you're not using, BBT would welcome them as donations. You can just bring them into the office, and of course your donation is tax deductible.

NEW DANCE FOR PARKINSON'S DISEASE PROJECT TO BEGIN AT BBT

In partnership with PD Active, an East Bay advocacy group for people affected by Parkinson's Disease, BBT has applied for grants to support free dance classes to be offered to people with Parkinson's Disease. The Mark Morris Dance Group in Brooklyn, NY, developed the model for this program over the past six years. Founding teachers David Leventhal and John Heginbotham (both dancers in the Mark Morris Dance Group) will train BBT teachers and musicians in September, and, pending successful funding efforts, classes will begin in October. Many thanks to Maria Winston, who has written grants to the UC Chancellor's Community Fund and to Target Stores in support of this project. Members of BBT's Board of Directors and artistic staff are eager to extend our mission of being the place "where all can dance" in this meaningful way.



Members of BBT's Board of Directors and artistic staff are eager to extend our mission of being the place "where all can dance" in this meaningful way.

TUITION ASSISTANCE - NOTE CALENDAR CHANGE

For 2008-2009 school year tuition assistance, applications will be due between August 1 and September 4 this year, to allow families to apply their awards earlier in the year.

IMPORTANT DATES

June 14

Last day of classes in the Children's Division

June 23

First day of all-day Level C/D Summer Intensive Workshop

July 4

Independence Day - No Classes Held

July 11

Last day of all-day Level C/D Summer Intensive Workshop

July 14

First day of all-day Level A/B Summer Intensive Workshop

August 2

Last day of all-day Level A/B Summer Intensive Workshop

September 1

Labor Day - No Classes Held

September 2

First Day of Fall Session



.....
 Newsletter: Sarah Clagett, Artistic Director
 Susan Weber, Assistant Director
 Kai Yao To, Layout



LEVEL 7 STUDENT MARINA MAI WINS YOUTH INK AWARD

Photo by Fraser Bonnell, BBT Board member

Read Marina's beautiful poem:

The Studio

The sun-warmed studio, not yet fragrant
 with the heavy stench of working bodies
 it waits to be used
 Brown, comfortable and dusty
 Waiting, patiently, to be used

The green glass, rippled and thick
 veils the room to the outside world
 It keeps its treasure hidden,
 kept for those always there
 They who spend their hours
 dancing and training
 in The Studio

Did she know?

Did Julia Morgan know when she designed this
 building to be a church, that it would be dancers
 to recreate God's beauty within its walls
 Forgetting their troubles in a moment
 just to be in The Studio

At the end of the day the Marley floor will
 receive new scratches and marks
 Tokens to remember its day
 under the feet of the dancers,
 tokens to give it character and a story
 within a story

And then class will be over done for the day
 until early next morning or afternoon
 When I come again
 I come again to the same old Studio
 timeless and aged,
 to create my own beauty

There will most likely be a time
 when I won't enter The Studio anymore
 But for now, my favorite, most cherished place
 is My Ballet Studio