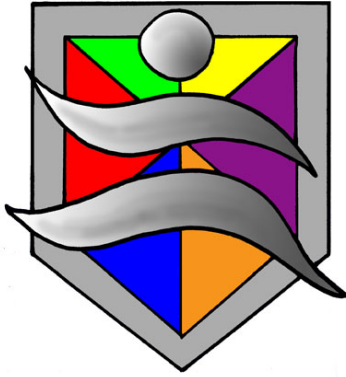


OLD DONATION
CENTER

Dance



DANCE MATTERS

Old Donation Dance Education Program

Volume 1 Number 13

December, 2007

Inside this issue:

Winter Celebration	1
Nutcracker trivia	1
Shopping?	2
Calendar	2
Dance Legend	2



You are Invited to a Winter Celebration

The students did some wonderful research on the ballets, ballerinas, teachers, choreographers, costumes and theatrical innovations of the Romantic Ballet Era. To culminate our history unit, we will be creating the atmosphere of the Paris Opera Ballet in the 1800's.

The students will choreograph their own Romantic Ballet in the morning to be performed in the afternoon performance. Each dancer will receive a character which they will portray in the ballet and they will be able to bring a costume to help show that character. The costume should be something they can dance in easily.

(Members of the Tuesday Effort Team performing their Romantic Ballet Era Summation project)

The students may also bring refreshments for the end of the celebration (our ballet reception). It would be fun if the snacks were labeled as if they were food that might be served at a reception for the dancers at the Paris Opera Ballet after a performance. Help your child think of food that might be eaten in France during the 1800's such as bread (pain), cheese (fromage), fruit (pommes, poires, grain de raisin), chicken (poulet), pastries (patisseries) and so on. Use your imagination to name common snacks as a French food: candy might be "bon bons", cookies labeled as "madelines", cakes as "petit fours", potatoes as "pommes de terre", juice as "jus" and so on.

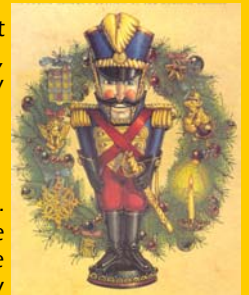
Over the years we have found that this type of celebration really helps the students understand the concepts and style of the historical unit. They even remember the information the following year!!

Enjoy the holidays!
See you back at ODC
beginning January 2nd.



Dance Word of the Week:

Pas de Deux — In ballet, a *pas de deux* (French, step/dance for two) is a duet in which ballet steps are performed together. It usually consists of an entrée, adagio, two variations (one for each dancer), and a coda. The Sugar Plum Fairy and the Cavalier dance a pas de deux in the second act of the Nutcracker Ballet.



Dance History Fact: *The Nutcracker and the Mouse King* is a story by E. T. A.

Hoffmann in which seven-year-old Marie Stahlbaum's favorite Christmas toy, the Nutcracker, comes alive and whisks her away to a magical kingdom populated by dolls after defeating the seven-headed Mouse King. In 1892, the Russian composer Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky and choreographers Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov turned the story into the ballet *The Nutcracker*, which became Tchaikovsky's most famous composition, and the most popular ballet in the world. From a historical point of view, "The Nutcracker" is considered part of the "Classical Ballet Era" following the "Romantic Ballet Era."

PARENT INFORMATION

Dance department needs - Kleenex and pencils
Please contribute as you are able

Lost and Found - Has your child lost something? There are lots of items in our "Lost and Found" bins. Encourage your child to check the bins out.

Dance Calendar

Dec.24 - Jan.1 - Winter Holidays

Jan. 7 – 11 – ODC 8th graders field trip to the Visual and Performing Arts Academy at Salem HS.

Jan. 5, 12, 25 Governor School Auditions

Jan. 21 - No ODC classes

Jan. 25 and 28 - No ODC classes

Feb. 1 ODC Dance Applications deadline (Current students do not need to re-apply).

Feb. 1 Visual and Performing Arts Academy applications deadline .

Feb. 18 - NO ODC classes

Feb.25 -29 - VPAA auditions

NOTE: The 8th Graders' field trip to the Visual and Performing Arts Academy is going to occur during the week of Jan. 7 – Jan. 11. Parents, please make sure you sign your child's field trip permission slip.

Dance Legend

Marius Ivanovich Petipa (March 11, 1818 – July 14, 1910) was a ballet dancer, teacher, and choreographer. Marius Petipa is often given the title "Father of all ballet", and is cited nearly unanimously by the most noted artists of the classical ballet to be the most influential balletmaster and choreographer that has ever lived (among them - George Balanchine, who cited Petipa as his primary influence).

He is equally noted for the ballets he created, some of which have survived to the present day in versions either faithful to, inspired by, or reconstructed from the original - especially *The Sleeping Beauty* (1890) and *The Nutcracker* (1892).



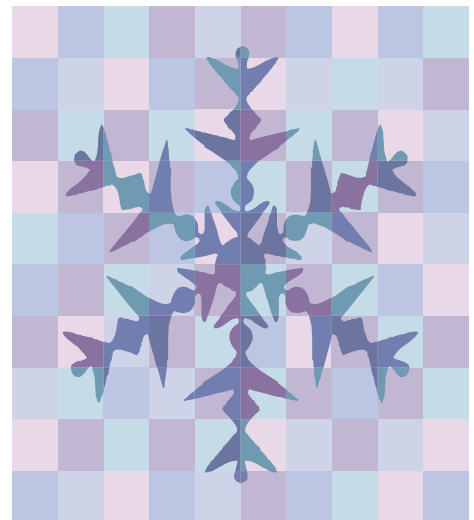
TRYING TO DECIDE WHAT TO GIVE YOUR SON OR DAUGHTER FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON???

Think dance gifts! Here are some ideas:

Dance CD's
Dance Books
Dance Videos
(www.dancehorizons.com is an excellent place to order any dance book, CD or video)

A subscription to Dance Magazine - www.dancemagazine.com
Tickets to a dance performance
New leotards and/or tights
New ballet shoes
Warm-up sweater
For girls - pretty hair barrettes
Nutcrackers
Dancer pencils
Dance notebooks
Dance Calendar

HAVE FUN SHOPPING FOR YOUR FAVORITE DANCER!!!



The dance faculty wishes to extend our sincere best wishes to you and your family for a restful and peaceful holiday season.

SEE YOU IN 2008!!