

DANCE MATTERS

Old Donation Dance Education Program

Volume 1 Number 3

September, 2007

Dance faculty: Meet Mrs. "B"...

Mrs. "B" has been teaching dance at ODC since 1986. She loves dance and working with kids of all ages (even grown up kids!). One thing she really enjoys is solving puzzles. Here is a puzzle about Mrs. B. for you to try and solve.

Who can figure out which of the following statements are true and which are false?



Mrs. B. is teaching a Jazz Class

- 1-She was born and grew up in St. Louis, Missouri.
- 2-She married a Naval flight Officer and has lived in many different areas of the U.S.A.
- 3-She enjoys musical theater.
- 4-She has 2 dogs, a Boxer named Titan and a Beagle named Daisy.
- 5-She likes to knit and explores lots of other creative hand work and crafts.
- 6-She has a private pilot's license.
- 7-She loves to learn new things and reads for knowledge and for pleasure.
- 8-She loves to watch team sports of all types.
- 9-She has a son in the U.S. Marine Corps.
- 10-Her daughter is married to a Navy man.
- 11-She has created a symbol language for Tap Dance called Tappinese™.
- 12-She is a Registered Nurse.
- 13- She is working on a patent for new and original dance software.
- 14-She has 3 grandchildren.
- 15-Her husband builds and flies remote control model airplanes.
- 16- She loves working at ODC with the other dance faculty!

Next Week—Meet Mrs. Wright...

Inside this issue:

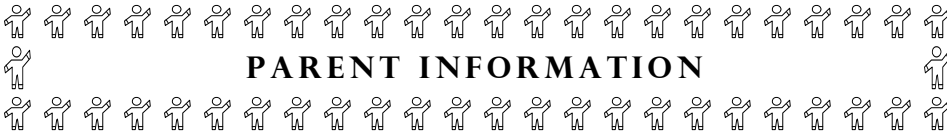
Meet the faculty	1
Calendar	2
Parent Information	2
Dance Bags!!	2
Dance Legend	2

Dance Word of the Week:

Alignment - in a straight line - As used in a dance class, head, torso and hips arranged in a centered way that allows for maximum efficiency in movement.

Dance History Trivia:

A **ballet tutu** is a skirt worn as a costume in a ballet performance, often with attached bodice. It might be single layer, hanging down, or multiple layers starched and strutting out. The tutu was first introduced during the Romantic Period of Ballet - early 1800's to early 1900's.



PARENT INFORMATION

Team Placement Information
 The dance students have now been placed on teams which group students who have a range of similar abilities. These teams include students of different ages. Some students may have experience with one form of dance, but less with another. In these cases we look for the best overall placement for learning in all three strands (Technique Strand, Perspectives Strand and Creative Strand) of the Dance Education Program curriculum. The dance faculty has been observing the dance students' skills for two week and will continue to observe and assess all students to make sure they are placed where they can make the best progress.

Our goal for dancers in the ODC Dance Education Program technique classes is to focus on strengthening fundamental skills

and understanding these foundations. Dance Perspectives and Creative Dance classes add to the dancer's knowledge of the details, complexity of dance. These studies can always be applied to any other movement experiences being pursued by the student.

We encourage our students not to dwell on what "level" they are in. Each student receives personal instruction in each class to challenge him/her to develop necessary skills such as proper alignment, muscle development and sequencing. We know that all of our students will progress beautifully during this unit. Ask them to show you some of their new skills.

Parents' Reminder

Please remember to e-mail Gwen Spear-Jones that you received the beginning of the year information. Also make sure you have given your child any signed forms that need to be turned into the dance teachers.

Special to ODC!

Dance Bags - Cost \$10.00 - Our 3rd year in a row to offer these nifty dance bags - This year they are red with yellow lettering - holds all your dance supplies -

Modeled by **-Meredith Savage** - 8th grader Kemps Landing Middle School

Jordan Frankos - 3rd grader - Linkhorn Park Elementary School

We will take cash or checks - Make checks out to Old Donation Center.



Dance Legends

Agrippina Yakovlevna Vaganova (July 6, 1879 - November 5, 1951) was an outstanding Russian ballet teacher who developed the Vaganova method - the technique which derived from the teaching methods of the old *Imperial Ballet School*. Her *Fundamentals of the Classical Dance* (1934) remains a standard textbook for the instruction of ballet technique. Her style of ballet is the style taught in the Old Donation Dance Education Program.

Dance Calendar :

Oct. 29 – November 2 - Parent visitation (more information to follow at a later date).

November 2 - End of First Grading Period.

November 5th - 6th – Staff Day - Parent conferences as needed.

Dance Department Needs

Kleenex and hair supplies, especially thin hair nets

Parent/Teacher communication:

- 1) MYSCHOOL mail
- 2) ODC phone number 473-5043
- 3) Faculty e-mail addresses
 Karen Buchheim - karen.buchheim@vbschools.com
 Gwen Spear-Jones – gwen.spear-jones@vbschools.com
 Valerie Winborne - valerie.winborne@vbschools.com
 Laura Wright - laura.wright@vbschools.com
- 4) TeacherWeb(www.teacherweb.com/VA/OldDonationcenter/MrsWright/).