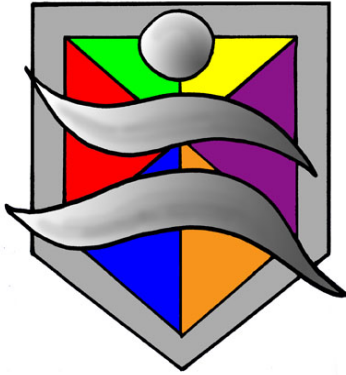


OLD DONATION
CENTER

Dance



DANCE MATTERS

Old Donation Dance Education Program
Volume 2 Number 1



Welcome to ODC's Dance Newsletter

Welcome to the first issue of the 2008-2009 ODC dance newsletter, "Dance Matters" This award winning newsletter keeps you informed. Look for future editions covering important information like dance calendar reminders, highlights of what your child is studying, dance program information, contact numbers, faculty/students profiles, dance performance information and dance history trivia! We hope you find this newsletter useful and informative. We want all the members of our dance family to learn about the many facets of dance education and will do our best to communicate that to you.

Meet the Dance Faculty

The ODC Dance Faculty from left to right:

Elizabeth Albarado, Valerie Winborne
Laura Wright, and Gwen Spear-Jones



Mrs. Buchheim (ODC's beloved dance teacher who retired last year) came 2 days before school started to work with the dance faculty on the Language of Dance® (a dance symbol language) and Tappinese™ (a computer tap dance program, created by Mrs. Buchheim.) As these pictures show, Ginger Rogers (see Dance Legend, page 2) has no competition from these teachers, but boy did they have fun!!!



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Dance Calendar

September 8: First day for ODC Dance students

Oct. 27 – Oct. 31: Parent visitation (more information to follow at a later date).

Oct. 31: End of First Grading Period.

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

Looking Ahead



ODC Dance Performance - May 3rd at

Plaza Middle School

PARENT INFORMATION

Beginning of the year information

1) Weekly packet: Please read the information each week in "Dance Matters", the ODC Dance Education weekly newsletter. Please sign the weekly packet each week so we know that you have received your newsletter and any other information that might be in your packet. Please do not sign "ahead" as this can be confusing for us to know what you have already received. Do not seal the weekly packet

2) Dress Code: We are very particular about the dress code outlined on the supply list. This allows the teachers to more easily see body alignment and muscle use to properly train the students. Give us a call if you need guidance in purchasing dance clothes; we do have

boys tights for sale here at ODC (children's sizes are \$8.10; adult sizes are \$10.15). We also ask the girls to put their hair into a secure bun. If it is too short, hair needs to be pinned securely away from the face and neck. Also, no jewelry is to be worn in dance classes.

3) Attendance: Regular attendance is necessary to insure maximum benefit from the dance education program. Dance education is offered by our public school system because it can be a powerful enhancement to overall learning. It should be treated as an important part of your student's educational experience.

4) Return Forms - In this week's packet you will find many forms that need to be filled out, signed

and returned next week. Please check both sides of these papers. We appreciate the time it takes to fill out these numerous forms and to go over the information with your child.

5) Homework: Students will be given brief homework assignments weekly. These assignments will also be posted on the TeacherWeb (www.teacherweb.com/VA/OldDonationcenter/MrsWright/).

6) From the Cafeteria: ODC will not be serving peanut butter and jelly this year due to some students with severe peanut allergies that attend this school.



CONTACTING US...

Parent/Teacher communication:

- 1) ODC phone number 473-5043
- 2) Faculty e-mail addresses:
 Elizabeth Albarado - elizabeth.albarado@vbschools.com
 Gwen Spear-Jones - gwen.spear-jones@vbschools.com
 Valerie Winborne - valerie.winborne@vbschools.com
 Laura Wright - laura.wright@vbschools.com
- 3)) TeacherWeb (www.teacherweb.com/VA/OldDonationcenter/MrsWright/).



Parent questions that have not been addressed in the above article.

- 1) Do the kids get grades? *Yes, the dancers will get quarterly evaluations.*
- 2) My daughter is hypoglycemic. May she bring a snack and eat it if she needs it? *Absolutely. She can leave the snack at the nurses' office and get it when she needs it.*
- 3) My daughter attends a year-round school. When her school is on intersession, will she have ODC during that time? *She will attend ODC dance when her year-round school is on break.*
- 4) Does Alert Now work for the dance student? *At this point Alert Now is not up and working for the ODC dance students.*
- 5) Where can I purchase leotards, tights and ballet shoes? *There are several dance supply stores in our area. When your child is at ODC, please have him/her ask us for the list we have compiled of these stores.*
- 6) Can she wear flip-flops here? *She needs to wear shoes that she can easily slip off but not flip flops.*
- 7) Does she need to bring her planner here? *She does not need to bring her home school planner to ODC.*

"Dance Matters" has, of course, two meanings; items of information to help the year go well, and our commitment to your child and the pursuit of artistic excellence.

Dance Legend :

Ginger Rogers (1911-1995), American motion-picture actor, singer, and dancer, best remembered for her graceful ballroom and tap dancing with Fred Astaire in classic musical comedies of the 1930's.

