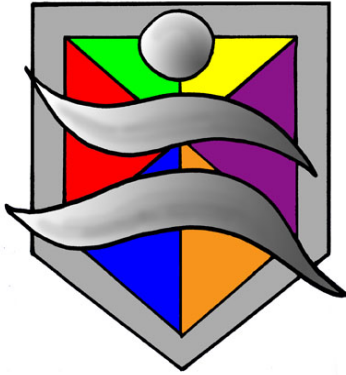


OLD DONATION  
CENTER

Dance



# DANCE MATTERS

Old Donation Dance Education Program  
Volume 2 Number 6  
October, 2008



## Meeting Ms. Wright



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**What do you like to do when you are not teaching dance at ODC.** I have quite a household of animals to take care of: 2 80-pound lab mutts, Daisy & Frisky, a black-and-white cat named Tux, two fish, Tinman and Tango, and a 12-year-old son, Torin. They need lots of food and water! I also have a big backyard on a little lake called Turtle Lake, and I love to watch the egrets, herons, ducks, snakes, osprey, eagles, squirrels, and yes, turtles. I like to grow flowers, herbs and vegetables. I have a canoe, and can paddle through Turtle Lake to the Elizabeth River. I could paddle all the way through the Chesapeake Bay to the Atlantic Ocean, but haven't done it yet. I also like to read, go to the beach, and e-mail my friends and family.

**Tell "Dance Matters" about your family.** My mom and dad are in their 80s and live outside of Chicago, Illinois, where I grew up. My dad plays tennis every week and loves to travel – especially to visit other family members! My mom has Alzheimer's, a disease that makes a person lose their memory, which is sad. However, my mom still loves to help other people when she can and has a beautiful smile. She plays the piano, and likes to teach the nurses at her care facility how to play. I have two sisters, three nephews, a son, and one grandniece on the way – she'll be born in November. I can't wait! I spend most of each summer with all of my family at our cabin in Wisconsin..

**Describe your most memorable memory as a dance student.** I have many, so this is hard! I remember my first dance teacher, Trudyl Dubsky Zipper. She was so amazing! She was very short and had the most crumpled feet I had ever seen. She taught me modern ballet, with a little bit of creative dance. My memories of her choreography and costuming are inspiring to me even now. I wish she had lived long enough to know that I became a professional dancer and that I try to teach my students the artistry and technique that she taught me.

**Why are you a teacher?** My mom was a teacher, she taught music and math, so teaching came naturally to me. I really enjoy figuring out how each body works, and how to explain it to students. Each student learns differently and needs different information, so it's a great challenge to find the best way to help a dance student to improve. Teaching is also very rewarding because I can see the results every day.

**I dance because** movement is my first language, movement expresses ideas and feelings with such purity, dance is always a challenge, dance is such a natural human expression, dance is always "now". Dance is physical, dance is intellectual, and dance is spiritual. I love dance!!!

**Dance Vocabulary Word Search**

L R T S A R T N O C V L H  
 U R V A R I E T Y G E U J  
 N S L A T N E M A D N U F  
 I X J U J V N C O R A W Q  
 T I S U B S R O E M P P K  
 Y M O D E R N P U W Y K E  
 W E V I T A E R C H M A W  
 L S E V I T C E P S R E P  
 B T O B I T V E A Y C J Y  
 T M K T B B A L L E T K C  
 X P I G K U I S R M P H G  
 C O A S O U D A B H H Z X  
 N T T P X K M G U J A Z Z

Ballet, Fundamentals, Perspectives, Contrast, Variety,  
 Repetition, Modern, Jazz, Creative

**Dance Vocabulary**

Your child has growing lists of many dance vocabulary words from their technique classes, creative dance class and perspectives class. These words help the dancers understand their movements and their bodies more fully. These words also act as tools, giving dancers a way of talking about and describing dance in an insightful and more thorough way. Take a look at their vocabulary lists to see how far your child has come in his or her knowledge of dance since the beginning of the year. Many of these lists are posted on the TeacherWeb site at:

[www.teacherweb.com/VA/OldDonationCenter/MrsWright/](http://www.teacherweb.com/VA/OldDonationCenter/MrsWright/)



Monday Students in Dance Perspectives Class

**Dance Calendar :**

**Oct. 20 –24 7th and 8th grade dance students go to VPAA**

**October 27-31 Parent Visitation Week**

**October 31 End of 1<sup>st</sup> Grading Period**

**November 3-4 Staff/Parent/Teacher Conference Days**

**Parent/Teacher Communication:**

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



Friday Students in Creative Dance

*“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.*