

## Director's Letter

I hope that you all are in the midst of a wonderful summer and are not really thinking about the fall just quite yet. However, I also know that September comes along pretty quickly and with it one of the busiest times of year for parents. Included in this package is all the information you will need to know about the first term of the MHSB dance season, including uniform dates, start dates and a personalized schedule for your child. This newsletter will cover some other issues that you may like to know about and we

hope you keep it handy for the occasional reference.

Summer has been relatively quiet around here – after a very busy spring, which of course culminated in many wonderful dance performances. Summer camp has been lots of fun for our young dancers aged 4-10, who have enjoyed trying out different dance forms. The office has been humming with fall registration and gearing up for another exciting year.

I am very happy to announce that Lisa Hrycajkiw will be going to the Ukraine in the next

few months with her husband Andrew, to adopt a young child. Lisa is not sure of her exact departure yet, but she will be teaching most of the year, with perhaps a six week hiatus. Lisa will be giving up her administrative role for the entire upcoming year and in her absence, Tanya Kosanovic and Angela Adams will be sharing these tasks. Please feel free to direct questions to them – with the exception of billing – continue to direct these questions to Katarina Tyson. We know everyone will be thrilled for Lisa and Andrew as they embark on the wonderful journey of parenthood!

**continued on inside...**

## Start Dates

September has staggered start dates in order ensure that every class receives the same weeks of instruction throughout the year. Here is a summary of who starts when – please check your child's personalized schedule to determine if they are in the Junior, Middle or Senior school!

**Saturday Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>:** All Saturday classes start

**Sunday Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>:** All Sunday classes start

**Monday Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>:** All Monday classes start

**Friday Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>:** All Friday Junior & Senior School classes start

**Tuesday Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>:** ONLY Tuesday Middle School classes start

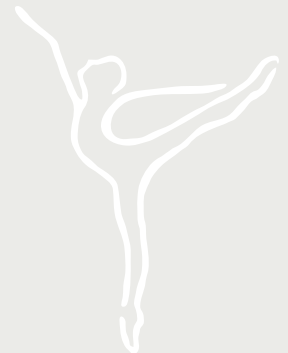
**Wednesday Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>:** ONLY Wednesday Middle School classes start

**Thursday Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>:** ONLY Thursday Middle School classes start

**Tuesday Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Tuesday Junior & Senior School classes start

**Wednesday Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>:** Wednesday Junior & Senior School classes start

**Thursday Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>:** Thursday Junior & Senior School classes start



# Director's Letter *cont...*

Some more happy news: another one of our teachers will also become a mother very soon. Ulrika Englund is expecting her first child in January. She will be teaching until the winter break and we will notify you of her replacements a little closer to that time.

This year we will not be sending out paper copies of the MHSB handbook, or any of the updates. In an effort to reduce our paper use, we feel it is time to offer the handbook solely online. However, if you would like a hard copy, please call the office and we will be happy to provide you with one. As a parent myself, I have found that the quickest place for me to

find anything, is on my computer - it is always there and I don't have to go digging through piles of papers!

I understand there has been some concern over the proposed uniform changes for our dancers. We appreciate these concerns and have come up with a compromise which is outlined elsewhere in this newsletter. If you have any further questions regarding this matter, please contact the office and we will be happy to discuss this with you.

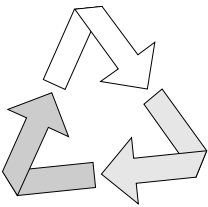
And finally, I am very pleased to inform you that we will be opening a subsidiary of MHSB at the Koffler Centre of the Arts, at the Bathurst Jewish Community

Centre. MHSB will offer ballet, jazz and hip hop classes on Wednesdays and Sundays. This venture is a separate program from our existing one, and although these classes will be taught by our staff and be similar in style and content, they are meant to accommodate members of the BJCC. Feel free to check out [mhsbatthekoffler.ca](http://mhsbatthekoffler.ca) for more information on this exciting development.

We look forward to seeing you all, new families and returning ones, and wish you a wonderful end to your summer. See you in September!



## MHSB Goes Green



This year MHSB will be taking some environment-friendly steps to reduce its paper usage, while still maintaining excellent correspondence with clients and staff. Please take a moment to see what email address we have for you on your Registration Receipt and contact us if any edits need to be made.

The most notable changes to the fall information package is that the 6<sup>th</sup> edition of the MHSB Handbook will be available online, instead of in paper-format. With a useful Table of Contents, and links to various parts of the website, this online version will be easier to navigate for you and your family, and we hope it creates one less paper pile in your house! If you do not have access to the online version please do not hesitate to call us and we will gladly provide you with a paper copy.

Also included in this package is your child's Personalized Schedule from September until December. We chose to still send this schedule in paper format for the fall term but will send the January to end of the year schedule via email.

With children participating in so many different extracurricular and school activities we hope that these moves toward an online approach are helpful to you and your family, and we are glad to be helping the environment at the same time!

**PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO TURN OVER AND READ THE BACK TOO!**



## Parking

Parking can be very hard to find in the city! We have provided detailed maps and parking guides for each of our eight locations that we hope you will find useful in the “**locations: maps and parking information**” section of the MHSB Handbook that is available online.

Our Yonge St. East and West locations, in the busy Yonge-Eglinton neighbourhood, present a particularly unique parking challenge. Please note that our 2345 Yonge St. East location has underground parking available on the south side of Broadway Ave. and provided you are in and out within 15 minutes, you will not be charged! From the first level of parking (P1) be sure to take the “Office Elevators” (not the “Broadway Elevators”) up to the ground floor (G). The entrance to MHSB will be to the right as you exit the elevators on G. On the P2 or P3 parking levels, there are unfortunately no signs for the “Office Elevators”. Simply be sure to use the set of elevators located in the centre of the lot, not the “Broadway Elevator” and you will arrive at the appropriate side of the building.

## Safety Arrival Attendants

### **S.A.A.s ensure that your child moves safely from designated drop off points to inside MHSB doors**

Sometimes there is simply no way to park the car, or walk your child into dance class yourself. In response, we have developed a special pick-up and drop-off service at our Yonge St. East and West locations. Safety arrival attendants (**s.a.a.s**) are in place at designated drop off points to ensure that your child moves safely from these points to inside MHSB doors. Your child may also wait with a **s.a.a.** after class to be picked up. Please refer to “safety arrival attendants” in the Specific Details of the MHSB Handbook for the hours that **s.a.a.s** are available as their hours differ depending on the day of the week and the Yonge St. location they are stationed at.

## Reception Hours

As we transition from our summer to fall schedule there will be a change in reception hours. We recognize that this is a busy time of year and will as always work our hardest to answer your calls and return your messages as soon as possible. Thank you for your understanding during this busy first month of classes.

### **Special Fall Reception Hours**

#### **Monday Aug. 25<sup>th</sup> – Thursday Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>**

**Monday Aug. 25<sup>th</sup> to Thurs Aug. 28<sup>th</sup>:** 9am to 5pm

**Friday Aug. 29<sup>th</sup> to Monday Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>:** The school is closed

**Tuesday Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup> to Thursday Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>:** 9am to 5pm

**Friday Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>:** 4pm – 7pm

**Saturday Sept. 6<sup>th</sup>:** 8:45am to 2pm

**Sunday Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>:** Reception is closed; Classes are on

**Monday Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>:** 9am to 12pm and 1pm to 8:30pm

**Tuesday Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> to Thursday Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>:** 9am to 5pm

**Friday Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>:** 4pm to 7pm

**Saturday Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>:** 8:45am to 2:30pm

**Sunday Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>:** Reception is closed; Classes are on

**Monday Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>:** 9am to 12pm and 1pm to 8:30pm

**Tuesday Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> to Thursday Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>:** 9am to 5pm

### **Regular Fall Reception Hours**

#### **Starting Friday September 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Mondays:** 9am to 12pm and 1pm to 8:30pm

**Tuesdays:** 9am to 12pm and 4pm to 8:30pm

**Wednesdays:** 1pm to 8:30pm

**Thursdays:** 1pm to 8:30pm

**Fridays:** 1pm to 8:30pm

**Saturdays:** 8:45am to 2:30pm

**Sundays:** Reception is closed; Classes are on

## Uniform Days

**Beat the rush** on the first day of classes and get fitted during our convenient Uniform Days at our 2345 Yonge Street location:

**Sunday Aug. 24<sup>th</sup>:** 12pm – 4pm

**Tuesday Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup>:** 11am – 8pm

**Wednesday Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>:** 11am – 7pm

**Thursday Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>:** 11am – 7pm

## MHSB Company Auditions



**Come out and audition for MHSB Company** – a great way to experience the audition process and get ready for the year's dance season!

### Junior Company

Thursday Sept. 4<sup>th</sup> or Friday Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>  
from 4:30 – 6:00pm

### Senior Company

Thursday Sept. 4<sup>th</sup> or Friday Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>  
from 6:30 – 8:00pm

Contact MHSB before Wednesday Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> to be placed on the audition list and verify your audition time.

**NEW** - There is a \$5 cost per dance form that is auditioned for. Come try out for Ballet, Jazz, Hip Hop – or all three!

## [www.mhsb.ca](http://www.mhsb.ca) has a brand new look

Visit the newly redesigned mhsb website to see our refreshed appearance and find out what's new at mhsb.

## Dress Code

MHSB offers a beautiful line of dance attire for its students at the mhsb shop, but has also permitted its students to wear other brands of dancewear if they wish to. This flexible policy has worked in the past, but over the last few dance seasons,

**Over the next few dance seasons, MHSB will transition to a required uniform line**

some dancers have become overly casual and relaxed with their dancewear. Unfortunately, this has led to some inappropriate dance attire that looks unpolished and takes away from the technique and skill of the dancer and breaks the unified feeling of the class.

Over the next few dance seasons, MHSB will transition to a required uniform line. We recognize that this will be a change for our clients and would like to simply introduce a Dress Code for the first year. For the 2008-2009 season, dancers will be expected to wear black attire to jazz, tap, modern, hip hop, and musical theatre classes and special attention will be paid to monitoring these standards. Older ballet and pointe students will continue to wear black bodysuits and pink tights. The younger ballet students – Pre-Ballet, Pre-Primary, Primary 1 and Primary 2 – will continue to wear pink bodysuits, and hip hop students will still be permitted to wear running shoes, but careful attention will be paid to the black attire of the dress code, and students will be expected to come to class with neat and tidy hair and no jewelry or accessories.

Please feel free to contact Martha at 416.484.4731, ext. 222, with any concerns or suggestions as we move towards an exciting and professional uniform at MHSB.

### walk-in address:

2345 Yonge St. East Side  
Toronto, ON

### mailing address:

2384 Yonge St.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Toronto, ON M4P 2E0



**The MARTHA HICKS SCHOOL of BALLET**



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