

Important Dates

May 1 & 2

Primary 1, Primary 2, Pre-Jazz, Jazz 1, Pre-Hip Hop and Pre-Tap **Country Gardens** rehearsals and performances at Eglinton St. George's United Church.

All other classes please refer to your personal schedules regarding these three days!

May 4 & 5

Pre-Ballet and Pre-Primary The **WIZARD of OZ** rehearsals at the 2384 Yonge St. West Side location.

All other classes please refer to your personal schedules regarding these two days!

May 6, 7, 8 & 9

Pre-Ballet and Pre-Primary **WIZARD of OZ** performances at the 2384 Yonge St. West Side location.

All other classes please refer to your personal schedules regarding these four days!

June 4, 5, 6 & 7

Senior students perform *eMotions* shows.

Director's Letter

Hello and welcome to our 4th edition of the **mini** Pointe of View. This newsletter is written for our junior and middle schools containing information which is specifically directed at you! We hope you will take the time to read through it carefully as there are many important dates pertaining to the rest of this dance season, as well as information regarding summer camp and registration for next year.

As you know, the middle school will be presenting "**Country Gardens**" on May 1st and 2nd at St. George's Anglican Church on Duplex Avenue. We have enjoyed using this venue for a couple of years now and find it very convenient, as well as comfortable for the children and a lovely "theatre" area for their performance. "**Country Gardens**" is a delightful little show which lasts about half an hour. Children will perform as birds, ladybugs, bunnies and a host of other creatures which will celebrate the arrival of spring in entertaining fashion. We appreciate your desire to videotape your child, and you are most welcome to do so, but we also have a professional who will record the shows and you will receive a copy of that as well.

Our youngest dancers will be performing in their own production of the **WIZARD of OZ** from May 6th to May 9th. I am sure you have heard your child practicing some of the songs and dances that they will be performing and we can assure you that this will be a show you will never forget! Keep in mind that the unexpected can often happen – which

may include dancers running to parents for assurance, standing still and not doing anything for several minutes, or possibly a few tears as they look at all the smiling faces in front of them. Generally, everything runs very smoothly and is a joyous occasion for these first time performers – we just want to let you know that in past years we have seen many things happen that weren't part of the choreography! Needless to say you will want to come equipped with cameras and video recorders.

On June 4th we will begin our run of 8 shows featuring our senior school. These shows are exciting and diverse, showcasing students in ballet, jazz, tap, hip hop, modern, musical theatre and our talented MHSB Company. This year our theme is *eMotions* – emphasis on the word "motion" of course, but with the common thread being the range of human emotions we can all experience. This theme gives our teachers lots of scope for the imagination when it comes to choreography. The students are eager too, to offer their suggestions and this year we also have several pieces choreographed by the students themselves. We are very excited about this year's show and work hard to create something that will be entertaining for all audience members – including reluctant brothers! We keep the show relatively short – about 2 hours with an intermission and encourage all students in MHSB to attend a performance. Since many of your children may be in this show as early as next year,

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Purchase **Country Gardens** Tickets

Tickets may be purchased by filling out the ticket order form in your show package beginning April 1st. The ticket deadline for **Country Gardens** tickets is April 17th. If you return your ticket order form after the deadline we cannot guarantee any tickets and your order will only be processed after we have taken care of all of the orders which were returned on time.

Tickets will be handed out at your child's class starting April 24th. Tickets will not be handed out to anyone with an outstanding balance. In order to receive your tickets all accounts must be paid in full.

If, after the ticket order deadline, you decide you might like more tickets they will be available for purchase starting April 24th. Some shows may be sold out.

Come See Our Exciting Senior Show!

As mentioned earlier, the senior school will be performing from June 4th to 7th at the Isabel Bader Theatre. The theatre is centrally located at Bloor and Avenue Road and is handy to both parking and the subway. This year's production entitled *eMotions*, will be an interesting mix of dance forms and musical styles that will surely captivate audiences of all ages.

In this package we have included a ticket order for you so if you would like to purchase tickets, simply fill out the form and either mail it to us or drop it off at our main office. Someone will call you shortly to confirm your order. If you would like to enquire about the content of the shows, please call the office and we would be happy to answer your questions. Due to the demand of tickets we ask you to provide us with a second choice of show time in the event that your first choice is sold out.

We know that you and your child will be thoroughly entertained by our senior students and be inspired to pursue the joy of dance.



jazz
hip hop
ballet
tap
modern
& more

For twelve wonderful years, MHSB has been delighting children with a unique and rewarding camp experience right here in the city.

Our summer programs are a perfect way for children of all abilities to try new dance forms. Children can continue to dance in the forms that they enjoy the most in our 2009 - 2010 dance season beginning in the fall.

If you would like additional information please contact us at 416.484.4731.

mini camp 4 TO 5 YEAR OLDS

junior camp 6 TO 8 YEAR OLDS

senior camp 9 TO 10 YEAR OLDS

Important Notes Regarding Teacher Recommendations For 2009-2010!

Your 2009 - 2010 registration package will be handed out to the middle school on May 1st and 2nd, and to the junior school on May 4th and 5th. The senior school will receive theirs by email on May 22nd. In it you will receive information about which level to enroll your child in next year.

For their recommendations, each student was individually considered by their teacher(s). Their teacher(s) then decided which level of dance would be the most appropriate for them to be enrolled in for the 2009 - 2010 season. This level may or may not be the level "up" from what they took this year. We know that friends like to be together, but we do not consider this in our recommendations. We only consider what would be the level most appropriate for each individual child. If necessary, we do hope that you will discuss your child's placement with them and explain the benefits of being in the level(s) that we have carefully selected.

For the 2009 - 2010 dance season we hope to provide you with more class and level options than ever before so that your decision-making process will be easier than ever and so that dance will conveniently fit into your busy lives and schedules!

Country Gardens Flower Bouquets

For any **Country Gardens** show you can give a bouquet of flowers to a dancer after the show. You can purchase flowers in the foyer of the church on the day of the show. Plenty of beautiful bouquets will be available for you to choose from.

If you wish to order a special bouquet (i.e. calla lilies) please either email Factory Florist at sales@factoryflorist.com or call Jenny Caspar at 416.736.6988 a few days ahead of time and they will have it available for you at the show.

Director's Letter cont...

we would like to suggest that you perhaps bring them to one of the matinees. This is a great opportunity for your child to see other dance forms that she/he might like to try out in the future. Every show is different however, so if you wanted to see a specific dance form, you might want to call the studio and ask which performance includes that dance form.

I would like to congratulate all the ballet students who took part in the Cecchetti Ballet exams in February. The students worked extremely hard for many months and all the teachers are very proud of their efforts.

Good luck wishes go out to our MHSB Company members as they compete in the annual Sur La Pointe competition in May.

Finally, thank you for being part of our 2008-2009 dance season here at MHSB. We are excited about the upcoming dance performances and look forward to seeing you there!

When Will Fall 2009 - 2010 Registration Packages Be Ready?

Pre-Ballet & Pre-Primary:

Your registration packages will be handed out at the **WIZARD of OZ** rehearsals (2384 Yonge St. West Side) on May 4th and 5th, 2009.

Primary 1, Primary 2, Pre-Jazz, Jazz 1, Pre-Hip Hop & Pre-Tap:

Your registration packages will be handed out just inside the front entrance of Eglinton St. George United Church on the day of your child's rehearsal / performance of **Country Gardens** on May 1st or 2nd, 2009.

The Remainder of the School:

Your registration packages will sent by email on Friday, May 22nd, 2009. To ensure that you receive your registration package and other future studio correspondence, please ensure that we have your current email address on file.

Final Notes

In May we will begin our rehearsal schedule. From then on, it is especially beneficial to your child to rehearse with the actual group that they will be performing with. If you need to make up a rehearsal please consult with your teacher about which class would be best to attend.

Reminder about missed classes:

As stated in the studio policy under attendance (page 1), after February 1st, 2009, students who miss three or more classes/rehearsals without written consent from Martha Hicks, may forfeit their opportunity to dance in the recitals.

Reminder to all jazz students:

Part of your required uniform at the beginning of the year was a pair of "suntan" coloured tights - you will definitely need these for the recital! These tights can be purchased at the mhsb shop at our 2345 Yonge St. East Side location.

The **MARTHA HICKS**
SCHOOL of BALLET



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