

# AUGUST 2006

## Welcome!

*Hello to everyone - we are looking forward to starting the new dance year - and seeing all the new and familiar faces in class! We hope that this studio handbook will help answer any questions you may have about the dance year. Please phone or email us if you have any questions.*

*We have some new additions to our teaching staff this season. I am pleased to introduce **Lisa Metz** to our team. Lisa Metz has taught Jazz, Tap, Contemporary and Lyrical classes in Calgary and she has recently moved to Vancouver to perform with the Source Dance Company for the 2006-07 season. Lisa is an energetic and encouraging instructor and her choreography is innovative, creative and has received rave reviews throughout the city of Calgary. We are happy to report **Moe Brody** returns to guest teach choreography for senior jazz and hip hop as well as **Stephanie Sy** for the first term of senior jazz and Lyrical. We will miss **Alycia Beck** who has accepted a contract with Norwegian Cruise Lines for the year but hopes to be back to Deas Island again soon. **Kelly Hobson** has relocated to Vancouver Island she sends her best wishes thanking all her students for a wonderful year. **Sarah Whyte, Katie Parks, Janet Gittens, Morgan McAuley, and Jamie Gonzales** will join me to teach the remainder of the programs. Staff bios will be updated on the website in September.*

*Kind regards, Lesley Benham*

### [www.deasislanddance.com](http://www.deasislanddance.com)

We have been updating our website over the summer. New photos are up on the gallery pages as well as scattered throughout the site! Enjoy.

### New for 2007

If you misplace a newsletter you will be able to find them on line under the news link. The newsletters will be printable pdf files.

The studio **blog** (just click on news) will continue to act as a notice board for any tidbits of information ranging from student news/ fieldtrips, to fun photos and dance clips!

### email addresses

Please ensure we have your most recent email address on file. We will be emailing the majority of studio newsletters this year. Again the newsletters will be emailed in pdf files. We will make sure that your address is bcc(blind) so that your address is not viewable to others. Also if you do not have email we will have paper copies available for all newsletters.

### Adult Classes

Morgan McAuley will be instructing hip hop and tap **Monday evenings 8:30-9:30 starting Monday September 11th**. Family discount may apply. Please inform the office ASAP if you are interested in either of these courses. We may create a second night for adult programs if we receive enough interest. Call us today!! 946-5867

### Daytime Programs

In addition to our storybook ballet programs we have added daytime ballet and jazz classes for school aged children. These may be of interest to students in the homeschool program.

**Tuesdays 10:15-11:15 Ages 6 and up (Ballet)**  
**Tuesdays 11:15-12:15 Ages 8 and up (Ballet)**  
**Wednesdays 2:15-3:15 Junior Jazz**

### Cinderella DVDs and Videos

Doug McLeod of Cloud 9 video has been editing the dvds/videos from last years show. You will receive them in the mail in September.

### Schedule Changes

We have had to make a few slight changes to the schedule - please refer to your bill to confirm the times and names of your courses. Thank you for your understanding and we are sorry for any inconvenience.

## School Calendar at a Glance

**More dates to follow in monthly newsletters**

### **Fall Registration**

August 29/30, September 6 4-8pm

### **All Fees Due - First day of Class**

Monday September 11th

### **Thanksgiving Monday - Studio Closed**

Monday October 9th

### **Ballet BC Student Matinee Field Trip "Rodeo"-**

Thursday November 16th 1:15 pm QE Theatre

### **Last day of class before Christmas Holidays**

Monday Dec.18th DID Closes Dec. 19th

### **Studio Reopens**

Monday January 8

### **DID Show Theme Announced**

Early January

### **Royal Academy of Dance Ballet Examinations**

Spring Session - Tentative Dates March 5-8 ???

### **Dance Festivals**

February to May

### **Spring Break**

DID Closes Sunday March 11

DID Reopens Monday March 26

### **Ballet BC Student Matinee "Contemp. Masters"**

Thursday April 12 1:15 pm QE Theatre

### **Costume Balance Due**

Mid April

### **Photo Day/Ticket Sales**

Early May

### **Year end show at Genesis Theatre**

Dress Rehearsal June 4&5 Show June 8,9 &10

### **Advanced Registration**

Mid-Late June

## OPEN HOUSE/REGISTRATION

Get organized for the dance year by visiting us at our open house and registration days:

**Tuesday August 29th 4:00-8:00pm**

**Wednesday August 30th 4:00-8:00pm**

**Wednesday September 6th 4:00-8:00pm**

### **REGISTER FOR CLASSES**

Lesley and Caroline will be on hand to assist new and current clients with registration questions.

### **FEE DROP OFF**

If you are already registered please drop off the following. You need not wait in the line. Please see the **instruction on page 4 of this newsletter**.

- fees** (all post dated cheques or cash)
- signed invoice**
- costume deposit** (dated November 1st).

### **SHOE EXCHANGE**

This service is provided free of charge to current students of DID. Please adhere to these guidelines.

- If you are buying shoes from the exchange please pay with **CASH ONLY**.
- If you are selling shoes, they must be in a **ziploc bag** with name, phone number, shoe size and type, and asking price. Shoes that are not marked and ziplocked will not be accepted. We suggest dropping off your used dance shoes early on at registration for a better chance of selling them.
- We will also set up our **Character Skirt Exchange** at registration. There are a limited used Character skirts in stock for \$25.00 **CASH ONLY**.
- Due to lack of storage we can not take used dance wear. However please feel free to post a for sale note on the bulletin board.

### **DANCEWEAR / SMARTY'S**

Please sort out dance wear questions during registration. Please do not wait until the first week of classes to ask questions about skirts, leotards, shoes etc. as this wastes valuable class time.

Gail from Smarty's will be at all 3 days of registration and will have her dance stock on hand.

The school seamstress, Helen Benham will be at registration to fit ruby leotards, pink organza skirts and measuring for new character skirts.

## 2007 Year End Performance

**Tentative Dates:**

**Dress Rehearsal June 4 and 5**

**Show Dates June 8, 9 and 10**

Deas Island Dance year end performances are a full production with costumes, scenery, lighting and storyline. We announce the show theme in January and begin choreography for each class in the springtime. Ballet and Modern costumes are typically made by our school seamstress, Helen Benham, and Jazz, Tap and Hip Hop costumes are usually ordered or store bought. Students pay a \$20 per costume deposit on November 1st and then are billed the remainder in the spring.

Studio families receive a full show newsletter which details photo and ticket sales, costume, hair and accessories info, volunteer positions, and rehearsals and show days. Because the show is a full scale production, we ask that each studio family have one member volunteer for one of the shows or rehearsals. Examples of the volunteer positions include helping with scenery, backstage childcare and front of house usher. The show is a great highlight of the year and students, staff and parents all work together to put on a great show!

### **Festivals and Competitions**

Festival/Competition work is optional at the studio. Please consult Lesley to see if your child is ready for festival. Although competition is part of the festivals, the focus is on improvement of the student's technique and stage presence and the opportunity to perform new choreography. The experience of festival instills confidence in both the students' dancing and their personality.

Rehearsals for festivals are additional to regular classes. Festival rehearsals will begin in the fall and local festival performances run from February to May. Deas Island competes in such festivals as the Surrey Festival of Dance, Peak Invitational and Dance Power. As a variety of dance styles will be explored, festival offers an excellent opportunity for young dancers who wish to expand their performance and choreographic experiences. Students compete in solo, duo, trio or group categories. Please see the festival newsletter for complete details. Available at the office.

### **Royal Academy of Dance Credits towards Graduation**

High school students may receive credits towards graduation if they have successfully completed the following R.A.D. ballet examinations.

URAD 11A (2 CREDITS) = RAD GRADES 4 AND 5  
OR GRADE 6

URAD 11B (4 CREDITS) = RAD INTERMEDIATE

URAD 12A (2 CREDITS) = RAD GRADES 7 AND 8  
OR INTERMEDIATE FOUNDATION

URAD 12B (4 CREDITS)= RAD ADVANCED ONE

Please see your school councillor or page 74 of the Ministry of Education pdf brochure:  
<http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/graduation/courseinfo/cid.pdf>

# Fee Policies

The rates are divided per discipline 1) Ballet 2) Modern 3) Jazz/Lyrical Jazz 4) Hip Hop 5) Tap  
Please inquire to the office if you need a current schedule for classes.

- \* A **5% discount** is given to students taking more than one dance discipline (ballet, jazz, tap, ...) and a minimum of 3 hours per week.
- \* A **3% family discount** is given to families with 2 or more members enrolled in full year programs (siblings/parents)
- \* A **10% professional discount** is given to students taking seven or more technique weekly classes one hour or more.
- \* A **\$10.00 discount per family** is given if the entire family's fees are paid in full in September.

## **Instalment Plans:**

- (A) Monthly postdated cheques (First and last payment are lumped together in September)
- (B) 3 postdated instalments Sept., Dec. and March
- (C) Full year paid in Sept.

An **administration fee** of \$15.00 per family is required upon registration. This fee is non-refundable.

**Costume Deposit:** Parents are responsible for covering all costume costs for festival and the year end show. A deposit of \$20.00 per student/per technique is due at registration (post dated for November 1st). The balance of the costume costs will be due in the spring.

**NSF Fee:** A \$25.00 fee will be charged for each NSF cheque.

**Notice of Cancellation:** Cancellation will not be accepted after November 1st without a doctor's letter. One months notice is required if a student withdraws before November 1st. Non- attendance is not considered a withdrawal. The withdrawal date is considered the date when the parent informs Caroline Birch by phone or in person.

If you have preregistered we must receive **all class fees, costume deposit and signed invoice by the first day of class** to hold your spot. **Method of Payment** We accept postdated cheques or cash payment only. Sorry - we do not accept credit or debit cards.

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## **Registration Instructions -Please read before coming to registration:**

**Postdated Cheques:** If you are paying by postdated cheques use the following dates. To avoid rewriting cheques, please wait for an invoice from Caroline Birch, our office administrator, with correct fee amounts including GST and administration.

**Monthly Payments :** Attach total of 10 cheques to your signed copy of your invoice  
-9 cheques for fees dated Sept. 1st through to May 1st  
-1 cheque for Nov. 1st for costume deposit

**Trimester Payments:** Attach total of 4 cheques to your signed copy of your invoice  
-3 cheques for fees date Sept. 1st, Dec. 1st, Mar. 1st  
-1 cheque for Nov. 1st for costume deposit

**Full Payment:** Attach total of 2 cheques to your signed copy of your invoice  
-1 for fees dated Sept. 1st  
-1 cheque for Nov. 1st for costume deposit

## **Pre-registered students**

Pre-registered students do not need to wait in line at registration. Students who pre-registered back in June simply drop off their cheques and signed invoice at registration. **If you are unable to make it in to registration please put invoice and cheques in to the mail.** Again we must receive the signed invoice and attached cheques by September 11th to hold your spot.

- Do you have enough cheques for your desired method of payment?
  - Are the dates on your cheques correct? Please check that the year is correct (especially Jan-May)
  - Have you attached the signed invoice? You will receive a copy of this invoice in September.
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-1 cheque for Nov. 1st for costume deposit

**Trimester Payments:** **Attach total of 4 cheques to your signed copy of your invoice**  
-3 cheques for fees date Sept. 1st, Dec. 1st, Mar. 1st  
-1 cheque for Nov. 1st for costume deposit

**Full Payment:** **Attach total of 2 cheques to your signed copy of your invoice**  
-1 for fees dated Sept. 1st  
-1 cheque for Nov. 1st for costume deposit

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# Dance Wear and Shoe Requirements

## PLEASE PUT NAMES IN ALL DANCE SHOES/ DANCE WEAR

### BALLET

#### Story book ballet, Pre Primary and Primary (Courses A B C D E F G H J K)

- Short Sleeve Pink Leotard (Mondor Brand)
- Seamless ballet pink tights
- Full sole leather ballet slipper
- Pink organza skirt (\*\*see note below)

#### Royal Academy of Dance Grades 1-3 (Courses L M N O P Q V)

- Ruby Velvet Leotard (\*\*see note below)
- Seamless ballet pink tights (may have hole in bottom)
- Full sole leather ballet slipper
- Character Shoe (Grade 1-2, low heel Grade 3 high heel)
- Character Skirt (\*\*see note below)

#### Boys Attire

- White fitted short sleeve T -shirt and black dance shorts
- Black ballet shoes and white socks

#### Royal Academy of Dance Grades 4-8 (Courses R S PRBT T W X WX Y)

- Plain Black Leotard - PLAIN STRAPS may be tank or spaghetti strap but please keep it a simple design, not a criss cross or extra straps. Please make sure if you are wearing a bra that straps are hidden.
- Seamless ballet pink tights (preferably with hole in bottom of foot)
- Full sole leather ballet slipper for grades 4-5
- Full sole or split sole for grade 6-8
- Character Shoe (High heel)
- Character Skirt (\*\*see note below)

#### Intermediate Foundation - Advanced 2

- Plain Black Leotard - PLAIN STRAPS may be tank or spaghetti strap but please keep it a simple design not a criss cross or extra straps. Please make sure if you are wearing a bra that straps are hidden.
- Seamless ballet pink tights (with hole in bottom of foot)
- Intermediate Foundation: Full Sole Ballet Slippers (Bloch), Pointe Shoes
- Intermediate: Broken down Pointe shoes, Pointe Shoes

### **\*Pink Organza skirts, Character Skirts and Ruby Velvet Leotards**

Ballet skirts and the ruby velvet leotards are made by the school seamstress Helen Benham. Mrs. Benham will be at registration to fit students for the skirts and leotards. Please bring payment to Helen Benham in form of cash or cheque. Pink organza skirts are \$18.00, Ruby Leotards are \$28.00 and new character skirts run from \$40-\$60 depending on size. If you are unable to bring your child to registration for a fitting please phone her to make an appointment. Mrs. Benham resides in Tsawwassen and may be reached at home at 604-943-3918.

**And at the following locations...** Smarty's in Tsawwassen (604-943-1033) carry dance shoes and dance wear. Limbers Dance Discount North Delta (604-594-6464) or Kerrisdale (604-264-0009) and The Dance Shop (604-733-6116) also carry a full range of dance wear including pointe shoes and character shoes.

### JAZZ/LYRICAL/TAP

#### Junior

#### (Courses Jazz A C D E S T/ Tap B C D E)

- Either a black bike length unitard (leo and shorts all in one) or black bike shorts and solid color leo.
- Black Jazz Oxfords or Tap Shoes
- Black Socks

#### Intermediate Advanced

#### (Courses Jazz F G H L M N O P Q R / Tap F G)

- Black Jazz Pant
- Plain solid color lycra leotard/fitted lycra top  
(no T-shirts please)
- Black Leather Jazz Shoe/Black Oxford Tap shoe  
(please ask at registration if you are unsure)

### HIP HOP

- Comfortable Athletic Wear (e.g. tear aways and T-shirt) Please no Jeans or Street Clothes - wear clothes you are comfortable moving and sweating in!
- HIP HOP SHOES MUST BE EITHER:  
-White soled, non marking runners dedicated for use only at the studio (outdoor shoes are not permitted)  
-or hip hop runners available from dance stores

### MODERN

#### Junior and Intermediate Modern (Courses A B E)

- Either a black bike length unitard (leo and shorts all in one) or black bike shorts and plain coloured leotard
- bare feet

#### Intermediate and Senior Modern (Courses C D)

- Black Lycra Bottoms (Capri or bike short- no full length pant))
- Plain Top - lycra leotard/fitted lycra top  
(no T-shirts please)
- bare feet

# **General Studio Information**

## **Hair and Jewellery**

Hair for ballet and modern class should be done in a classical ballet bun or french braids. If you are unsure how to fix hair please ask at registration. Hair for jazz, hip hop and tap should be up off the neck in a pony tail, bun or braided. Please remove all watches, rings, necklaces etc. prior to class.

## **Absenteeism and Punctuality**

In order for students to achieve consistent improvement, regular attendance is essential. The building of necessary memory and muscle aptitude and strength requires excellent attendance. If students are unable to dance due to illness or injury we encourage students to watch class so they will not fall behind. If a student has to miss a class please phone the office and leave a message.

We ask that when students walk in to their class they are on time and ready to go! Warm up is an integral part of class.

## **Allergies**

Some staff and students have strong allergies. Please do not wear strong perfumes or hair sprays to class. Also, Miss Lesley is highly allergic to horse dander. If you have been riding or near horses please make sure you shower and remove all horse clothes before attending the studio. Thank you!

## **Food/Water Bottles**

Please no food or drink in the studio lobby or classrooms. Students may have snacks in the change room only. Int and Sr. students are encouraged to bring water to class. Family members are asked to refrain from eating and drinking in the lobby - sorry this includes coffee :).

## **Student Placement**

We will do our best at registration to fit students in to the best class for them. Appropriate levels of classes are determined with the student's best interest in mind. Placement will depend on age, ability and experience. All placements are reviewed for appropriateness, and students may be moved, even after the term has commenced.

## **Class Cancellation**

Every effort is made to hold all classes at their regularly scheduled time. On a few occasions classes may be cancelled for statutory holidays, ballet exams or festival dates. Students are encouraged to attend an appropriate make-up class for a cancelled class.

## **The Change Area/ Lost and Found**

Students are asked to keep the change area tidy. Please put heavy bags on the shelves, hang up coats and put shoes under the bench. As food is permitted in the tiled area of the change room please clean up any food stuffs. A broom is available for crumbs. Please do not leave valuables in the changeroom.

Names should be clearly printed on all dancewear, particularly shoes. A "lost and found" is kept in the white deacons bench in the change area. Deas Island Dance is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

## **Open House**

Studio family and friends are invited to observe their child's classes during the observation weeks. Specific dates will be announced in newsletters, on the website and posted on the bulletin board.

## **Communication**

Communication between faculty and parents is just as important as communication between student and teacher. Throughout the year students will receive regular newsletters to keep studio families up to date with festival, exams, show news and general studio details. In addition, newsletters will be posted on the bulletin board. Please check the board frequently. If you have any questions throughout the year please contact DID's administrator, **Caroline Birch**. Please do not ask teachers questions between classes as it delays classes. As Caroline's office hours vary throughout the year, the best way to contact her is by leaving a message on the **office phone** at **604-946-5867**. We will post all newsletters on the web page throughout the year. If you are missing information please refer to [www.deasislanddance.com](http://www.deasislanddance.com).

## **Student Teacher Apprenticeship**

This program is offered to give students experience teaching younger dancers and we aim to develop leadership qualities as well as technical knowledge. We hope that this opportunity will give students confidence and skills for future goals in dance or any path they choose. The applicant must be twelve years old as of this year and must be enrolled in at least two ballet classes per week. For further information please speak with Lesley Benham.