

MERRILEE STUDIOS NEWSLETTER - March 22, 2010

TUITION is due next week for Period 8 - March 29 through April 25.

TICKETS FOR SHOWTIME 2010 go on sale April 5. Ticket prices are \$6.00 advance sale and \$7.00 at the door. For every 5 tickets you sell, you will receive one complimentary ticket. Ticket prices are the same as the last several years. Also, when the tickets are gone, they are gone. We have a theatre with seats. I suggest that you buy early. **All ticket sales are final and there can be no refunds.** (Children under three will not need a ticket if they are going to sit on someone's lap.) All children taking classes, even those not in the recital, will receive a complimentary ticket in the form of a performer's pass.

This year we will use the hand stamp again. I have been told that it makes your life a little easier during the actual show. Everyone who comes to the show, as an audience member or a performer, will receive a hand stamp. When your hand is stamped, you will turn in your ticket or performer's pass. Then to get in to the theatre, all you need to do is show your handstamp. No more worries about losing your ticket stub or your child's performer's pass. We have refined it a little since last year and I think you will be pleased.

SHOWTIME 2010 DATES are Friday, May 14 for dress rehearsal beginning at **6:00 p.m.** and the show on Saturday, May 15 at **5:00 p.m. (Please note the earlier time.)** All at MTHS in the theatre.

LYDIA M. MORITZ MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD - As many of you know, my mother, Lydia M. Moritz, passed away in March of 1999. She was a lifelong advocate of the arts and because of her dedication to my arts education, I set up a scholarship in her name. Previous recipients have been Brittney Kuehn, Emily Rowden, Meagan Davis, Leah Zulz, Samantha Cremer, Katy Crenshaw, Margaret Greenhalgh, Julia Burns, Clare Maksimovich.. This past year's recipient was Megan Armstrong.

Each year at the dance recital I will announce the recipient for the next year. The following criteria will be used to make the selection.

The student must be at least ten years of age and a dance student at Merrilee Studios for at least the two preceding years including summers, must be a serious ballet student, must have good attendance and attitude, must show sign of home practice and an improvement in skills, must dress properly for class, must show the importance of dance in his/her life, must submit a written composition stating why he/she should receive the scholarship, stating the importance of dance in his/her life and why this scholarship is important to this student. Also, the student who receives this gift is expected to have good attendance in class during the scholarship year. It is important that this is addressed in the composition.

This composition is due May 1 or earlier. No late entries will be accepted.

This should be something that is discussed by the entire family and not written in five minutes.

This is a great honor and it is a huge financial gift. *The chosen recipient will receive ALL dance classes for the next school year free of tuition. If your child would take 2 ballet classes, 2 pointe classes, a tap class, a jazz class, a hip hop class, and a modern class this scholarship is worth approximately \$1500.00.* Please consider having your child apply for this scholarship.

The recipients for last four years spent a great deal of time on their applications. Please do not think that you can only submit the composition. The more you do, the better your chances are to win. Some have submitted practice schedules, art work, and poetry. I will give this scholarship to the one who proves to me that he/she deserves it the most and I will also consider this past year's performance in class and the past year's practice.

THE EDMUND F. MORITZ MEMORIAL AWARD - As many of you know, my dad passed away in November, 2003. My mother may have taken me to many classes, but my dad paid for

them and my many costumes. In his memory, I would like to offer another award to be made each spring at the dance recital. This will allow a family to have \$200 worth of costumes paid for by the award. The following criteria will be used:

The child must have taken classes in the studio for at least one year including summers. At least one child in the family must also take 3 or more dance classes during the award year. The parent of the child applying for the award must write a short paragraph telling why the award would be helpful. As with the other award, this is due no later than **May 1**. The winner will be announced at the dance recital. You all know about the costume bill. Think how nice it would be not to have one this next year. Please apply for this scholarship.

SUMMERTIME CLASSES AT MERRILEE STUDIOS BEGIN THE WEEK OF JUNE 7 AND RUN THROUGH JULY 29. MOST CLASSES WILL BE ON TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS, MORNINGS AND EVENINGS.

For more info on summer classes, please see last month's newsletter or the registration form that is available in the office. **REGISTRATION FOR SUMMER CLASSES IS GOING ON NOW.** You get to pick your own times. The schedule has been up in the office for about a month.