

August Newsletter

Inside this issue:

Handy People Needed	2
Why Nut Auditions?	2
Fall Schedule	2
August Intensives	3
Modern, Jazz, Tap	3
Attire	3
Renee Guitar	4

Special points of interest:

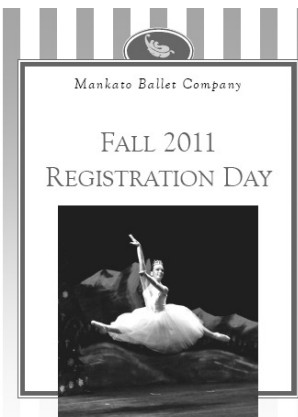
- Go to the "Class Calendar" tab on our website for the full 2011/2012 calendar. It outlines all breaks, days off, performances etc.
- Our annual year is 2 weeks longer this year, so your dancers will be getting some additional classes. Because of this you will see a slight adjustment in tuition prices.

Annual Registration Day

The MBC Annual Registration Day is fast approaching. We highly encourage all our dancers and parents to attend this event on **Friday August 26th from 10am-3pm**. It is a fantastic way to get geared up for dancing this fall. By attending you will be able to register for fall classes, talk to the teachers, and order your dance attire.

To help streamline

the registration process you can expect an info packet in the mail this month. It will



have all the important information and forms you need for a quick

and easy registration process. You will also be able to sign up for the Nutcracker. Dancers in 1B this fall or are 7 years of age by August 26th are eligible to participate in the Nutcracker. Auditions are conveniently scheduled to coincide with Registration Day so you only have to make one trip.

Auditions begin at 11:30 and conclude at 12:15.

Free Gift

Families that register on Friday August 26th are eligible for a free slipper/pointe shoe bag. These great bags are perfect for carrying their slippers to and from class and are a great way to keep all their pointe shoe necessities together. You may receive this gift if you do one of the following things:

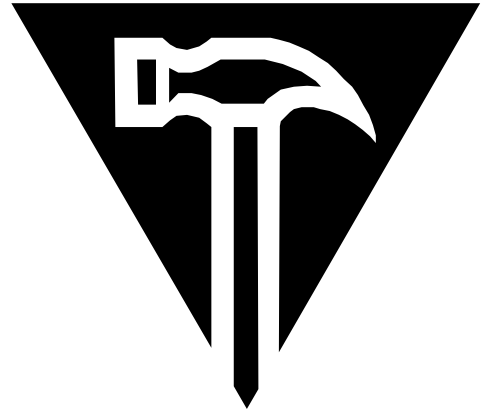
- Sign Up for Monthly Auto Pay
- Pay Session 1 Tuition in Full
- Pay Annual Tuition in Full

Nutcracker Auditions are not just for the dancers. We need parents to make the production complete. We have parts for 4 men and 4 women in the party scene. It's a great way to be part of your dancer's hobby. Fill out a performance agreement if you are interested in being part of the cast.

Handy, Crafty, Creative People Needed!!!

We need handy creative mom's and dad's who might be interested in helping us update and build new sets for our Nutcracker performance. All materials and supplies are covered by the studio, but any time and talents that you may wish to donate would be

wonderful. Dana Michels, and board member, Travis Carpenter, will be organizing volunteers to begin working on things this month. If you are interested please email the studio at: info@mankatoballet.com



Why Nutcracker Auditions?

What is a Nutcracker Audition like, and why attend?

The answer to the first part of that question is that the audition is pretty fun and laid back. Much of it is spent putting dancers together by size and ability and then giving them little combinations from different parts of the ballet to try to get a feel for who is best suited for which part. That leads into why it is so important to attend. While we do allow dancers to join

the cast without attending the audition...the majority of casting is done right after the audition is completed. Therefore, the more "prestigious" rolls are cast at that time. Smaller parts are held back for dancers who may join later or for new students who don't know about it ahead of time. We always try to give the dancers parts that will make them shine, are appropriate for their age and level, and keep the number of rolls even

so that everyone gets an equal opportunity to dance. That being said...there is a slight advantage to being at the audition. So please attend!! If your dancer can't make it you MUST complete a Performance Agreement and have it mailed to the studio by August 26th for your dancer to be considered for the casting along with those who attended the audition. We look forward to seeing all the dancers in August.

Fall Schedule

Please visit our website to view the most up to date fall 2011 class schedule.

www.mankatoballet.com

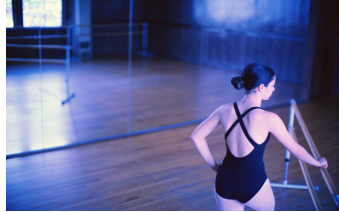
There have been a few changes made to some levels. If you have a question or a schedule conflict you would like to figure out prior to Reg Day please email us at:

info@mankatoballet.com

August Intensive Program

The first week of the August Intensive Programs is the week of August 8th. Dancers in 1B, 2A, and 2B are encouraged to attend the Junior Intensive which runs Mon, Tues, and Wed from 11:30-3:30. Dancers are treated to ballet, modern, jazz, tap and conditioning classes.

from 9:30-3:30. They will also experience modern, jazz, tap, conditioning and ballet as well as, belly dancing, and musical theater.



classes. You can choose to take individual weeks or the entire program. You can find prices, complete schedules and summer registration forms on our website.

Dancers in 3A or higher are encouraged to attend the Senior Intensive which runs Mon-Fri

If you haven't registered yet, it isn't too late. You can register the week of

Modern, Jazz...and Tap!

MBC is pleased to offer tap class for the first time this fall. Dancers 8 and older are encouraged to enroll in our Modern, Jazz or Tap classes. They are great ways to supplement a dancers

ballet training. In Session 2 these classes are performing classes and will learn a dance for the spring concert. But don't forget, dancers that are registered in a ballet class get a 20% dis-

count on their Modern, Jazz, or Tap classes. So please consider these exciting and fun classes when you come to Registration Day!

Dance Attire

Most of you are pretty familiar with our dress code. But just a reminder that all dancers are asked to have a black leotard, pink footed tights, pink leather ballet slippers, and a waist belt. The belt color designates their level and you can

pick up a new one on registration day. We have a large stock of them this year and you should be able to take them home with you on Reg Day. We also have a large stock of tights and leotards. Those ordering shoes will have to wait until the first

week of classes for your shoes. Please remember that all dancers should try to have their hair pulled back for class. Dancers in 1B and higher should try to come with hair in a bun for every class.

**Fall Session
begins Monday
September 12th!**



MANKATO BALLET COMPANY

P.O. Box 114
Mankato, MN 56002
507-625-7716
info@mankatoballet.com

www.mankatoballet.com

If you are interested in action portraits from the spring concert please visit Karen's website at:

www.kpixfoto.com

Scroll down and click on the album titles "Mankato Ballet". You can order prints of the performance in any size and have them shipped directly to your home! You can still go to this site and order class photos too.

Renee Guitar—New Ballet Instructor

We have a new instructor joining MBC this fall. Her name is Renee Guitar, or Miss Renee for the dancers. She will be teaching all the ballet classes on Monday evenings this fall. Miss Renee began her dance training sixteen years ago at the True Dance Academy in Lincoln, Nebraska. She trained extensively in ballet, pointe, jazz, and modern, Renee joined the Lincoln Midwest Ballet Company at the age of 15 and performed in numerous ballet productions with the company including "The Nutcracker" and "Snow White". Renee currently attends Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota where she will receive a B.A. in Dance in the spring. At Gustavus, Renee has performed in several student and faculty concerts, been a member of the Gustavus Dance Team, and choreographed numerous pieces for student concerts. Last year, two of Renee's modern dance pieces were selected by the Gustavus Department of Theatre and Dance to be performed in the annual Spring Dance Concert and Renee's solo piece "Temporary" was selected to be performed at the American College Dance Festival where the judges described her choreography as having "spot on clarity, sensitivity, nuance, and maturity". Renee is extremely excited to share her love and passion for dance with the Mankato Ballet Company.

