

Mankato Ballet Company

January Newsletter

Ballet Blizzard

Nutcracker Follow-up:

- Performance tights will be billed to you in January if you haven't paid already.
- DVD's will be available the first week of Session 2 classes.

Inside this issue:

Performance Fees	2
Costume Volunteers	2
Piano Music	2
History of "La Boutique Fantasque"	3
Class Dances	3
Pleased Patron	3
Session 2 Class Changes	4

Well, our 2010 Nutcracker went down in history. Not because it was our 25th Anniversary Nutcracker, not because it was our first year at MSU, not because we had the biggest cast ever, not because we had amazing new costumes, and not because we had all new choreography, but because we had a pretty big blizzard to deal with.



Photo By: Mark Zallek

Despite the incredibly terrible weather (possible understatement of the year) the show went on as best it could. We had the MOST AMAZING cast and parents who trooped through the snow to be at each performance. The dancers, once on stage, danced with their whole hearts and performed possibly the most beautiful Nutcracker in MBC history. MBC would like to say a great big "Thank you" to everyone involved in pulling off this performance.

Session 2 Begins this Month

Session 2 begins the week of January 10th. Classes will resume on Monday the 10th as currently scheduled. There have been

a few time changes and teacher changes to classes this session. Please look at the schedule on page 4 to double check your

dancer's class times. The updated schedule is also available on our website.



Spring Concert—Performance Fees

In Session 2 you will be billed for your performance fee. The performance fee is \$25 **per dancer** and is used to purchase, alter, and clean the costume(s) your dancer will be using in the production. This fee is per dancer, but not per costume; so if your dancers is in more than one piece you still only pay one fee!

Unlike other dance schools, Mankato Ballet Company owns all its own costumes. This allows us to costume our productions with quality creations, as well as keep the actual cost of costuming the production down. Dancers do NOT keep their costumes after the performance as they will be reused for future MBC productions.

The \$25 performance fee can be paid anytime between January and March. We need all performance fees paid by March for your dancer to participate in the production. If you have any questions about this feel free to email us at: info@mankatoballet.com.

Costume Volunteers

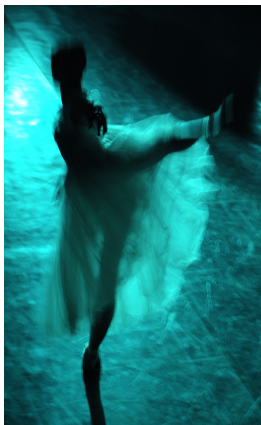
Because we create so many of our costumes from scratch we need volunteer help to get everything ready. Most of the projects for the Spring Concert costumes involve stitching on embellishments and

alterations. These tasks will be left in the front costume room off the lobby. If you have time while waiting for your dancer to finish class please assist our costume mistresses by working on the tasks they leave out.

If you are willing to take projects home or work on bigger projects please keep your eyes out for the sign up sheet in the lobby and one of our costume mistresses will contact you.

“Stunning costumes!”

*~ Comment left on
Nutcracker survey.*



Live Piano Music for MBC Classes

MBC is beginning to look for pianists to play live music for ballet classes. It is a wonderful thing for dancers to have live accompani-

ment for their classes. If you are a pianist or know someone who might be interested in playing for MBC classes please contact us and

provide their contact information. We look forward to working with Mark Betters in the New Year to play live music and see how it goes!

The History of “La Boutique Fantasque”

La Boutique fantasque or *The Fantastic Toy Shop* was a ballet conceived by Léonide Massine who wrote the choreography and the libretto. Ottorino Respighi wrote the music based on piano pieces by Gioachino Rossini. Its world premiere was at the Alhambra Theatre in London

on 5 June 1919 and was performed by Sergei Diaghilev's Ballets Russes. Lydia Lopokova and Massine played the roles of the can-can dancing dolls in the original performance with Enrico Cecchetti as the shopkeeper. Design for the original 1919 performance was by André Derain.

It is a fun and light ballet that I really think you will all enjoy. Each class will represent a different type of doll. These famous and life-sized dolls come to life at night and dance. But when the two Can-can dolls are purchased by separate families the dolls create a plan for them to escape.



Class Dances

Creative Movement - Toy Poodles

Pre-Ballet - Baby Dolls

Ballet 1 - Rag Dolls

Ballet 1A - Cassock Dolls

Ballet 1B - Tarantella Dolls

Ballet 2A/2B - Mazurka Dolls

Ballet 3A - Paper Dolls

Ballet 3B - Porcelain Dolls

Ballet 4A/4B - Lead Dolls, Ballerina Dolls and Can-can dolls

Other performance pieces will be done by the Lyrical class, Jazz class, Modern class, and Teen/Adult class.

It's not too late to join Modern or Jazz. You receive a 20% discount on tuition for these classes if you are already enrolled in ballet classes!

Pleased Patron!

Below you will find an email from a very pleased Nutcracker audience member.....

“FANTASTIC...That is about all I can say. This years production of the Nutcracker was FANTASTIC. The choreography was beautiful; the new costumes were, as the English say, Brilliant! Best of all it was good to see all ages involved (that you have done in the recent years, and I was happy to see it done in a full Nutcracker Production.). It was worth the icy roads to see the show. I know how much work goes into this with staff, students and parents. This understanding only adds to the meaning of this production. I am glad you were able to do a complete production for the 25th Anniversary. It really is a Mankato Ballet gift to the community, and always will be. Thank you all once again for a beautiful show.”



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Our mission is to nurture, encourage and challenge students to achieve their potential for artistry and self-confidence through the classical dance experience. It is our goal to provide professional instruction and performance opportunities, which assist students in developing technically and artistically.

www.mankatoballet.com

Class Changes for Session 2

Changes for Monday Classes in Session 2:

3:15-4:00	Pre-Ballet	Miss Eryn
4:00-4:45	CM	Miss Dani
4:00-5:00	Ballet 1B	Miss Eryn
5:00-6:00	Ballet 1A	Miss Eryn (Both classes attend at this time!!)
6:00-7:30	Ballet 3A/3B/4A	Miss Eryn
7:30-8:30	Variations Class	Miss Eryn

Changes for Tuesday Classes in Session 2:

Ballet 2B will be taught by Miss Phoebe at the regular time.

