

# SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

## MANKATO BALLET COMPANY

### Welcome Back Dancers



Amy Poburka—Spring 2011  
Photo By: Mark Zallek

Welcome back to Mankato Ballet Company. We are thrilled to be starting our 2011/2012

season and have incredible things planned for this year. Classes begin for all levels the week of September 12th. If you did not attend our registration day in August please consider sending in your registration forms before classes on the 12th so that we can

have a better idea of class sizes. If you don't do that you may of course register throughout the first week of classes. Just plan on coming a little early to get the registration done. We will have someone in the office to assist that week.

#### How to Get a FREE Ballet Slipper Bag:

- **Sign up for monthly auto pay and have your tuition deducted on the 5th of each month.**
- **Pay Session 1 tuition in full**
- **Pay Annual tuition in full**

### Class Minimums

This year we will be enforcing our class minimum policy more carefully. In the past we've let classes continue with low numbers, but it is not cost effective and sometimes takes up a timeslot that could be better used by another class. Here are our minimums:

- Level Ballet Classes must have 3 or more dancer to have a class by themselves.
- Supplementary classes must have 5 or more dancers to make a class go.
- Teen/Adult Ballet are open classes and do not have minimums.

Before simply cancelling a class the Director and Board will meet to discuss making a special exception. If a class you have enrolled for is cancelled you will receive a refund or tuition credit. We will try to place your dancer in the next most appropriate level or class.

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Nutcracker will be held at MSU-Ted Paul Theater December 10th and 11th. We will have 4 shows this year at 1pm and 5pm each day. We look forward to seeing you there.



## Nutcracker Results

All dancers who auditioned for Nutcracker or sent in Performance Agreements by August 26th will be able to find out their parts the first day of classes this fall. The cast list will be posted on the bulletin board in the hallway at the studio so be sure to check it out. Some people do receive multiple parts, so be sure to scan the list for all your parts. Casting is finalized on September 24th, so there is a possibility minor changes will occur on that date.

Rehearsal schedules will be posted at the studio on the bulletin board. Copies will be available in the office and posted online. Most parts will not begin rehearsals until October.

## Send a Friend

We register quite a few new students throughout the first several weeks of classes and even accept dancers into Nutcracker until September 24th. So if you have a friend or sibling that decides they want to begin ballet please after September 12th, encourage them to join even if they have missed a few classes. We prorate the tuition so they only pay for what they take.

## Spring Concert Pictures

You can still get class pictures and pictures from the spring concert by going to:

[www.kpixfoto.com](http://www.kpixfoto.com)

Have fun looking through all the amazing pictures.

## Lauren Mead Heads to NY

Our own Lauren Mead has been accepted to the Gelsey Kirkland Academy of Classical Ballet. This professional school in New York City will allow Lauren to

train 6 days a week and give her access to amazing instructors, professional dancers, and famous choreographers. We are extremely proud of Lauren and are

excited that the training she has received at the Mankato Ballet Company is of a caliber that she was able to find a place among such prestigious schools.



Lauren Mead  
Photo By: Mark Zallek

## Dress Code Review

Dress Code is:

- Black Leotard any style
- Pink footed tights
- Pink leather or canvas ballet slippers
- Level waist belt
- No skirts except in pointe class
- Hair in a ponytail for CM-1A
- Hair in a bun for 1B-4B

Be sure to check your file at the studio for Spring Concert DVD's.

## Demi Pointe Shoes for 3A Dancers

Congratulations to all our 3A dancers who will receive the demi pointe shoes this fall. They will get to transition to pointe shoes in January if they work hard. Happy dancing ladies!!!

Demi Pointe shoe fitting will be at Grand Jete Tuesday September 6th between 5:30-6:30. If anyone wants help with new pointe shoes you are welcome to come too.



Montanna Michels and Bailey Zallek  
Photo By: Mark Zallek

**Mankato's Leading School of Ballet**

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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.*

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[WWW.MANKATOBALLET.COM](http://WWW.MANKATOBALLET.COM)

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## **Riley Weber—New Instructor**

We have another fantastic new instructor joining our ever growing staff. Mr. Weber will be teaching Lyrical, Modern and Jazz on Saturdays as well as several pointe classes and Ballet Technique. Riley received his primary ballet training under Marnee Brant at the Brant School of Dance Arts in Fargo, ND and spent three years studying at Trollwood Per-

forming Arts School. Riley has performed at venues in Minnesota, Chicago, Florida, California and in the 2008 Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland. Riley moved to the Twin Cities in 2008 on music scholarship to study music and dance at The University of Minnesota. In 2010, he began his first season dancing for Ballet Minnesota and performed in Beetho-

ven's 6th Symphony, The Classic Nutcracker, and Don Quixote. He also wrapped up his first performance with Cities' Classical Dance Ensemble. Riley has taught all over Minnesota, including Janet Lang, Allegro School of Dance, Dancing off Broadway, and also teaches at South Metro Dance Academy. Riley is beyond excited to be teaching at Mankato Ballet Company.