

**Mankato  
Ballet  
Company**

# September Newsletter

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**September 1, 2010**

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## Special points of interest:

- You can drop your monthly tuition in the locked tuition box at the studio or mail it to our Post Office Box.
- It's not too late to get a free MBC Water Bottle. You can still sign up for Auto-Pay and receive one of these earth-friendly bottles!

## Come one, come all, for classes this fall!!

That's right everyone...classes begin this month!! Your first day of classes is Monday, September 13th. All classes will be held for the first time that week.

If you registered at the August Registration Day, you are all set to attend classes. If you didn't attend the Registration Day, please plan on mailing in your registration form or bring it the first day of your class.

It is very helpful for us if you mail your forms rather than signing up the first day of class.

## Dress Code Reviewed

Our dress code is very traditional. Regardless of your level, each dancer should attend class in a black leotard, pink footed tights, and pink ballet slippers. In addition, dancers will each get a waist belt. The color of their belt corresponds with their level.

Several of our levels have very full classes, so registering ahead of time allows us to make the necessary arrangements for the students. All of our forms are available on the Mankato Ballet website for you to download and print. Please consider the auto-pay option when you register for classes. Signing up for this will allow us to draft your account each month on the

5th which means you never have to worry about a late fee!

If you ordered dance attire on registration day, it will be available your first day of classes. If you still need to order attire or pick up your class belt, we do have some inventory, but you may have to wait another week if we need to order something for you.



Additionally, all dancers must have their hair pulled back into a bun or ponytail to keep it out of their faces while they dance.

Dancers in 1B and higher should be attending class with their hair in a bun. It is mandatory for level 2B

and higher, so practice those buns before classes begin!!

Young men should come in black athletic pants that aren't too baggie, and a white T-Shirt. Ballet slippers for boys should be black or white.

## MBC Silent Auction- “An Evening at the Ballet”

In a few short months Mankato Ballet will be holding its second annual silent auction. Our first auction was held last year on the campus of Gustavus Adolphus College in Saint Peter, MN by a group of college students as their class project. It was a lovely event, but was put together with too short notice for many people to know about and be able to attend. Nevertheless, \$1,000 was raised for Mankato Ballet on silent auction bids for our scholarship program.



Due to the fun had by those who attended, we felt this was something we should continue to do each year. MBC relies

heavily on fundraising and grants to be able to put on its concerts, make updates to the studio, and keep tuition rates down. With grant budget cuts and the slowing economy, our funding sources have been reduced over the last few years. We hope this silent auction will be a fun event for our families and community members, as well as financially fruitful so that MBC can continue to offer scholarships to dancers as well as keep our tuition rates affordable for our families.

In an effort to involve our students and families a little more this year, we are going to have each class help out with the auction. We will be compiling really fun themed gift baskets. We'll ask each dancer to bring

an item that goes with their theme and to stay in the price range of \$5-\$20. Then the items will be made into wonderful baskets available for bid at the silent auction. See the list below for your class theme.

It's never too early to mark your calendars so please pencil in **Saturday, November 20th at 6:30pm for the silent auction.** It will feature live music and MBC dancers performing. You can browse the donated items, bid on them and...who knows...you may come away with your Christmas shopping all done! More specific details will follow next month. This will be open to parents, grandparents, family friends, and community members; the more the merrier!

## Class Theme Baskets

Find your dancer's class and corresponding theme. Bring in an item between \$5 and \$20 in value anytime between September 13th and October 31st. Your donations are greatly appreciated to make this a successful fundraiser for Mankato Ballet Company, which requires little volunteer time. If you would like to volunteer to help on the Auction Committee please sign up by the office and someone will contact you!

CLASS	BASKET THEME
Creative Movement Monday	Mickey Mouse Basket
Creative Movement Wednesday	Bookworm Basket (Great kids books)
Pre-Ballet Monday (corn)	Movie Night Basket (Movies, gift cards to Blockbuster, candy, popcorn)
Pre-Ballet Saturday	Animal Safari Basket (Stuffed animals, books about animals etc)
Ballet I	Ballerina Basket (Anything that has to do with ballet)
Ballet 1A	Rainy Day Basket (Board Games, Crafts, Card Games etc)
Ballet 1B	Chocolate Lovers Basket (Chocolate bread mix, cakes, cookies, candy bars, hot cocoa)
Ballet 2A	Coffee Lovers Basket (Anything that has coffee flavor, Caribou giftcards, Coffee Grinder)
Ballet 2B	Purse/Scarf Basket (Fun purses, wallets, coin purses, scarves of all shapes and sizes)
Ballet 3A/3B	Chefs Basket (Cooking utensils, mixes, bowls etc)
Ballet 4A/4B	Pamper Yourself Basket (Spa related items)
Teen/Adult	Wine Lovers Basket



(If a couple of dancers want to go together to purchase a slightly larger item, go for it !! It will only make the baskets more fun.)

## Suzuki School of Music

Suzuki School of Music sub-leased with us for the past 4 years. They have decided to change locations. We will miss them, but wish them the very best in their new location.

As you may have noticed we've spread out since we now have use of the former music rooms. Dancers in 3B

and above have a separate dressing room and the costumers have a sewing room and a fitting room. This gives everyone a little more space!! We hope everyone enjoys the extra room.

If you or someone you know has an item, talent or service they would like to donate to our silent auction, please drop off by October 31st.

### Studio B

We are going to use Studio B this fall for classes. If you peak inside you'll see a new coat of paint, some new barres and new mirrors hung on the walls.

Thank you to all the parents who helped out this summer to get the studio ready for classes this fall!



### Nutcracker Information

If you auditioned for a part in The Nutcracker on August 27th, your parts will be posted at the studio on the first day of classes. Please write down your parts so you know which ones and how many you have. Rehearsal schedules will be available in the file by the office. The most current schedule is always posted on the bulletin board so check it frequently to see if you part is being rehearsed that week or not. Schedules will also be on our website for you to view or download.

It's not too late for new students to take classes or be in The Nutcracker. If you have a friend that is interested, have them contact us!

### Class Parents

We are looking for class parents to help make sure important information gets out to all the families. If you are interested in being a class parent, please sign up on the sheet by the office. Your support may include:

- Call families if there is a weather related MBC closure
- Coordinate costume sewing times for your class
- Help with auction item collection

## Student Absences

If your dancer is absent for any reason, we do appreciate when you call the office and leave a message. During cold and flu season, dancers may miss a class or two or be gone for a planned trip. But when we don't see them for several weeks, we worry about the dancer. So, if you have time to give the studio a ring when your dancer is going to miss a class, we really appreciate it.

MANKATO  
BALLET  
COMPANY

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**MANKATO BALLET  
COMPANY**

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

*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.*

## Miss Eryn—Gone, but not for long



Just a reminder that Miss Eryn will be out for a couple of weeks on maternity leave. Assuming the baby cooperates Miss Eryn will be out the weeks of September 27th and October 4th.

She'll be back to teach classes on Monday October 11th. Thank you for allowing Miss Eryn this time with her family. She'll be back and ready to jump right into Nutcracker upon her return.

If your dancer has Miss Eryn as her instructor on Monday or Saturday here is a list of the substitute teachers for your classes.

<u>Monday Classes</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
Pre-Ballet	Miss Katherine
Ballet 1B—Combine with 1A 4:45-5:45*	
Ballet 3A/3B	Miss Katherine
Ballet 4A/4B	Miss Caitlyn

<u>Saturday Classes</u>	<u>Instructor</u>
Pre-Ballet	Miss Katherine
Ballet 1	Miss Katherine
Ballet 2A/2B	Miss Katherine
Ballet 3B	Miss Phoebe/Caitlyn**
Ballet 3B/4A/4B	Miss Phoebe/Caitlyn**
Rehearsal	Miss Phoebe/Caitlyn**

\*Because of the availability of the subs and the overlap of class times the only way to cover this class is to combine it for a couple of weeks. Please plan on attending class an hour later with the 1A class for these two weeks.

\*\*Miss Phoebe will teach the first week and Miss Caitlyn will teach the second week.