

Phusion Performing Arts Alliance

Building a Foundation for Life Through Art and Discipline

“Get Phused” Monthly Newsletter

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Ann Smith - Assistant Artistic Director
Rebecca Johnson - Center Director

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Teacher’s Corner	2
Class Information	2
Fundraising Information	3
Dance Workshop (continued)	3
Poem	3
Center Etiquette	4
Healthy Eating Lifestyle	4
Phusion Harambee Company	4
Phusion Staff and Support	5
Center Calendar	6

Happy New Year and Welcome Back!!!!

Hello All— I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday and spent plenty of time with family and friends. I am excited to see all the students back in class. We are ready to get back to work. I am proud of the progress each student is making. As you know we completed evaluations before the holiday. I am working on completing them and will hopefully have the feedback for you and the students in the next 2 weeks.

To Our Students - Always remember our four “A’s”
ATTENDANCE – ATTITUDE - ATTIRE - ACTION

Being in the classroom does not mean you are truly in attendance. I want each student to truly ATTEND-DANCE and in order to do that we need each student to bring their best **attitude**, be dressed in appropriate **attire** and always give a little bit more (**action**) than you think you have to give.

Dare to Dream, Dare to Believe, Dare to Do

Andrea

REMINDERS TO PARENTS

- Tuition is due by Saturday, January 6, 2007
- Costume fees are due on January 13, 2007



- We will be holding a parents meeting on Saturday January 20, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. for all parents who have their children enrolled at Phusion. Please come with ideas, questions, or concerns. It is the goal of the PPSC (Phusion Parents Staying Connected) to make the communications between parents and Phusion administration as seamless as possible.

Dance Workshop Coming in March!

When you registered your son/daughter, we made a promise that we would give our all towards helping them to uncover their gift for the arts. We believe that we have hired the best teachers to support our mission and promise of “building a foundation for life through art and discipline”. Still, as talented as our instructors are, we are aware that having the opportunity to learn from other artistic coaches is as equally important. So, when the chance to participate in a workshop held by NYCDA (New York City Dance Alliance) becomes available, we strongly encourage all of our dance students to jump in with both feet.

On March 10th and 11th NYCDA will be in Atlanta at the Georgia World Congress Center. This 2-day regional event is part of a National dance championship. Day 1 features amazing dance workshops provided by some well-known teachers. If you watched “So You Think You Can Dance”, this past season, you will recognize the names Travis and Alison. These are just two of the teachers currently traveling with NYCDA.

Our dance company, Phusion Harambee, had the pleasure of taking classes conducted by each of these T.V. dance stars when we traveled to Tennessee. On top of being superb dancers, they were warm and took the time to talk to their students. In fact, we can

(Continued on page 3)

Teachers Corner

“I will always remember what my mom would say when I was a young dancer - *Dance is the stuff in which it is made*. What she meant was that if I put a little bit in, I would only get a little bit out of it. But, if I made every class (on time), listened to my teachers, was attentive, asked questions (when I did not understand something), and practiced hard (both at home and during my dance sessions), that I would become the dancer that I believed was inside of me”.

Ms. Ann
Jazz

“The slogan that I want my students to understand is - there is no such thing as the impossible, because the unknown awaits - don’t be afraid to step out of the box of life and venture out onto a higher plane”

Mr. Crichlow
Vocal Coach

(Dare to be remarkable). When you find out what your gifts and talent are, your next step is to find the environment with the fertility to cause your talents to grow, an atmosphere that will nurture and encourage the growth of your talents, which can make you legendary, never take your talents for granted, it's your gifts that make room for you in this world. Dream big and never take disappointments so serious that you stop dreaming, you can become, who you believe you can become, and never forget, you are here not only to wake up yourself, but the world to the totality of your calling.

Mr. Jerrick
Drama Teacher

Class Information

Class Attendance -

At the end of each year Phusion hosts its Annual Showcase. Here, our singers, dancers, and actors take to the stage to transport us to a new and exciting world.. With the start of this new year, our teachers will be working hard to prepare our students for this final talent affair. So, it is imperative that students not only come to all classes, but arrive on-time (this means fully dressed and prepared to begin at all scheduled times). Parents, please help your child to understand that when they are late or miss class their behavior impacts the entire group.



We are adding a class beginning on February 3rd

Male Technique Class (Boys Only)
Saturday 3:30 - 4:30



Please help your sons/daughters to remember to come prepared to class in their dance uniforms and shoes.

See Ms. Rebecca if you are uncertain as to what your child should be wearing in each class.



Adult Dance Classes

*** Only \$5.00 per class session ***
for Phusion Parents Only

With the new year a lot of adults are busy making resolutions. Often, a weight management program - consisting of regular exercise and healthy eating is at the top of the list. If getting in to shape is on your list, come join us. We have a variety of classes designed specifically for adults.

Check out our schedule:

DAY	TIME	CLASS
Monday	6:30 - 7:30	Ballet
Tuesday	8:30 - 9:30	Modern
Thursday	8:30 - 9:30	Tap
Friday	7:30 - 8:30	Pilates

Dance Workshop (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

say that all of the teachers were great! Each of the girls will tell you that it was a treat to both meet and learn from all of the instructors. And at the end of each class, they were invited to share a hug of thanks!

Above this, though, our students were given the opportunity to share a room full of 50 - 100 other young dancers in their own age group; each primed ready to not only learn the dance routines laid out before them, but to show off their own skills and talents. That is why NYCDA is so great - they go beyond just teaching dance steps. Their goal is to help the students to realize that dance is about getting in to a mood, a feeling, then following through with the steps. Instructors talked often about how making a routine "their own" starts by having fun. And in doing so, they invite the audience to become a part of their dance.

For this very reason we believe that each time dance students have the opportunity to become involved in dance workshops they grow as a dancer. So, in March we will be closing the studio on the 10th when NYCDA comes to town. Parents are invited to enroll their children in the workshops that will be held from approximately 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Classes for all age groups will be held. Costs for the entire workshop is just \$100.00. If interested please let Ms. Rebecca know ASAP. We will have to turn in all funds by February 10, 2007 (as a group).

We also invite students and parents to remain or come back for the competition to support the Phusion Harambee Dance Company. Competition begins at approximately 4:00pm. More detailed information will be published as the event date comes closer.

We are excited about this March event and hope that all will try to attend! It is a wonderful experience for young and old, new and seasoned dancers, alike!

For more information about the workshops, feel free to visit the NYCDA website at <http://nycdance.com/entry.htm>.

** We are aware that in closing the studio on March 10th that a large number of students will be missing their dance class(es) that day. If you are concerned about this, please let us know - we will gladly find a make-up class for your daughter/son to participate with so that s/he is happy.

Fund Raising Support



<http://www.abcfundraising.com/index.htm>

What: The ABC Scratch & Help Fundraiser

When: The fundraiser will run for 2 weeks - Saturday, January 20th through Saturday, February 3rd.

Who: We are going to ask that each student take 2 cards and families with two or more students enrolled take 3 cards.

How:

1. Donor Scratches



2. Donates Uncovered Amount

3. Receives Valuable Coupons in Return

Come to the parent meeting on January 20th at 10:00 for more information

Parents: At the beginning of the year, each student was given a handbook. On the last page we placed the following poem. We hope that your sons/daughters will read, memorize and come to understand "who they are".

Who Am I?

Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, "Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous?" Actually, who are you not to be? You are a child of God. Your playing 'small' does not serve the world. There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you. We are all meant to shine, as children do. We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It is not just in some of us; it is in everyone. And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others.

- Marianne Williamson

Center Etiquette

For many, Phusion is a second home. Teachers are often here from early evening through 10:00 during the week days and from 9:30 a.m. until 9:30 p.m. on Saturdays. Company dancers spend almost as much time here. Even the youngest dancer spends at least 1-2 hours per week at the dance studio. So, it stands to reason that we all would like to come to a place that is safe, comfortable and clean.

Each week we are trying to find ways to ensure that the down-time that your children spend at Phusion is as child-friendly as possible. There is a dressing room and two bathrooms where all students can privately change their clothes and enough cubbies/shelving for each dancer to keep their dance bags and private belongings stored. We have a refrigerator and microwave for those who need to store cold foods or warm up their lunches/dinners. A homework

center is in the process of being completed - with computer stations and a desk area. A small communal area where the dancers can eat or quietly talk is also available.

Phusion needs for each dancer to take responsibility for maintaining these areas. Too often staff spend a good deal of their "down-time" picking up after the dancers. Food, water bottles, empty packages and garbage are left about the areas. Clothing and jewelry lay flung about on furniture and against the walls.

Parents, please talk to your sons and daughters about respecting the studio and others by cleaning up after themselves and keeping all personal items in the appropriate places.

Together, we can make Phusion our "home away from home".

Thank you

Healthy Eating is a Lifestyle

We are working hard to train the students' bodies and part of that is directly related to what the students are eating. Our goal is to have a nutritionist come and talk to the students about healthy eating habits. In the meantime, we need the parent's help.

- (1) Those students that are at the studio, for most of the day, on Saturdays should be bringing their lunch and/or dinner.
- (2) Parents should refrain from bringing their child fast food. If you choose to do so, parents should make smart choices for their child (i.e., a baked potato instead of French fries, Subway sandwiches, salads, baked chicken w/veggies, etc...).
- (3) Students staying for most of the day should

also have small, healthy snacks in their dance bags (i.e., granola bars, fresh fruit, fruit cups, apple sauce, crackers, etc...).

- (4) Students should refrain from drinking soda's or drinks with high sugar. So, parents, please do not bring (or pack) your child soda, sweet tea, lemonade, etc...

Note: This is not a fast nor is it a diet. This will become a way of life for all Phusion students. Your child needs to keep his/her energy and strength up and what they eat is a direct result in how they look, perform and feel.

p.s. even if your child is not here all day, it is never too early to start teaching healthy eating habits!

Harambee Dance Company

(activities at a glance)

Phusion Harambee Dance Company is working hard and building a solid reputation. We hope that you will let your children come out to support our dancers when they are involved in community activities or are participating in local competitions.

Dance Performance
Alford Elementary School Talent Show
@ Berkmar High
Gwinnett County

January 26
Friday evening
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Dance Performance
Black History Program
@ Evansdale Elementary School
Doraville, Georgia

February 22
Thursday Night
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Dance Competition
NYCDA
@ Georgia World Congress Center
Atlanta, Georgia

March 10 & 11
Saturday and Sunday

Dance Competition: Onstage New York
Atlanta, Georgia
February 24 & 25
Saturday and Sunday



Parents: If you have not paid your December and January activity dance fees, please do so ASAP.

Phusion Staff and Support Team



Drama Teacher
Andrew (AJ) Jerrick

Voice Teacher
Avrid Crichlow

Dance Teachers

Teacher	Class	Class	Class
Andrea Nalls	Ballet I, III	Modern II, III & Adult	PreSchool
Ann Marie Smith	Jazz II, III & IV		
Brian Jones	Hip-Hop		
Niya Johnson	Jazz I	Tap I	Ballet I
Regina Christler	Ballet IV	Pilates	
Robert Mason	Ballet III, Ballet IV	Modern IV	Male Technique (Boys Only)
Shalay Johnson	Ballet II	Hip Hop	
Sheila Artis	Tap II, III, IV & Adult		

Question / Concern / Ideas	Contact	Email
Class Assignments, transfers	Andrea Nalls	phusionperformin@bellsouth.net
Tuition and Fees, Attendance and Absences, Dress Codes, Boutique Information	Rebecca Johnson	rjohnson@plusoneinc.com
Phusion Harambee Dance Company (general)	Rebecca Johnson	rjohnson@plusoneinc.com
Studio Maintenance and IT Support	John Nalls	Jatona_gc@yahoo.com
PPSC (Phusion Parents Staying Connected) - parent committee	Karla Fields	kfields64@hotmail.com
Phusion Newsletter	Toni Thomas	tthoma2@emory.edu
Phone and Email Communications	Marilyn Haymon	mphmortgage1@bellsouth.net

Important Dates to Remember

January 2007



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Studio Closed	2 Studio Closed	3 No Classes Held	4 TUIITION DUE	5 Studio Open 6:30 - ?????	6 Studio Open 9:30 - 9:00 Company Practice 5:30 - 9:00 p.m.
7	8 Studio Open 6:30 - 9:00	9 Studio Open 6:30 - 9:30	10 No Classes Held	11 Studio Open 6:30 - 9:30	12 Studio Open 6:30 - 9:00	13 1st Costume Fee due Studio Open 9:30 - 9:00 Company Practice 5:00 - 9:00
14	15 Studio Open 6:30 - 9:00	16 Studio Open 6:30 - 9:30	17 No Classes Held	18 Studio Open 6:30 - 9:30	19 Studio Open 6:30 - 9:00 DSA Dance Concert 8:00 p.m.	20 Studio Open 9:30 - 7:00 Company Practice 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. DSA Dance Concert 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.
21	22 Studio Open 6:30 - 9:00	23 Studio Open 6:30 - 9:30	24 No Classes Held	25 Studio Open 6:30 - 9:30	26 Studio Open 6:30 - 9:00 Company participates in Talent Show	27 Studio Open 9:30 - 8:30 Company Practice 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.
28	29 Studio Open 6:30 - 9:00	30 Studio Open 6:30 - 9:30	31 No Classes Held			

February 2007
February 1st TUIITION DUE
February 10th NYCDA Workshop Fee Due
February 17th 2nd Costume Fee Due

March 2007
March 1st TUIITION DUE