

Wightmore School of Dance.
Newsletter 2011.

Vocational Graded RAD Ballet Exams.

Amia Watling Intermediate Foundation- Pass.

Paige Gliddon Intermediate Foundation- Merit.

Both Amia and Paige took their exam in Bristol during the Easter term and have been attending five ballet classes a week and richly deserve their results. These are very difficult exams to pass and are usually taken by students in full-time dance training; Well Done!

Graded RAD Ballet Exams.

We have had 100 per cent pass rate, fantastic results this year. Please read your reports carefully as this will help you to improve your weaker areas. Special mention to Aimei Bor who passed her Grade 7 with 86 per cent.

ISTD and RAD Level 3 graded and vocationally graded dance examinations now have UCAS points which come into effect from 2012 entry onwards. For more information visit the UCAS website.

Aimei Bor and Beth Ninnis have already gained 55 UCAS points after passing their grade 7 with Distinction.

ISTD Tap and Modern Exams.

The first entry of ISTD Modern Theatre and Tap exams at the Wightmore School of Dance took place in August.

Grade 2 Modern Theatre Dance- Frances Hunt- Distinction, Hannah Johnson- Distinction, Molly Ogilvy- Merit, Ella Paramor- Merit.

Grade 1 Tap- Frances Hunt- Distinction.

We have students currently preparing for Primary, Grade 2 and Grade 4 Tap, Bronze Jazz and Primary, Grade 1, Grade 3 and Grade 5 Modern Theatre Dance.

New RAD Ballet Grades 1-3.

All RAD teachers will be attending courses to learn the new grades 1-3 in 2012.

New ISTD Grade 4 Tap and Bronze Jazz Amalgamations.

Christina will be attending the September Course to learn the new ISTD Grade 4 Tap, which will be examined from next September. She will also be attending a course in December to learn the new Bronze and Silver Jazz Amalgamations.

Past Pupils.

Katy Reece has completed her first year at Tring Park School for the Performing Arts. Katy was in the school production of 'Fame' the musical, playing the part of Grace Lamb (Lambchops). Abbie Biscoe trained at the Wightmore School of Dance from the age of 3 and left us 5 years ago at 13 years old to train at The Hammond School in Chester. Abbie has just graduated this July and hopes to pursue a career in Contemporary Dance.

Chance to Dance, Northcott Theatre Exeter.

Three performances have taken place at the Northcott theatre. In November students performed 'Waltz of the flowers' from The Nutcracker and in June 'Les Jours tristes' and Sylvia's 'Valse Lente'. The Northcott Theatre is a lovely venue for students to perform in and Norma Lawrie-Hutchings hopes to bring the Chance to Dance crew back to Devon next year in October/November.

Younger members of the school performed a Christmas performance at the Methodist Church in December. They showed their skills in Ballet, Tap and Modern Dance.

RAD Pre-school Dance Curriculum- Dance to Your Own Tune-
Capture and nurture children's instinctive joy of movement and freedom of expression.

Fun, exciting and creative classes with props, dressing up and musical instruments.

We introduced the RAD Pre-School Dance Curriculum in September 2011.

The pre-school dance class is on a Monday at 4.00pm-4.30pm from 2 ½ years and above.

The goals of the Pre-school Dance Curriculum are:

- To enhance children's movement and abilities and physical fitness
- To aid in becoming physically and spatially aware
- To stimulate listening skills
- To encourage expressive movement
- To build confidence and self-esteem
- To encourage children to be co-operative and sociable.

Summer School 2011.

All ages 4 to 19 years took part in the Dance Summer School. Classes included Ballet, Jazz, Tap, Contemporary, Modern, Stage Makeup and Pointe. Repertoire from the ballet 'Swan Lake' and 'Sleeping Beauty' were taught and dances to 'The Lion King'. Senior students learnt variations choreographed by Gillian Lynne CBE for the RAD Fonteyn Nureyev Young Dancers Competition. Variations have been choreographed to music from the Harry Potter films. Gillian Lynne is best known for her choreography in Andrew Lloyd Webber's musicals 'Cats', 'The Phantom of the Opera' and 'Aspects of Love'.

Uniform.

Due to delays in paying for uniform, we will be changing our policy. In future a uniform request form will be handed out and the items will be ordered on receipt of money or cheque.

Cups

Paige Gliddon- Performance Award (Ballet, Tap, Modern and Jazz).

Aimei Bor- Most Improved Dancer (Ballet).

Sophie Fallon- Consistent hard work and improvement (Ballet).

Contemporary Workshop.

We will be holding two Contemporary workshops during the next term at the Methodist Church. Classes are £4.50 payable on the day. Classes are open to all students from 6 years.

Saturday 22nd October 3.05pm-4.05pm

Saturday 17th December 3.05pm-4.05pm

New Dance Programmes introduced Easter 2011.

For those students who are taking classes in all genres of dance these programmes offer a reduction in fees. Please check the website for more information

www.wightmoreschoolofdance.co.uk