

A.I.D.T. Newsletter

Association of
International Dance
Teachers

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Congratulations to all the studios who participated in the January 2009 exam session. Everything went very smoothly.

Well done to Bursary winners:

Asia Sinnes - Final Grade - Modern
Honors with Distinction - \$100.00
Student of Howe Sound Studio in Squamish

Zee Samnani - Silver Lower -Tap
Honors with Distinction - \$150.00
Student of Tri-City Dance Centre Coquitlam

**June Exams entries are due no later than
March 17th to Margaret or Susan**



I am pleased to tell you
Margie Wells will be one of our
examiners again in June.



Di Drake will be examining
in Canada for the first time.

Let's keep up
our excellent hospitality.

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MINUTES OF THE LOWER MAINLAND MEETING HELD JANUARY 12, 2009

ITEMS DISCUSSED:

Bronze Higher/Silver Higher/Gold Higher certificates will now have a star on the certificate, rather than the seal

Everyone in attendance thought this was a good idea. The seal will remain on the Bronze Lower/Silver Lower/Gold Lower certificates

Christina asked if this would cause difficulty with the school credits? She said that quite a few of her students are not receiving credits for their AIDT exams – what can we do about this?

Certificates for Bursary winners:

Everyone thought this was a great idea as well. Ryan and Alicia said that they had received a certificate in the past, but other teachers said their students had not received a certificate.

We also discussed how we could designate the Bursary funds as follows

Modern:

Primary/Junior Lower/Junior Higher/Preparatory	Junior Bursary	\$100
Final Grade/ Prelim Jr/Preliminary	Intermediate Bursary	\$150
Elementary/Intermediate/Advanced	Senior Bursary	\$200

Tap:

Red Star/ Blue Star/ Yellow Star	Junior Bursary	\$100
Br Lower/ Br Higher/Silver Lower	Intermediate	\$150
Silver Higher/Gold Lower/Gold Higher	Senior Bursary	\$200

Certificates of Appreciation for the Studios:

We discussed Margaret's suggestion of giving each studio a Certificate of Appreciation for years of service.

We also discussed giving an engraved plaque for 25 years of service. Everyone in attendance really liked these ideas and this was well received.

Annual General Meeting

We discussed holding an AGM each year at the same time of year. Margaret's daughter Kathy suggested alternating between Nanaimo and Horseshoe Bay each year and just meeting for the day. The general consensus at our meeting was that everyone enjoyed the opportunity to get together and socialize with other teachers as well. We all really enjoyed attending the AGM in Nanaimo and spending the night. Talia suggested that we also take this opportunity to go through and answer any questions we may have on the syllabus. Everyone in attendance was in agreement.

We discussed having the AGM the same weekend each year and that way everyone can put that on their calendar ahead of time in order to be in attendance.

Discussion regarding January Exam Session:

We discussed the fact that the majority of teachers will be holding their exams in June. Squamish is still hoping to hold the majority of their exams in the January session, but are in transition with new teaching staff. CentreStage is hoping to keep hold their Tap exams in January & Modern exams in June. Ryan, Alicia, Talia & Christina will still have the majority of their students doing June exams, but they still want to see the January exam session continued.

We also discussed the possibility of giving the January exam session a different look than June exams – doing Associate exams at this time and more workshop opportunities. We also discussed organizing open work with the Examiners, so we could have larger numbers in our workshops.

Support for workshops – Bursary Funds:

We discussed the fact that \$655 was raised through workshops on this past exam session. Again, our discussion about offering Open work to get larger numbers at the workshops would increase our ability to raise more funds.

Possibility of having a large workshop with all students and teachers so the work in the Lower Mainland can be standardized:

Everyone was in agreement that this would be very beneficial for their students. We discussed holding this in either November or February – the problem being whether the work would have been completely taught in November or trying to work around competitions, etc in February. We will need to have further discussion in this regard.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING SOCAM

Dance Studios Beware... Here is important information that came to us from Chantel Milne on Facebook. This is a subject that could affect all of us, anyone with more information to share, please let us know!

Socan is a private company who claim to be backed by the government... but they are not..... only in Ontario provincial law do they have any teeth..... they are phoning studio's demanding that they pay fees for the use of the music within the studio...they don't care if it is RAD-Cecchetti syllabus- classical or pop. Socan says we are infringing on the copywrite lawsIt was huge \$\$\$\$.... I think it was approximately \$3 per student/per room/per times the number of studios, per week, which adds up to a fortune!!!!

This summer Brian Foley addressed the whole issue at the Dancelife Teachers conference. He said that Socan was bogus and had no authority to demand money from us.

However, there is a bill going to parliament to legislate us to pay \$\$\$ along with the gyms.... and it is a different agency doing it.

There is a dance school in Alberta that is fighting it right now... none of us Canadian teachers even knew about it. ... but it will be percentage as well..

There was recently a case won by a Dance Studio against this group and we will try to find more info on that.

Contact Brian Foley to find out more information on the subject itself.... we can fight this....if we all know about it.

JANUARY EXAM SESSION

Mrs. Shelly Turner arrived at Vancouver Airport on January 19th. It was her first long trip from Johannesburg and I know how long and tiring that is to travel in one jump, so I told her how to find her way to the Hotel and have a good rest that night, then to get to the Ferry to cross to Victoria, I was there to meet her on her arrival to the Island. We had a nice drive into Victoria and a little time to walk around the harbor.

The next day she examined at Westshore Dance Studio where Debby Halusiak looked after her for the day. After the exams we traveled to Duncan, had dinner with some elderly friends of mine who use to live in Zimbabwe. Thursday 22nd was just one associate of Kim Robbs, so instead of it being 1 1/2 hrs exam it ended up as a 2 1/2 hr exam but Congratulations to Ricki Lee Bronson. When we were finished in Duncan we made a short stop in Chemainus to see the quaint little town then on through Nanaimo seeing as much as we could but with the short days, that is difficult. We reached Campbell River quite late and I left her in the hands of a very nice lady who runs a bed and breakfast close to the beach, where Mrs. Turner was very happy for a few days to unpack and stay put.

Friday 23rd was a full days examining at Kathy Mascia Studio where some of the girls did modern Badge tests followed by Rachel Boods Elementary pupil and her pre-star Tappers. Saturday Gemini studio put on 2 Tap work-shop classes.

Thank you Sandra and other teachers there, as we were trying to find work for Mrs. Turner this year. Sunday Debby Halusiak & her daughter came up from Victoria, and Rachel, Kathy and a few pupils did an Elementary class, Then the Tap Silver Higher and Gold Lower Syllabus was taught for the rest of Saturday and Monday On her way back to Victoria Monday afternoon Debby dropped Mrs. Turner off at the departure Bay Ferry.

LOWER MAINLAND EXAM SESSION - JANUARY 2009

Mrs Turner arrived at Horseshoe Bay on the evening of January 26th. Her first comment was how impressed she was with how friendly and helpful strangers had been to her on her journey. Strangers helped her with her luggage and bought her coffee. It was great to hear that she had been treated so well by people in our country.

The next day Susan had plans to take her sight-seeing at the local mountains, but the weather didn't co-operate!! The snow returned again, but that didn't dampen Mrs Turner's spirit. She was very excited to see the snow as they don't get that kind of weather in Johannesburg. She thought it was great!!! The day was spent shopping and having lunch and touring local sights in Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows. Mrs Turner examined and taught Modern and Tap workshops to the students and teachers during her stay in Maple Ridge. She also had the opportunity to travel to Squamish to examine and teach a Modern workshop. As the trip to Squamish was just over-night, the only chance Mrs Turner had to see any sights was on her return to Maple Ridge.

Mrs Turner was very knowledgeable and helpful in her approach. All the students and teachers alike really enjoyed her classes and found them to be very beneficial. The Lower Mainland exam session was very successful and Mrs Turner was very complimentary about the high standard of work she saw in Canada.

Thank you Teachers for making Mrs Turners trip so enjoyable. It is something she will not forget as she was very impressed with everyone she met. She is looking forward to returning to Canada and we all look forward to her return

ANATOMY AND MUSIC WORKSHOP

A huge thank you to Susan Ford who conducted another totally successful Anatomy and Music Workshop for Dancers and teachers of Westshore Dance Studios. Since the course was offered a number of years ago in Courtenay, students from WDS who attended have been asking if Susan was going to offer the course again.

We had close to twenty dancers/teachers in attendance for the December 7th workshop. A brother of one student who is pursuing a career in sports therapy was also in attendance and he left the course with a new awareness and appreciation of dancers and their strengths. All are still talking of how invaluable it was and hoping it will become a yearly event.

TEACHING POSITION:

Abbotsford Dance Centre is looking for an AIDT Modern teacher for 1 day per week in September 2009.

Please contact Chantel Milne @ Info@abbotsforddancecenter.com

EXAMINATION NOTICES FROM SOUTH AFRICA #139

EXAMINATION ENTRIES AND PROVISIONAL APPLICATIONS

Please ensure that you use the correct and official forms for 2009. **NB!** The column on entry form marked RESULT is for the examiner's use and not to be completed by teacher.

SETTINGS FOR EXAMINATIONS

If there is an odd number of candidates from Preparatory to Preliminary it will be up to the teacher's discretion whether to enter them as a set of 3 or as a set of 2 candidates and 1 candidate, on their own.

IMPORTANT NOTE

When entering 3 candidates:

Teachers must decide which candidates go together for the exercises and which candidate will do the exercise on their own. Try for each candidate to do something individually.

(Stepping Stones through to Junior Higher remains as previously set.)

Candidates should be placed as follows in the exam room *(please not too far apart)*

1 2 3

PREPARATORY

1st Barre: Taken together

2nd – 5th Barre: A set of 2 and 1.

Prep. For Outward Turns: Taken together

Music & Turn Ex: Shown Individually.

Isolation Ex: A set of 2 and 1

Arm & Turn Ex: A set of 2 and 1.

Pattern Ex: Shown Individually.

Floorwork 1, 2 and 3: Taken together

Floor Amalgamation, Dance Movement, Space Jumps and Dance: Shown Individually.

FINAL GRADE

All Barre Exercises: A set of 2 and 1.

Centre Practice: Shown together.

Turn Variations: Shown Individually.

Co-Ordination Ex: Shown Individually.

Spiral Arm Variation Ex: Taken together.

Pattern Ex: Shown Individually

Floorwork 1 and 2: Shown together.

Floor Amalgamation and Dance Movement: Shown Individually.

Space Jumps:

Continuous version (2 candidates)

Solo version (1 candidate)

Dance: Shown Individually.

PRELIM. JUNIOR

All Barre Exercises: A set of 2 and 1

Centre Practice: Taken together.

Turn Variation, Co-Ordination Ex, Arm Variation and Pattern Ex: Shown Individually

Floorwork 1 and 2: Taken together.

Floor Amalgamation and Dance Movement: Shown Individually.

Space Jumps:

Continuous version (2 candidates)

Solo version (1 candidate)

Dance: Shown Individually.

PRELIMINARY

All Barre Exercises: A set of 2 and 1.

Centre Practice: Taken together.

Turn Variation, Co-Ordination Ex, Arm Variation and Pattern Ex: Shown Individually.

Floorwork 1 and 2: Taken together.

Floor Amalgamation and Dance Movement: Shown Individually.

Space Jumps:

Continuous version (2 candidates)

Solo version (1 candidate)

Dance: Shown Individually (Maximum 2 mins – not 2 ½ mins as written in syllabus notes).

SYLLABUS CLARIFICATIONS

Please make amendments in your syllabus notes.

SILVER HIGHER TAP

Technique: 5 beat wing preparation – please change this to 5 beat wing **variation** i.e. *technique is the same as 5 beat wing but the timing is in quavers.*

GOLD LOWER TAP

Rhythm Exercise: 2nd cts & 4: Show **toe** digs, not digs in 4th, R behind L.

PREPARATORY MODERN

Floor Amalgamation: 3rd cts 5-8: Turn to **R** shoulder to roll onto knees to R.D.F.

FINAL GRADE MODERN

1st Barre: 2nd cts 3 – 4: Show **pelvic and diaphragm contraction**. Head & eyes erect.

PRELIMINARY MODERN

Dance: Maximum time limit: **2 minutes**

PLEASE NOTE WHEN ENTERING LEVELS

Please enter levels on their own
Do not mix with the grade as marking is different.

Levels are marked as follows:

CREDIT	50% - 65%
MERIT	65% - 80%
MERIT PLUS	80% & OVER

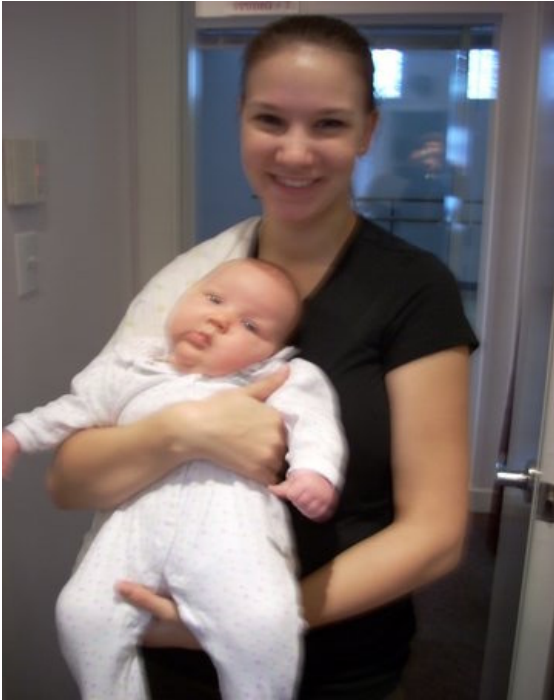
Senior levels remain the same i.e.

PASS	65%
PASS PLUS	70%
COMMENDED	75%
HIGHLY COMMENDED	80%
HONOURS	85%
HONOURS WITH DISTINCTION	90%

AIDT is growing and going from strength to strength, and that is “THANKS” to all you hard working teachers out there. Keep up the good work. We will soon be having our own examiners on this side of the world.



PHOTO GALLERY



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