



HAMILTON ACADEMY OF PERFORMING ARTS

BALLET
MUSIC
VOCAL
DRAMA



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February—March 2010.

Message From Principal and Artistic Director

Even though this Newsletter covers school events for February and March we would like to start with an excitement that was created at the Academy after a phone call from the Hamilton Community News informing us that we are the Diamond 2010 Readers Choice Award Winner! Both staff and students were so proud and happy for our first award in our first year of operation. We thank all of our supporters and well wishers who nominated and voted for us. Congratulations to us all!

Our Masquerade Ball on February 13th was a great success! All the guests who attended the Ball commented on how much fun they had and how well the Ball was organized. We raised the money for the Scholarship fund not only through tickets sales, the silent auction, and raffle tickets, but also through private donations as well. We would like to sincerely thank all local businesses and individuals for the items donated for the silent auction, as well as the Bank of Montreal and Judy Marsales Real Estate office for sponsoring the event, Fortinos for donating food platters and Tim Hortons for the coffee. A special thank you goes to Joe and Anita Gennaccaro, Janette Reed, Brad and Anne Marie Collingwood, Lisa and Jack Rogers, Patti Cannon, Lee Fairbanks, Shelby Kerr, Andy Stocks, and to all students and parents of Hamilton City Ballet for helping us to run a successful event.

The March Reports Cards were sent home on March 4. We encourage all students to read the comments with their parents and discuss what a child should do to improve the marks. All teachers are prepared to discuss students' progress and grades the parents.

Principal
Anna Shkolnik

Artistic Director
Max Ratevosian

Visit to the Dundas Historical Museum

In March the students visited the Dundas Historical Museum twice. On our first visit, students learned about the geological history of Dundas, saw the exhibit of WWI and WWII which included uniforms, letters, and other artifacts. They also saw the Olympic exhibit of the Paris 1924 medals, as well as the torch & running suit worn by Mr. Juravinsky during the relay in Hamilton for the Vancouver Olympic 2010. The students also were given two search activity cards to discover more about the history of our area. On our second visit, students saw the hat exhibit featuring hats from different time periods and learned about hat production. Students also enjoyed trying on different hats.

Summer Camp.

This coming summer HAPA will offer for the first time Summer Arts Camp from July 5 to August 13. There will be three programs offered: for junior dance students, senior ballet students, and Theatre Arts students. The information about the camp will be sent home and be available on our website www.haofpa.com in a few weeks.

Registration weekend for 2010-2011 school year

On April 17 and 18 from 12 noon till 4 p.m. we will hold a registration for HAPA next school year and our own Performing Arts Summer Camp. More information can be received contacting the school office, from the new promotional brochures and our website. We would really appreciate your referrals. HAPA students will bring home registration forms for the next school year to be filled out by parents and returned to the school by May 1st.

Cinderella

Students of HAPA will be performing with the Hamilton City Ballet in the year end production of "Cinderella"- music by Prokofiev. The performance is held at the Downtown Art Center on Rebecca St. in Hamilton. There will be three performances on June 18, 19 & 20. Parents will be informed with updates leading up to the performance.



Hamilton Community News
Diamond

HAPA is the Diamond Reader's Choice Award winner for Best Art School of 2010!

Thank you to everyone who attended and helped organize the masquerade ball!

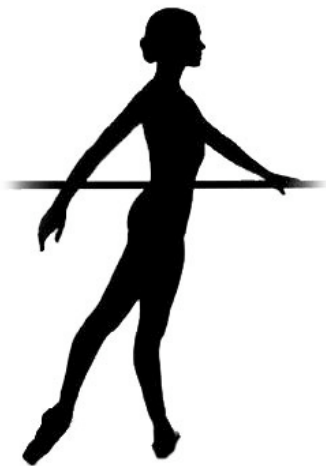
Reminder:
There is no school on Good Friday, April 2nd and Easter Monday April 5.

Reminder:
HAPA Registration dates for the 2010—2011 school year is April 17 and 18 12 noon to 4 p.m.

Cinderella Performance
Downtown Art Centre
Rebecca St. Ham.
June 18, 19, 20.

Report from the teachers

"A teacher is like a candle—it consumes itself to light the way for others."



Teaching Drama At HAPA

We would like to inform staff and parents that our Vocal and Drama teacher, Ms. Shelby Kerr has left the school due to upcoming recordings with her band. We wish her the best of luck with her performing career. Mr. Andy Stocks, who has a M.A. in Drama will teach Drama classes as of this week. Students are familiar with Mr. Andy Stocks from Art classes and are comfortable with his teaching style. We are confident that students will benefit from having such an accomplished actor and educator as their Drama teacher. We are in the final stages of confirming a teacher for Vocal classes and will inform parents as soon as an appointment has been made.

From Ms. Diane Le (English, Science, Social Studies, Visual Arts)

Our grade 4/5 class has been working hard in reading comprehension, spelling and creative writing in English class. Students are also working with a typing program. Our grade 6/7 English class will be working on speech writing and we will begin our final novel study in the coming weeks. Students in all grades will be finishing up Science and Social Studies units in the upcoming weeks. Students should be prepared for upcoming unit tests. In visual arts, students have worked with graphite pencils, acrylic paints and pastels to experiment with different mediums, techniques and styles. Students should come to each Art class prepared with their sketchbooks. If students have graphite drawing/shading pencils, they can bring them to class as well.

From Mrs. Anna Shkolnik (Mathematics)

Grades 4 and 5. During the last two months the students learned Multiplication and Division by 10, 100, 1000; Fractions: number line, comparing fractions, addition and subtraction of fractions, solving word problems using fractions.

Grade 6 and 7. The students learned about rates and percents and their application in real world situations. We study Powers and Exponents, algebraic expressions, and word problems that lead to simple equations.

From Ms. Melania Pawliw (Ballet)

In gr.4&5 the students continue to work on strengthening their core and proper body placement through barre, center work, and a series of new floor exercises. They have been learning the adagio in the center with grandes poses and the study of arabesques. The students continue to develop turning techniques on two legs and balances on one. The students began to set weekly goals by writing their corrections and placing them in a special box which are shared at the end of the week and reviewed on Mondays.

From Mr. Max Ratevosian (Ballet and Historical Dance)

The students continue to develop the physical strength required for grand adage especially for girls. There is already good progress at the barre, as the students are reaching high leg extensions. We continue to work on the cleanliness of leg and arm positions. The students worked on "les batteries"-jumps with beats and on the elements of "grand allegro"-big jumps. In Historical Dance, we worked on the elements of the French Quadrille, Mazurka, Waltz, and on the proper body placements of different historical periods. All students are working very well.

From Mr. Leon Karan

I am very pleased with the student progress in learning music theory. It is important to point out that for students to improve piano playing skills, they have to practice at least 30-45 minutes every day. When students establish good practicing habits the progress would be much faster and students will enjoy playing the piano.