

The Nutmegger

October, 2009



Nutcracker Tickets
On Sale Now!

Click here for
Warner Theatre tickets

Click here for The Bushnell tickets

Welcome to The Nutmeg:

From the desk of: Sharon E. Dante,
Founder/Executive Director

Hello Everyone,

I especially want to mention our wonderful 2009 summer students who have spent time with us this summer. Without a doubt we had a great time teaching them fundamentals and classical variations which will be with them for the rest of their careers. We look forward to your future return to The Nutmeg and wish you all a wonderful year.



Back to School/Start up for Fall

Notes from Principal,
Ronald Alexander

September means back to school. But back to school at the Nutmeg Conservatory for the Arts is different from most places. There are 22 students enrolled in our full time residency program, and 27 students who are day students for a total of 49 students in the professional program. The 22 resident students have settled into their rooms and returned to the routine of ballet and academic classes, some for the first time while others savor their last year here at the Nutmeg. The day students attend private and / or public academic schools in the Litchfield County area and join the resident students in their ballet classes and rehearsals after school, in the afternoons, evenings and on weekends. The return of all of our students also means the return not just of academic and artistic staff, but also our residential housing staff, security personnel, and cooking staff. Everyone is looking to enjoy this upcoming Season. We took out a few minutes to get some photos outside of the Nutmeg Complex on a beautiful early fall day here in the Southern Berkshires.



Surrounded by this year's students, Mr. A gears up

2010 Audition Tour Update

Joan Kunsch looks on at staging rehearsals for Nutmeg at the Jacob's Pillow Premiere in July 2009. She will be expanding her horizons this season as guest teacher and choreographer as well as overseeing and conducting the National Audition Tour for Nutmeg.



In addition to planning an extensive Audition Tour to over 30 cities and continuing her teaching and choreographing at Nutmeg, Associate Director Joan Kunsch is spending half of her time this season at Nutmeg, and half (two weeks per month) on tour. This summer she has worked with dancers of Nutmeg, Huntington Ballet, Long Island Ballet Theater and Vail Valley Academy of Dance (Colorado) teaching students, company classes, repertoire and giving teacher training. This autumn she will be guesting in Texas, Virginia and around Connecticut, always with Nutmeg Conservatory as artistic home base. By accepting these invitations, Ms. Kunsch can spread awareness of Nutmeg's training programs as well as expand her network of professional company and university contacts for the benefit of future Nutmeg graduates.

To find out if Nutmeg is conducting an audition near you please visit <http://nutmegconservatory.org/admissions/audition-tour.html>

What a wonderful group of upcoming dance artists we have this fall! All of you are invited to come to see our full resident dance season this year and to take advantage of the opportunity to see our dancers grow through performance. And, parents, you are invited to observe classes at any time during the Columbus Day weekend. Since we are in session full time that weekend, it is a perfect time to come to visit your child as they take class or dance in rehearsals. If you plan to come, please drop Mr. Alexander a note RAlexander@nutmegconservatory.org and we will expect you.

We are pleased to have our newly navigated website up and running and hope you will find great improvements in our communication with all of you moving forward. Please take a few minutes to view the photos on the various slide presentations that include present and past students as well as graduates of The Nutmeg.

As we conclude the celebration of our 40th anniversary with the upcoming Nutcracker Production, the board and staff will be launching a new Strategic Plan - "The Fifth Decade". On Thursday September 26th a cross section of board, staff and parents conducted a meeting to review the kick-off of that plan. We hope many parents and friends in our greater Nutmeg community will want to participate in that long range plan and we will be in touch with you about it. That evening our special guest was Barry Hughson. Congratulations to Barry who is currently the Executive Director of the Boston Ballet and of course a Nutmeg Graduate from 1988!

Enjoy our first newsletter and do not hesitate to contact us with your thoughts: info@nutmegconservatory.org

NUTMEG'S PERFORMANCE SEASON ANNOUNCED

On November 7, 13 & 14, 2009 at 8 p.m., and November 8 & 15, 2009 at 2 p.m., the Warner Theatre is producing A Chorus Line on its main stage. In addition to dancing, all the leads must act and sing as well; however, A Chorus Line is essentially a show about dancing. Many of the dancers who are part of the ensemble are current Nutmeg students and alumni.



On December 5, 6, 12, 13 Nutcracker at The Warner Theatre in Torrington and 19th and 20th the Nutcracker at The Bushnell. Tickets are on sale now at both theatres and may be purchased online through the Nutmeg website as well. The perennial favorite, Nutmeg's Nutcracker, will conclude Nutmeg's 40th Anniversary. Alumni and friends all of whom are invited to purchase tickets for the Saturday evening Dec. 12th performance and to attend a celebration reception at the Yankee Pedlar immediately following the performance. Watch for upcoming details on this season's production.

We are delighted to announce a Mini Spring Performance Series and Graduation Weekend

SAVE THE DATES: We are negotiating and are excited to announce a mini- Spring Season for the weekend of March 19, and 20th, and anticipate utilizing the Warner's new 200-seat black box theatre for performances. The Warner has been on a fund raising mission to bring in a needed sprung floor so that dancing could take place in that venue and according to James Patrick, Executive Director, they are almost ready. Nutmeg's 40-year reputation has been based on world-class ballet training and opportunities for students to perform. This venture is particularly exciting for us as we enter into our 5th decade and in the words of our Executive/Artistic Director Sharon E. Dante-Ballet, Ballet, Ballet!

We are planning the repertoire to also include Contemporary work and will have SYREN as our special guest artists on all performances. More details will be released as the negotiations continue as well as confirming our guest choreographers and dancers.

In May, The Nutmeg will have its regular Graduation and Spring Repertoire Concert in the Premiere Studio on the weekend of May 20, 21, and 22nd. Students will perform in traditional staging of classical works in addition to original choreography by guest artists and regular faculty members.



Please visit our new Website often and send your suggestions to: info@nutmegconservatory.org

Special Guest Teachers Lynn Peterson and Kate Mehan relax prior to the Jacob's Pillow Celebration in July. The SYREN founders are in residence this fall and are planning to come back in the Winter to prepare for the March Performance Weekend.

Local News Release and Photo:

Debbie Fratta veteran Dance Teacher and School Director is developing The new Nutmeg Tappers Classes on Thursdays and Fridays at Nutmeg Conservatory, 58 Main Street as part of Nutmeg's Arts Extension Programs.

Last week she visited the Nutmeg Studios to kick off the Nutmeg Arts Extension Programs. She is pictured her shaking hands with Sharon E. Dante Founder and Artistic Director of Nutmeg Conservatory.

Debbie who studied with such famous tap personalities as Greg Hines among others has developed a special syllabus for the three opening programs. There will be a Mommy/and Me (or Daddy) class on Thursday from 10:00 A.M. - 10:50 and Special Classes on Friday afternoons for tappers 7-12 and another for teenagers and adults.

According to Sharon Dante, The new Tappers Program as well as the new YBP Fusion Program which is a combination of Yoga, Ballet and Pilates taught and created by Victoria Mazzarelli, will be unveiled this fall as The Conservatory, will headline the Nutmeg Arts Extension Programs as we continue to develop our community programs.

For program information and registration contact Diane Consolini at the Nutmeg Dance Shop Registration Desk at 860-482-4413 ext 316 or visit www.nutmegconservatory.org/school

YEAR-ROUND
PRE-PROFESSIONAL
CLASSICAL
TRAINING
PROGRAM



NUTMEG
CONSERVATORY
FOR THE ARTS



The Nutmeg Conservatory for the Arts is New England's premier private boarding and daytime pre-professional and professional classical ballet training academy for High School and Post High School Training Grades 8-14 and one of the few private schools in the United States accredited by the National Association of Schools of Dance.

A full college preparatory academic curriculum is conducted in association with the Keystone National High School. Students have up to six hours of training and repertoire development a day, along with the opportunity to perform in Nutmeg's Resident Dance Season. Academic achievement, quality training, and performance are the standards that make Nutmeg students into true ballet and dance professionals. Nutmeg graduates have joined over 60 dance companies worldwide. Nutmeg is equally proud of our graduates academic and business excellence. Our successful graduates have achieved the highest academic degrees as well as using their Nutmeg training to start their own companies or to work in arts administration.

Nutmeg is located on a State-of-the-Art campus in historic, downtown Torrington, Connecticut. To find out more for year-around admission audition and registration, please visit us at www.nutmegconservatory.org, or call Ronald Alexander, Principal for Private Audition and Admission Qualifications at 860-482-4413 x314
The Nutmeg Conservatory for the Arts,
58 Main Street, Torrington, CT 06790

ALUMNI NEWS



Remember when...

"recognize yourself or your child?
Please contact us!" Photo Circa 1985

