

## Happy New Year!

Happy 2015, dancers! We hope you've had a happy holiday and a restful vacation, and are now ready to get back to dancing.

Be sure to keep up with our fundraisers and intensives that we have going on this season. Follow us for updates on Facebook and on our website.

Have a look inside this issue of the *Dancer Dispatch* to get infor-



mation about what's been going on for the past couple of months! We've had several

company fundraisers, a performance of *The Nutcracker* by the Leatherstocking Ballet, an Advanced RAD Ex-

am completed by one of our own students, and much more! In addition to all this, we have several important announcements and reminders for you.

Don't forget to take advantage of all the opportunities open to you this year, such as intensives, master classes, and performances.

As we begin a new year and approach our final end-of-year performance, let's start off with a good attitude! Make sure to, as always, be on time for class, be respectful to our teachers, and have the proper hair and attire for class. We're working towards putting on a great show at the end of the season!

## Christmas Break Dance Intensive

Be sure to check out the online videos from our Dance Intensive. The intensive was held on Tuesday, December 30th for Intermediate to Advanced dancers.



We featured Contemporary Dance taught by Trevor Jones, and Ballet taught by Amanda Thomas.

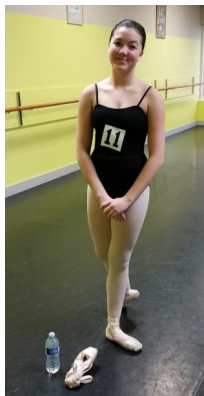
The students learned some new choreography from different instructors, and had a great chance to get some dancing in over break!

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## RAD Advanced Foundation Exam Cali Buxton-Pham

After only a few months of intense study and preparation, Dancer's own Cali Buxton-Pham recently took the RAD Advanced Foundation exam. It was held in Ontario, Canada during December of 2014 in the city of Vaughan.



Cali took the exam along with 2 other girls, both of whom were seniors in high school and had been studying the syllabus for one and a half years. Cali is a freshman who studied the syllabus for just a little over 3 months. She felt

good about that, and thinks she did really well on the exam.



This is a great accomplishment for a freshman to achieve. We're waiting excitedly to hear the results.

Congratulations, Cali!

**IMPORTANT REMINDER:** All costumes must be paid for by Jan. 10, 2015 or your costume will not be ordered. No refunds! No exceptions!

## Parents' Night Out

Every busy parent needs a night out! On Saturday, December 6th from 6pm-10pm, we held a fundraiser at the studio so that the parents of our dancers could have an evening out.



At the studio, we had children

ages 3-12, who were able to enjoy a visit from *Frozen's* own queen Elsa! The evening consisted of a craft, dancing, snacks, and, of course, a showing of the movie *Frozen*.



This event was a fundraiser for our Sr. Company Competition team. A big thank you to all who helped out!



**Dancer is holding a fundraiser for our company students. We will be selling "Keep Calm / I'm a Dance Mom" mugs at the desk for \$15 each. 100% of the proceeds will go to our company members!**

## Girls' Night Out!

On Saturday, December 13th Dancenter threw a Girl's Night Out event to benefit our Mini and Junior Competition groups.



The party was held from 6:00-8:30pm, and was hosted by our Mini and Jr. Companies. Girls ages 8-13, dancers and non-dancers alike, were invited to attend. The company dancers



brought their friends for a fun-filled evening of dancing, snacks, music, and games. Go to

our Facebook page to see more photos of this fun event!



## The Nutcracker

Several of our students participated in the *Nutcracker* production put on by the Leatherstocking Ballet. The performance took place on December 19 and 20, 2014.

Our students danced many varied roles, such as party guests, snow, flowers, angels, and much, much more!



**REMINDER:** Make sure to stay on top of your monthly payments! Your tuition for January has been posted to your account. It can be paid online. If your tuition is not received by the 10th you will be charged a late fee of \$5 per week.

## 52 Reasons Why We Love Dancenter of Utica

Why do you love Dancenter? We're always thrilled to hear what you enjoy about dancing with us, and this year we received just that for Christmas.

Our Junior Company gave us a deck of playing cards, and on each card was drawn a unique, colorful reason why



they love taking classes at Dancenter of Utica.

The deck featured phrases such as "Great

Teachers," "Teaches Us More Than Dance," "Provides Goals & Challenges," and "Lets Us Show How We Feel Through Movement." Each card was creatively decorated and beauti-



ful.

You can check out pictures of a few more of the cards on our Facebook page.

We always love to get comments from our DOU

family, and positive feedback is really encouraging for us. These cards definitely put a smile on our faces.

We loved this gift! Thank you Junior Company!

Photo of the Month



# TBA:

An upcoming opportunity to video audition for this Summer's Maine State Ballet intensive. Ask Carrie for more details.



Image used via Maine State Ballet's Facebook page

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### Mission Statement:

It is our philosophy that the experience of dance should be positive and rewarding while learning the discipline required for to reach personal goals; be it furthering their career to dance professionally or to develop poise and coordination on a recreational level.

Each class is structured to the age and abilities of our dancers and is taught by highly trained, qualified, adult dance educators. Our classes are designed to teach muscle development, coordination, balance, rhythm, grace and poise. Dancers will gain independence and confidence, build positive self-image and learn to interact with others. Our main objective is for each student to learn the joy and appreciation of music and dance.

We strive to create an innovative approach to dance training recognizing diversity, encouraging unanimous participation and ensuring achievement by all students.

Comments, questions, suggestions? Any articles you'd like to see in future issues? Any articles you'd like to submit? We'd love to hear from you—send an email to [hannaheg97@yahoo.com](mailto:hannaheg97@yahoo.com)

