



The Folk Dancer

Alumni Newsletter

Spring Addition 2008

Editor: Vickie Austin

Summer Tour

The Performing Arts Company departs April 28 for three and a half weeks in Central and Eastern Europe. This trip will be a folk dancer's dream. The troupe will be concertizing in the capitals of Hungary, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Poland, Belarus, and Ukraine. While there they will be performing with many of the premiere folk dance ensembles of the world. Imagine dancing with the *Hungarian State Folk Ensemble* or *Lucnica*. They will also perform with the ensemble from the *Agricultural College in Lublin*—some of our very good friends from our previous travels. This is going to be an excellent educational and cultural opportunity for the dancers as they mingle and dance with these well-trained performers.



Lucnica

Hungarian State Folk Dance Ensemble



Mid-Semester Tour

The Performing Arts Company (PAC) left February 22 for the frosty land of the northwest. The group had a marvelous experience performing and traveling throughout the beautiful state of Washington while also meeting up with many of you. Dennis Hill was one of the hosts of our group in the city of Vancouver. We also were delighted to see: Brigitte Hansen Olds, Joe Bowen, Amber Jensen Crowley, Chris Wells, Brandi Blaser Edvalson, Tucker and Denise Johnson, John and Amber Pawlowski, Marci and Dan Daley, Matt Cowan, Ily Peery Murdock, Justin Keyes, Spencer Muggleston, Geyao Liu, Cressida Stapley, Tammy Villareal Orton, Bob and Jasmine Gardner and Alan And Julie Dance. Apologies if we missed anyone!

Delynne served as Tour Manager for the group. Ed and Ron Nuttall, (our dance medicine trainer) got that awful flu that was been going around. What more can you ask for?



2008-2009 Scholarship Recipients

On March 12th, the World Dance Division held their annual Awards Banquet where the following outstanding students on the Performing Arts Company received recognitions for 2007-2008 and scholarships for 2008-2009. Congratulations to our great students.

Mary Bee Jensen Endowment

- Traci Aker
- Jon Brame

Harman Service Award

- David Marriott
- Erin Maxwell

Excellence in Folk Arts Award

- Jennifer Garrard

Anderson Performance Scholarship

- Katie Shepherd

Viltis Scholarship

- Matthew Thatcher
- Courtney Pearson

“Performance Missionary” Award

- Colin Slade
- Kellianne Huntington



Special Recognition Certificates

Choreography: Rustin Van Katwyk

Teaching: Bethany Rawcliffe, Thomas Rawcliffe, Lyndsey Wulfenstein, Rustin Van Katwyk

Leadership: Ben Watson, Cami Burton

Service: Jon Bay, Erin Maxwell

Dancers' Choice: Jon Bay, Tesha Jones



Mary Bee Moves South

Mary Bee has become a “snow bird” and has flown to the warmer climes of St. George. She is thoroughly enjoying her time there in a fully furnished condominium and has made many new friends. She plans to stay there “until the next time she moves!” *Wanderlust* is Mary Bee’s middle name.

Richards Building Addition Completed

The addition to the Richards Building on its northeast end, has been completed. This addition was built to replace the Knight Mangum Building (KMB) that will soon be coming down. This new addition will now be home to the Young Ambassadors and Living Legends who were formally housed in the KMB.



There are two beautiful new studios that can be divided into four. One of the spaces is just off stage left of the little dance theatre and can be accessed during performances for costume changes, warm-ups, and cool downs.



We also have new offices with windows, (Ed and Susanne both get one of these) student dressing rooms for changing clothes before classes, new restrooms, an additional elevator, and other wonderful additions which will support our programs. Our technical directors also have new offices, and there is a conference room and additional lecture rooms. It really is a beautiful addition to our building.

Summer Camps



There are three excellent opportunities for dancing this spring at BYU. The following camps from the World Dance Division will be offered.

Folk Dance for Youth
Cougar Clogging Classic
Rhythm Tap

June 16-18
June 19-21
June 26-28

Registration is underway for all three workshops. This is a great opportunity for your kids to enjoy both staying on the BYU campus and having a wonderful dance experience—all at the same time. You may register online by going to dancecamps.byu.edu and click on the desired camp.

We'd love to see you or your children at one of these camps!

Maria Tucker—TV Star

Maria Tucker spent a day in February auditioning for "So You Think You Can Dance". She made it to the third call-back. The producers of the show were impressed with her and wanted to see some of her other talents. So the show traveled to Mapleton and filmed a segment of Maria playing the banjo with the band she and Greg perform with. (They even invited Maria Dinsdale Lewis to join them on the spur of the moment to play the fiddle.) Greg and Maria don't know when, or if, any of this will air on the show...so keep your eyes open. Salt Lake was the third audition area. The fourth season of this program premieres May 22nd on Fox TV.

