

# Abigail Francisco

## School of Classical Ballet

### Newsletter ❁ 1st Edition

September 6, 2011

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## Important Dates to Remember

- September 6<sup>th</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Classes Begin
- September 12<sup>th</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ 1<sup>st</sup> Tuition Payment Due
- October 29<sup>st</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Costume Fee Due
- October 31<sup>st</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ School & Office Closed

## Safety

For the safety and protection of each student, students are not permitted to leave the studio without adult supervision unless they are of driving age. This includes the parking lot.

*If you choose to have your child leave the building unsupervised, please stop by the front office and ask for an authorization form. All authorization forms must be current.*

## Uniforms

All students must be in proper uniform for class by the end of the second week of classes. If your child is not in proper uniform, they will receive a paper slip at the end of class. They must be in proper uniform by the next class or they will not be permitted to participate in class. Dance shoes must **not** be worn outside. Dirt & debris can ruin the shoes and our dance floors. Hair & Dress codes may seem strict, but they are based on ballet & dance traditions for the best and safest training.

## Dressing Rooms

Dancers and staff are the only persons permitted beyond the waiting area. This also applies dressing rooms and dance studios. Parents and siblings must remain the studio lobby.

## Welcome All New & Returning Students

*By Abigail Francisco, Artistic Director*

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

Welcome to a new and exciting school year! On behalf of my dance instructors, staff and myself, I'd like to welcome the many new students and returning students and families. We hope everyone has had a wonderful summer and that all students are ready to begin a fun dance year.

This is our very first newsletter of the 2011-2012 school year. Please note that Quarterly Newsletters will be available on our website. New newsletters will come out on November 12, January 12 and March 12. We use the newsletter as a means of communicating with parents and students. Please take the time to review and, if necessary, print information you feel is pertinent. We will also have a copy of the newsletter posted on the bulletin board in the lobby.

Our goal is to encourage each student so they can find the dancer within. Natural and early talent is not the only key to success. The key is learning the skills through hard work, repetition and discipline.

Thank you for all your support in the past years and in the coming new year, but most of all thank you for trusting us and welcoming all of the new faces.

With Great Peace and Joy,  
Abigail Francisco



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### Office Hours:

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**Monday:** 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm  
**Tuesday:** 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm  
**Wednesday:** CLOSED  
**Thursday:** 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm  
**Friday:** CLOSED

The studio may be open for classes or events but the office is only open during the above hours. Please use office hours only to take care of CASH payments or any studio business.

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## Tuition & Payments

**Payment Drop Box:** We have a payment drop box, under the office window for payments at the North Beach Studio. When making a payment, please place your check or money order in an envelope with your child's name and what the payment is for. Please write the same information on your check. The box will be emptied and stamped with the date at the end of the day. Annmarie Garden students, please mail payments to the P.O. Box address.

**Cash Payments:** If you are making ANY cash payment, please see the front office during office hours so that a receipt is issued.

*Tuition and all other fees are non-refundable. PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE PAYMENTS AT THE DOOR OF THE SCHOOL, FRONT DESK, AT THE RESIDENCE OF STAFF MEMBERS. TEACHERS CANNOT ACCEPT PAYMENTS.*

## Attendance, Absence & Make-up Classes

Regular class attendance is a must to achieve satisfactory results in dance. Students are asked to be prompt for classes. Any student arriving later than 10 minutes after start time will not be admitted to class. If a student must leave early, please inform the teacher before class begins.

Absences resulting from injury, illness or vacation will be excused and may be made up in regularly scheduled classes within two weeks of your return. To make up a class you must fill out a "Class Make Up" slip and give it to the teacher who's class you are attending as a make up. Blue Slips are located at the office window.

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### Tuition Schedule

1<sup>st</sup> Installment – Sept 12<sup>th</sup>  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Installment – Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Installment – Jan 12<sup>th</sup>  
 4<sup>th</sup> Installment – Mar 12<sup>th</sup>

A GRACE PERIOD OF 5 DAYS WILL BE HONORED. PAYMENTS RECEIVED AFTER THAT 5 DAY GRACE PERIOD WILL RESULT IN A \$25 LATE FEE.

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## Skirts for In-studio Production

Each Ballet student will need to purchase a skirt for the In-Studio Productions & Parent Watch Weeks. Our first production is scheduled for November 19<sup>th</sup>. See the list below for the appropriate color per class:

- ◆ Creative Movement – Pink \_\_\_\_\_ Natalie Child Skirt N9301C
- ◆ Intro to Ballet – Pink \_\_\_\_\_ Natalie Child Skirt N9301C
- ◆ Pre Ballet – Pink \_\_\_\_\_ Natalie Child Skirt N9301C
- ◆ Vag I & II – Black \_\_\_\_\_ Body Wrappers Chiffon Wrap Skirt P981
- ◆ Vag III & IV - White \_\_\_\_\_ Body Wrappers Chiffon Wrap Skirt P981

Skirt are available through Discount Dance Supply (When ordering from this company, please use Code: TP46188)

[www.discountdance.com](http://www.discountdance.com)



Performers in our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala. Tamas Krisza from the Washington Ballet and student Alexandra MacWilliams

## Parking

Please park in designated areas only. Parking in front of residences or in the condo parking lot (North Beach) could result in your car being towed. Signs on the street show parking areas. Use caution when backing out or pulling into the studio parking lot.

## Pointe Shoes

*New and Current Students on Pointe.* To prevent any injury, Ms. Abigail or Ms. Dee must approve all new pointe shoes for a proper fit. Before wearing and applying ribbons to new pointe shoes, an approval form must be signed by Ms. Abigail.



## The Vaganova Method

The ballet training your child is receiving is the Vaganova Technique, the Russian Method.

In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, Agrippina Vaganova, a Russian ballerina developed a teaching method, which emphasizes a continued flow of the body with coordinating head and arm positions. The Vaganova system is the natural development and continuation of the traditions of the Russian School of Ballet. Abigail Francisco School of Classical Ballet offers the Vaganova technique to young dancers in levels of instruction according to their degree of proficiency.

The Vaganova method is traditionally taught 6 days a week and a level takes 1 year to complete. Dancers in the Vaganova levels at our studio will advance to the next level in 2 to 4 years depending on the number of classes attended per week and the ability of the student.



Student Haley Race  
Performing in the ballet Paquita



Above: Tapping as a frog in the Tropical Garden



Right: Student Lauren Barber performs in Journeys.

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**The Abigail Francisco  
School of Classical Ballet  
Youth Performance Ensemble**  
will be performing on the following dates:

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*9/11 Memorial Event  
Veterans Park, Chesapeake Beach  
Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>  
1:30pm*

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*Annmarie Garden's Arts Fest  
Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>  
11:00 a.m.*

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*Come spend an enjoyable day supporting  
the arts & the studio*

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## Birthday Parties

Give your child a party to remember!

Your child can have a Ballet Birthday Party in our studios or in your home. The Birthday child and guests will enjoy participating in professionally directed dance activities.

A Ballerina cake, drinks and more provided. Visit our website to download a contract and party waiver and contact the studio for all the exciting details!



Students in Vaganova Levels III & IV, Performing in the Ballet Paquita