

TO THE POINTE

Victoria Academy of Ballet

September 2015



A Message from the Director:

Dear parents and students,

I hope you have had a relaxing summer and had time to enjoy the beautiful sunshine with family and good friends. As usual we are off to an energetic and positive start to our school year and it has been lovely to see returning students as well as new faces in our classes this past week.



**VICTORIA
ACADEMY
of BALLET**

This past summer we were delighted to receive notification that VAB has received full Accreditation status with the PCTIA - Ministry of Advanced Education as well as EQA (Education Quality Assurance) status.

The Education Quality Assurance (EQA) designation is British Columbia's brand for quality post-secondary education. EQA is a voluntary mechanism available to all eligible (Accredited) post-secondary institutions in B.C. The EQA designation is also used to promote B.C. as an education destination of choice and enables both domestic and international students to easily recognize institutions that meet or exceed quality assurance standards that government recognizes. We are the only dance school in the province who has been awarded this status, and I am extremely appreciative and grateful to our knowledgeable and experienced staff who have helped us achieve this designation.

In addition to our full time faculty (Mr. Pronger, Principal and Ms. Turner, Bridge Program Director) I am excited to welcome Sarah Megee, Shannon Delaney, Ashleigh Ford, and Kathy Lang to our faculty. These new teachers bring with them a wealth of knowledge and experience and I am certain students will benefit from their classes and various teaching styles. In addition to teaching classes this coming year, Ms. Megee is our new office administrator. Please come into the office to meet her and welcome her to the VAB community.

I hope everyone is feeling as excited and optimistic about our upcoming season as I am. Should you have any question or concerns over the next year please feel welcome to talk to your child's teacher or Ms. Megee in the office.

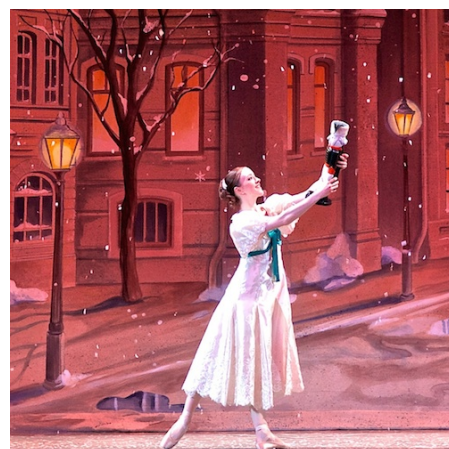
I look forward to seeing everyone around the studio and in classes this Fall!

Bleiddyn Bellis
Artistic Director VAB

Alberta Ballet Nutcracker Auditions

Alberta Ballet is looking for students from lower Vancouver Island dance schools to audition for their 2015 Nutcracker production!

Rehearsals will be held at Victoria Academy of Ballet and run by Ms. Turner. We encourage all eligible VAB students to audition for this fantastic opportunity.



Dancers must pre-register online and pay the \$20 audition fee in advance through the online registration process. Online registration is now available at www.dancevictoria.com



Payment Deadline

All tuition payments or payment plans must be in place by September 30, 2015. If you have not set up a payment plan or paid your lump sum tuition, please contact admin@victoriaacademyofballet.ca asap.

Please note that monthly credit card payments can not be done via a Debit/Credit combination card.

Follow VAB on Social Media

Victoria Academy of Ballet is now on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Follow [@victoriaacademyofballet](https://www.instagram.com/victoriaacademyofballet) and [@vaballet](https://www.instagram.com/vaballet) for the latest updates, information and photographs!



Bring a Friend Week!

Students in all Foundational Program classes as well as General Program Levels 1 to 3 (ballet classes only) are invited to bring a friend to dance class!

Bring a Friend Week runs from September 26 to October 3. We look forward to meeting your friends and sharing with them VAB's love of

dance!

Meet Miss Megee

Ms. Megee began her formal training at the School of Alberta Ballet where she successfully completed her Cecchetti Advanced II examination and was awarded the prestigious Ali Pourfarokh scholarship. She spent her summers training at programs such as the Banff Center's Summer Dance Program, The Joffrey Midwest Workshop and Joffrey New York Summer Intensive. She was awarded a full scholarship to the Joffrey Ballet School in New York City where she spent one year training and performing. Ms. Megee then entered the Pre-Professional Program at the



School of Alberta Ballet, where she was asked to perform with the Alberta Ballet Company. Ms. Megee is currently an American Ballet Theatre certified teacher in levels pre-primary to level 3 through the ABT National Teacher Training Curriculum and is now working to complete her Cecchetti Associate examination with the hopes of one day becoming an examiner of the method. Ms. Megee also holds a Bachelors Degree in Elementary Education with a minor in Mathematical Science from the University of Alberta.



VAB Scholarship Society News

The VABSS would like to again acknowledge and sincerely thank our major sponsor, Mr. Jake Brumby and the CIBC Children's Foundation. All other donors names/logos are available on the VAB website. We would also like to thank families who are using the VAB Thrifty Foods / Fairway market cards which give a 5% donation from your grocery spending towards the Society fund. If you do not have a

card and would like to be part of this easy fund raising effort please pick up your card from the office.

Since Fall 2014 the VABSS have given almost \$10,000 in tuition grants to students through your support and that of our sponsors.

This fall we will focus on fund raising activities that we hope you will find useful and will feel comfortable supporting because items can be used personally or as gifts. These will include:

- Umbrellas with the VAB logo- on sale for \$20 in the lobby on September 26th at 1:00PM
- VAB clothing sales- an annual event including T Shirts, hoodies, jackets
- Silk RoadTea
- Poinsettias and table centres for the winter season
- Used book sale Sept 26 11am - 2pm at The Local General Store 1440 Haultain St

Please check the VABSS Facebook page for updates. If you would like to volunteer, have an idea to share or would like more information please write us at

vabss@telus.net

Important Dates

September 26 - Nutcracker Auditions at Dance Victoria Studios

September 26 - VABSS Umbrella Sale in lobby from 1:00pm

September 26 to October 3 - Bring a Friend Week

October 11 - Thanksgiving, No classes

November 11 - Remembrance Day, No classes

November 16 to 24 - Family and Friends Watch Week

December 12 - Last Day of Classes for Foundational & General Program Classes

December 14 - Optional Make-up day from Thanksgiving

December 19 - Last day of Classes for PTP and Bridge Classes

Victoria Academy of Ballet | 250-590-6752 | www.victoriaacademyofballet.ca

