

Ballet Arts Ensemble
Welcome Newsletter

Dear Ensemble, Jr. Ensemble members, Apprentices and Parents,

Congratulations on becoming a member or Apprentice of ***The Ballet Arts Ensemble, Junior Ensemble I or II***! We have exciting plans in store for this new fall season. We look forward to working with all forty-seven talented students involved with both companies! **Jr. Ensemble Orientation** will take place **Tuesday, September 7th at 7:45-8:15**. All members and Apprentices should attend. **BAE Orientation** will be held **Wed., Sept. 8th at 7:45-8:00**, followed by rehearsal. **All BAE Company fees are due by September 8th**. (BAE - \$150, Jr. E Apprentices - \$110)

We encourage and invite parent(s) of BAE members and (especially new members and/or Apprentices) of Junior Ensemble, to attend our **Welcome and Orientation Meeting of the BAE Guild**, on **Saturday, September 11th from 4:30-6:00 p.m.** Please join Debbie and Benn for an informal get together at 3879 Scibilia Rd, Fairfax, 22033. From Stringfellow Rd (between Rte. 50 and Fairfax County Pkwy.) turn onto Hollinger Ave., then RT onto Scibilia DR.

We are very excited about having been invited to perform at **The International Children's Festival at Wolf Trap**, this year! Many of you, were already involved with rehearsals for this during the summer session. Due to the incredibly short period of time that we have to Prepare, not everyone will be able to perform. Please see the cast sheet for details. The BAE will perform on the Meadow Stage at **2:45 pm. On Sunday, September 19th**. We will arrive by the stage door at 2:00 p.m. to organize. We hope to recruit a group of BAE parents to man a table on behalf of the company from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

We will begin rehearsing right after the ICF, for the Fall Concert. All dancers in both companies, including Jr. E. Apprentices, will perform in **the Fall Concert at NOVA - Annandale Campus** on **Saturday, October 30th at 7:30 p.m.** The Dress Rehearsal for this performance will be held on Friday, Oct. 29th - 6:00 to 9:30 pm. A rehearsal schedule will be available and casting will be posted on the Ensemble board (please check regularly.)

Orders will be taken right away for Company leotards. All BAE dancers and members of Junior Ensemble I and II, will need to order (if they do not already have one.) Apprentices wear Burgundy leotards, according to class level. BAE members and Jr. Ensemble members should also acquire the following black leotards: Natalie style used in Bach's Lunch and Mirella style # m207ML. (Do not feel as though you have to purchase all at once!)

All Ensemble and Jr. Ensemble girls are required to have at least one pair of Company tights - Prima Soft #100, seamed in ballet pink, available at CBA. **All Female Dancers** must own a pair of Bloch split-sole pink leather ballet slippers to be used in performances. (Will be used for Mazurka, Danse Russes for Fall and Party Scene, Arabian, etc. in *Nutcracker*.) Jr. Ensemble girls who work on pointe should have at least one performance pair (clean, neat looking, not too soft or hard) ready at all times. **BAE girls must have two pair of pointe shoes ready for performances.**

Being a member of "*The Ballet Arts Ensemble*" is a privilege, and one that should not be taken lightly. **DO NOT** miss company class or rehearsals. If you must miss a class during the week, remember to call in and let us know why you are not in attendance. By working hard for these first couple of months, we know that all of you will be greatly rewarded by a beautiful Fall Concert. Immediately after, we will begin work on *Nutcracker In A Nutshell*.

Once again, we welcome each of you and hope that you have a wonderful time dancing this year!

Sincerely, Debbie & Benn