



# Dance Matters



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## From the Desk of the Director Sheila Dollas:



Hello Everyone,

This March, we welcomed John Bowles, an authored poet from our own SASi family to rehearse and develop a poetry in motion piece. Combining movement phrases and John's spoken word, the dancers were allowed new artistic freedom and expression. It's refreshing to see SASi programs beginning to immerse and identify with the artistic experience. Events accenting our commitment include the annual SASi Arts & Abilities Celebration, the Artisan Show, and new programs such as The Sassy Classy Drummers and Laugh Yoga.



On Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, Moving Miracles celebrated its 17<sup>th</sup> annual performance, "Once upon a time...". This year's performance paid tribute to timeless fairy tales as our dancers brought to life the stories of happy endings and proved dreams do come true. We were honored to have three local broadcasters serve as Masters of Ceremonies for the event. Kevin O'Neill of WGRZ-Channel 2 served as Master of Ceremonies for our 12pm performance. Al Vaughters and Nalina Shapiro, both of WIVB-Channel 4, shared the duty of Master and Mistress of Ceremonies for our 4pm performance. Once again we would like to thank them, as well as our Moving Miracles local celebrity talent Michael O'Connor. Moving Miracles would like to acknowledge the generous support of our Corporate Performance Sponsors: National Fire Adjustment Co., World's Largest Disco, Inc., M&T Charitable Foundation, Upstate Pharmacy, Ltd., Mercantile Adjustment Bureau, LLC and Ernst & Young, LLP. A debt of gratitude goes out to our community partners and local businesses who understand empowerment begins with one individual at a time.

On a final note, this issue calls attention to our need for partial and full scholarship funds. Each season scholarship resources underwrite the costs of families and individuals who demonstrate a need. I am hoping you will consider donating to our scholarship fund, no contribution is too small.

### 2015 Calendar of Events

#### Summer Session

Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup> –  
Tuesday, August 18<sup>th</sup>

#### Registration Dates

Tuesday, August 11<sup>th</sup>  
12:00-4:00

Wednesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>  
4:00-8:00

Friday, August 14<sup>th</sup>  
12:00-4:00

#### 2015-2016 Season Begins:

Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>

#### Annual Terry Buchwald

#### Fundraiser:

Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup>

### Contributors of this Newsletter:

Sheila Dollas

Laura Pietak

Diane DeJoseph

Barbara Sypniewski

Michael O'Connor

Lynn Kelly



John Bowles, Poet

*Yours Truly In Dance,*

*Ms. Sheila*



"Poetry in Motion"

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Clement Arrison Scholarship Award Kelly Schmidt



Kelly performing "Step in Time"

The Clement Arrison Annual Scholarship Award is given to someone who faces adversity head on and rises above, a true leader in the dance studio. This year's recipient was Kelly Schmidt. Kelly possesses qualities every leader should have: quiet confidence, adaptability, respect and enthusiasm, all while advocating for others. Dancing with us for 5 seasons now, she adores Miss. Laura and looks forward to seeing her dance partners each week. Kelly has been working at Harlequin for 5 years packing books, skating with SABAHA for sixteen years and is an avid Sabres fan! She loves to do puzzles and fits in perfectly with this year's theme "Once upon a time..." as she LOVES Disney World!!

**Congratulations to Kelly Schmidt!**

## Teaching Staff



**Sheila Dollas**  
Founder &  
Director



**Laura Bishop**  
Program Manager



**Ashley Engl**  
Dance Instructor



**Christine Ziemba**  
Dance Instructor



**Christina Kasper**  
Dance Instructor



**Andrea Larson**  
Dance Instructor



**Jennifer Yuen**  
Dance Instructor



**Elise Cruce**  
Dance Instructor



**Erica Curella**  
Dance Instructor



**Lindsay Pajak**  
Dance Instructor

## Administrative Staff



**Diane DeJoseph**  
Development  
Assistant

## Spirit Award Winners

**Emily Hermance** *Spirit Award is given to a student who personifies her greatest qualities: strength, loyalty, and kindness.*

12 PM Show: **Paul Jablonski**

4 PM Show: **Rory O'Connor**

**Erica Lyon** *Spirit Award is given to a student who embodies her energy and love of dance.*

12 PM Show: **Matthew Lahrs**

4 PM Show: **Jordan Pierce**

**Joey Richter** *Spirit Award is awarded to a student whose inner beauty shines as they move and dance.*

12 PM Show: **Mitchell Law**

4 PM Show: **Cedric Johnson**

**Courtney Kozlowski** *Spirit Award is awarded to a student whose quiet beauty and grace is seen in their dancing.*

12 PM Show: **Brigid Reynolds**

4 PM Show: **Brianna Hudson**

## HALO Award Winners

Moving Miracles is lucky to have more than 40 volunteers that generously give their time and hearts to our dancers. The **Helping And Leading Others (HALO)** awards were established in 2012 by Cecilia Dollas to help show our gratitude to these amazing volunteers. This year we recognize exceptional volunteers that have gone above and beyond in the studio:

**Carol Kasper**

**Rachel Marchewka**

**Ashly Place**

**Rebecca Mercuri**

**Samantha Mercuri**

**Ashley Martinez**

**George Dollas**

## SASi Award Winners

In 2013, an award in honor of Suburban Adult Services, Inc. was established. This award is given to a student who exemplifies the SASi spirit for their advocacy, serving their peers and community by "going the distance". Winners this year are:



**Shani Beh**

**Amy Hartman**

# *Kinky Boots* Master Class Taught by: Juan Torres-Falcon





*Our 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Performance “**Once upon a time...**”*

Congratulations to all of our dancers on an amazing performance!!!





*While I dance I can not judge, I can not hate,*



*I can not  
separate myself  
from life.  
I can only be  
joyful and whole  
This is why  
I dance.  
- Hans Bos*



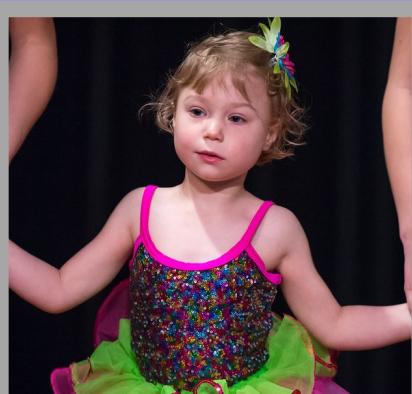


"To watch us dance  
 is to hear our  
 hearts speak"  
 - Hopi  
 Indian Saying



*“You dance love, and you dance joy, and you dance dreams.”*

*-Gene Kelly*





**MOVING MIRACLES**

a division of **Sasi**

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[www.twitter.com/MovingMiracles](http://www.twitter.com/MovingMiracles)

## Crusin' for a Cause

Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015

6:00-8:30 PM

Live Saxophone Music by Saxman Slim

Food & Beverages Included



**BUFFALO HARBOR CRUISES**

Serving the Buffalo / Niagara region for over 40 years



SAVE

THE DATE



Moving Miracles  
Annual Fall Fundraiser

**Saturday,  
November 7th, 2015**

Michael's  
Banquet Facility  
4885 Southwestern Blvd.

Hamburg, NY

14075



**Save the Date!** *for the*  
**SAsi Celebration**  
**Saturday, October 17, 2015**

Singer, dancer & master of comedic timing, **Jason Alexander** is beloved for his portrayal of George Costanza on NBC's "Seinfeld." A Broadway veteran and Tony-Award winner, he offers a hilarious dose of comedy in an entertaining variety show with your BPO.

**5:30 - 8:00 Private Event in the Mary Seaton Room followed by the Jason Alexander show with the BPO in Kleinhans main music hall**

*Tickets include open bar, hors d'oeuvres, dinner, performance by Moving Miracles, silent auction & awards*

**Call (716)805-1555 TODAY for more information or to reserve your tickets**

