



# Dance Matters



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## 2016 - 2017 Calendar of Events

### Registration Dates

Tuesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>  
3:00-7:00

Wednesday, August 17<sup>th</sup>  
3:00-7:00

### 2016-2017 Season Begins

Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>

### Annual Terry Buchwald Fundraiser

Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>

### SASi Celebration

Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>

## From the Desk of the Director Sheila Dollas:



Hello Everyone,

On Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, Moving Miracles celebrated its 18<sup>th</sup> annual production, *"People, Places & Possibilities"*. A standing ovation goes out to our entire cast as well as the countless people working behind the scenes. Once again Al Vaughters and Nalina Shapiro, both of WIVB-Channel 4, shared the duty of Master and Mistress of Ceremonies. Moving Miracles would like to acknowledge the generous support of our Corporate Sponsors: National Fire Adjustment Co., World's Largest Disco, Inc., M&T Charitable Foundation, Upstate Pharmacy, Ltd., Mercantile Adjustment Bureau, LLC and Arts Services Initiative of Western New York, Inc. A debt of gratitude goes out to our community partners and local businesses who understand that empowerment begins with one individual at a time.

I would like to introduce the official launch of the SASi Adaptive Fitness Program housed in our dance studio. The needs and benefits of becoming 'fit' are universal, however it is the execution of a fitness program which dictates the difference. Moving Miracles philosophy is proudly dedicated to studying traditional dance styles and techniques adaptively while promoting self expression and creativity. Our fitness philosophy targets resistance, cardiovascular and endurance training. Peter Todoro, our first instructor, is no stranger to the studio as his siblings have been students for many years. Their family all too well understands the importance of staying 'fit' and commit to doing so together. Two years ago their mother Marie came into the studio and asked to speak to the director of SASi about developing such a program. Shortly thereafter, SASi formed an advisory committee. Upon review of a successful pilot in the summer of 2015, the SASi advisory committee gave their stamp of approval. Our first program gift was received from the SASi Foundation. Through research, the recumbent stepper was identified as the most popular piece of equipment with wheelchair access. Recently, the foundation granted us a second piece of equipment, a cable crossover with 2 working stations. The John R. Oishei Foundation was the first community foundation to gift seed money. The Independent Health Foundation, Mulroy Family Foundation and Robert & Patricia Colby Foundation soon followed with their support.

In closing, this issue calls attention to our need for annual, partial and full scholarships. 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.

*Yours Truly In Dance,*

*Ms. Sheila*

## Contributors of this Newsletter:

Sheila Dollas  
Laura Pietak

## Photographers:

Barb Sypniewski  
Michael O'Connor



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Clement Arrison Scholarship

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 William Stevens!!!!

**Congratulations William!**

## Congratulations Miss Ashley!

On February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Miss Ashley welcomed baby girl *Melody Ann Engl* to the world! We wish Ashley, her husband Brian, and Melody all the best!



## Teaching Staff



Sheila Dollas  
Founder &  
Director



Laura Pietak  
Program Manager



Ashley Engl  
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



Molly Sergi  
Dance Instructor

## Administrative Staff



Diane DeJoseph  
Development  
Assistant

## Spirit Award Winners

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

12 PM Show: Terri Krawczyk

4 PM Show: Douglas Bernhoft

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

12 PM Show: Jeffrey Fridman

4 PM Show: Erica Montemage

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

12 PM Show: Cameron Kowalski

4 PM Show: Bradley Kingston

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

12 PM Show: Nicholas Barile

4 PM Show: Marisa Tomaseli

## 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:

Alex Simmons

Kayla Falter

Laurel Kepner

Elle Kingston

Kayla Perry

## 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:

Erica Bistoff

Kathy Mietus



# 2016 Master Classes





*Our 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Performance - "People, Places, & Possibilities"*  
Congratulations to all of our dancers on an amazing performance!!!





When I dance, I forget everything else

and just feel  
completely  
happy."

- Katherine Jenkins





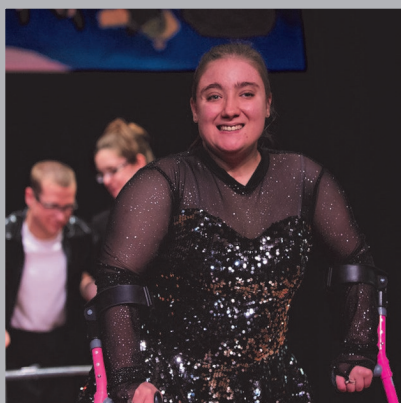
*“Dance is  
the hidden  
language of  
the soul”*

*- Martha Graham*

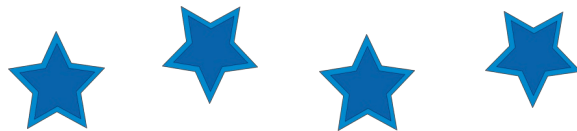


“Every day brings a chance for you to draw in a breath, kick off your shoes, and dance”

-Oprah Winfrey



**SUPER  
STARS!!**





a division of **SASi**

**MOVING MIRACLES**

DANCE STUDIO

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West Seneca, NY 14224**

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Check out our website:

[www.movingmiracles.org](http://www.movingmiracles.org)



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Follow us on twitter! **@MovingMiracles**

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

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Moving Miracles  
Annual Fall Fundraiser**

**Friday, November 4th, 2016**

Michael's Catering & Banquets  
4885 Southwestern Blvd.  
Hamburg, NY 14075



Featuring:  
**Terry Buchwald**



**SASi Celebration**  
*An exceptional evening of Arts & Abilities*

Private Cocktail & Dinner Reception in  
Kleinhans -Mary Seaton Room  
5:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Admission to "The Classical Mystery Tour"  
(Beatles Tribute) in Kleinhans  
Main Music Hall  
8:00 pm - 10:00 pm

**Saturday, November 5, 2016**

Event proceeds benefit individuals with special  
needs who are assisted by SASi