

The Harrison Report

75c

A Home Town Media Group weekly publication serving the Town of Harrison

Vol. 7/Number 31

www.hometwn.com

June 29, 2007

HHS transforms into "magical" theater

What makes America such a great country is the diversity of its citizens. On June 10th, the Harrison High School auditorium was transformed into an international dance theater. Students from Magical Movements School of Dance held their 4th annual dance concert capturing that theme through "We've Got The Whole World In Our Hands."

The program was broken down into two sections -- the morning featured dancers two to seven years of age; while the afternoon featured the older students, along with some of the instructors. Three little girls waving American flags, marching to "Yankee Doodle," opened the show.

The program incorporated the music, costume, and dance influences of Africa, Australia, Austria, England, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Jamaica, Mexico, Polynesia and the United States of America. We were reminded of our nation's roots by Cowgirls, who "strutted their stuff," and Native Americans, who moved gracefully. The little girls were adorable and well prepared for their recital. The first half ended with a parade of smiling performers warming the audience's hearts, as they sang, tap danced and waved their hands to "It's A Small World."

The second half continued with the international theme, but provided more complicated dance techniques and choreography. There were solos, duets, and group pieces. Although the dancers may have been doing a tap or jazz dance, various ethnic moves, such as salsa and samba, were incorporated into the routine. From swing to the hora and tango, a tarantella, flamenco, and belly dancing, the world was in these dancers' hands.

There was a positive, unifying energy traveling throughout the auditorium. This was especially felt in the finale,

Carley McDermott, Katia Barker, Deana Giambo and Yui Inagawa with Linda Francica (Director of Magical Movement Dance Studio).

performed to Bob Sinclar's hit "World, Hold On," where each performer, on her own, with a partner, or their group, highlighted a segment of their dance number.

Linda Francica, the Director of Magical Movements School of Dance, did a wonderful job bringing the whole program together. The music selection, choreography, and costumes were beautiful, truly capturing

the styles of the countries they represented. The dancers, of all ages, were spectacular.

Francica, majored in Dance and Theater at Manhattanville College, and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree, magna cum laude. She has performed in the realm of world-renowned choreographers, and created

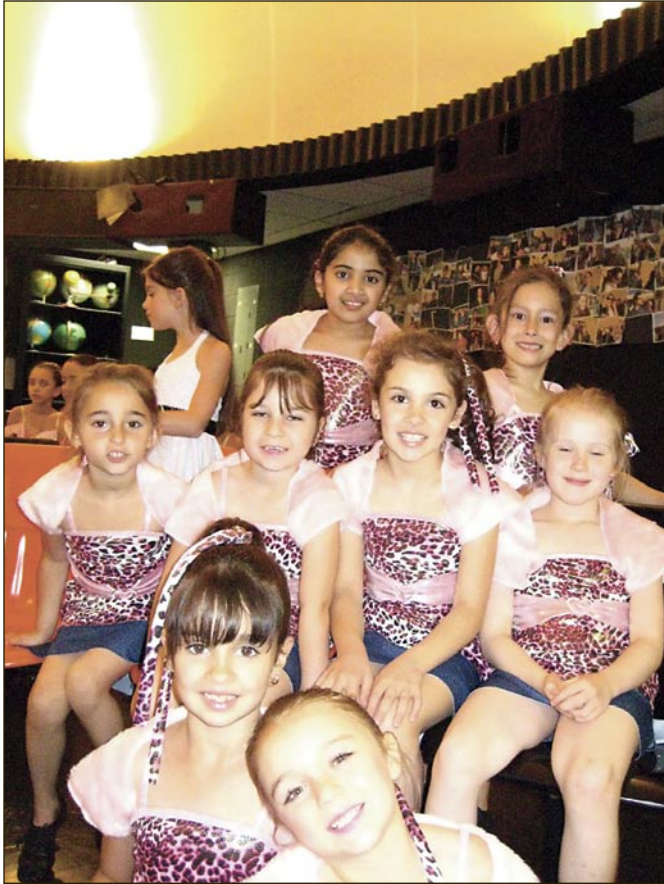
countless pieces of her own.

Prior to opening up her own dance school at the young age of 23, Linda worked with children at studios, pre-schools, and various programs throughout Westchester County. The motto at Magical Movements is - "where every student is a star", and that truly was the case on Sunday.

Mia Harris and Katia Barker wait to go on stage



The Magic of Disney Comes to Harrison



The Cheetah Girls performed in the second half of the show.



A group of girls dress as Mary Poppins for the performance.

On Sunday, June 14, the 6th annual Magical Movements School of Dance (MMSD) recital brought the world of Disney TV, movies, Broadway shows, and theme park attractions to the Harrison Performing Arts Center with colorful costumes and musical favorites.

As usual, the program was broken into two halves, based on the ages of the students. The first half included children, as young as 2 years-old, who warmed the audience's hearts. There were classics like Pinocchio and Alice in Wonderland, songs from The Magic Kingdom's *Pirates of the Caribbean* and *The Enchanted Tiki Room*, and more contemporary

movie hits like *Cars*. Part I wouldn't have been complete without MMSD's traditional finale - the parade of dancers. This year's performance had a surprise visit from epitome of Disney - Mickey Mouse.

The second half featured the more seasoned dancers. From our favorite princesses and Mary Poppins, to The Cheetah Girls and High School Musical, the program transcended through Disney history. The show also included a theatrical dance duet, or duel rather, between Linda Francica, who was Cruella DeVil (wig and all) and student Jessica Sensi. Everyone was in awe of a classical ballet performance

by instructor/ ballerina Anna Haven as Esmeralda. The audience got a kick out of Mickey making his way through the aisles, greeting children, while students made quick costume changes backstage. The recital concluded with two finales, as each class performed an excerpt from their dance piece.

Although MMSD Director Linda Francica choreographed 28 pieces in the show, she was happy to bring in the works of two new instructors -- Emily Anne Smith, an actress/singer/songwriter, and Manhattanville alum Krystal Gambino. As in the past few years, instructor Anna Haven brought in her ballet expertise.



Instructor Anna Haven (right) has been bringing her ballet expertise for years now.



ANNUAL TENT SALE

Incredible savings on in-stock items
Axminster, Wiltons, Nylons, Area Rugs

July 23rd through August 15th

Bring your measurements!

CARPET TRENDS

5 Smith Street, PO Box 362, Rye, New York 10580 Ph 914-967-5188 Fx 914-967-0750
info@carpetrends.com, www.carpetrends.com

Summer Kitchen SALE !



Bathrooms & Fine Cabinetry

Refacing or Remodeling
Free Interior Decorating

advice with each job

914-777-0437

dreamworkkitchens.com



Liz & Paul Bookbinder

Showroom
Mon-Sat 9a-6p
Sat 10a-5p
Licenses:
West: WC5441-H93
NYC: 1250632
Con: CT554525



Over a hundred styles on display
at our Showroom

401 Ward Avenue • Mamaroneck

As seen in *Consumer Reports* magazine!

Free Showroom Consultation • Free Idea CD

MAGICAL MOVEMENTS BRINGS VEGAS LIGHTS TO BLIND BROOK



The sights and sounds of Las Vegas came to the stage as Magical Movements presented its 7th annual dance concert "Viva Las Vegas" on June 13 at the Blind Brook High School Auditorium. Under the direction of Linda Francica, Magical Movements shared the many facets of Vegas – its hotels, entertainment and attractions, both old and new.

Younger students were a part of the first show. A precious group of 2- and 3-year-olds in red tutus and gold tiaras waved their wands for a magic show. The audience was transported to a gondola ride at The Venetian, a Cher concert, and A Little White

Chapel – the six brides missed the adorable groom, who couldn't help but wait in the wings. Country girls danced to Copland's classic "Hoe-Down," which brought folks to The Bellagio Fountains. For the first time, there was an all-boys class, whose hip-hopping and dice shaking was a delight. Part I concluded with a Magical Movements' tradition – a "choo-choo" train filled with bright, colorful costumed children singing, marching and smiling to Elvis's "Viva Las Vegas."

Part II's cast took the stage later that afternoon. From Liberace and Wayne Newton

to Cirque du Soleil and Abba, students and families saw the artistry of the unique place. It also showcased the new musical theater class which instructor Krystal Gambino introduced to Magical Movements last fall. Their Broadway dance numbers, complete with fringes, silver sequins, and top hats were crowd-pleasers. The concert ended with another Elvis hit, as each class

danced excerpts from their recital pieces.

As the students accepted much applause from their family and friends, they also bid farewell to Ms. Krystal, who will begin her PhD in physical therapy at Seton Hall University. Through much time and effort, the students had a fun experience, while learning about an American city, sharing its history, beauty and bright way-of-life.



ANNUAL TENT SALE

Incredible savings on in-stock items
Axminster, Wiltons, Nylons, Area Rugs

July 29th through August 11th

Bring your measurements!

CARPET TRENDS

5 Smith Street, PO Box 362, Rye, New York 10580 Ph 914-967-5188 Fx 914-967-0750
info@carpetrends.com, www.carpetrends.com

Arcade

BOOKSELLERS

*A Novel Gift Idea
For Any Time of the Year*

☎ FREE GIFT WRAPPING ☎
We Ship Everywhere

15 Purchase Street • Rye, New York • (914) 967-0966
Patrick@arcadebooks.com