



February 2006

It is that time a year again when things get really busy so please fully read all your news letters to keep informed. Not only do we run the VDC Dance Studio but we also run and operate the Victoria Arts Connection and with that come many exciting events and opportunities for our students. There are many things going on and we don't want anyone to miss out! So please read on!

VDC OFFICE

<u>VDC Office Hours:</u>	MONDAY	4:00pm – 6:00pm
	TUESDAY	4:00pm-9:00pm
	WEDNESDAY	2:00pm-9:00pm
	THURSDAY	4:00pm-7:00pm
	FRIDAY	9:00am-6:30pm
	SATURDAY	9:00am-5:00pm
	SUNDAY	Closed
	Telephone: 250 477-9089.....	Email: info@victoriadanceconnection.com

ARTS MONTH IN VICTORIA

February has been dedicated as **Arts Month** in the city of Victoria. There are many dance, theatre, and arts events happening throughout the city. See our website www.victoriadanceconnection.com for a calendar of events happening here at our own Arts Centre.

To kick off Arts in the City Month, VDC offered a week of free classes to the public during the beginning of February. We were delighted to have Jennifer Mascall of Mascall Dance in Vancouver come over and teach a week of classes, here at the studio. Many new folks to the school attended her amazing workshops. *We look forward to having Jennifer back in the near future.*

VDC UP COMING EVENTS

VDC Youth Company Performance March 23 Royal theatre 8:00 pm.

VDC NEWS

We are proud to announce **Scott Vannan** (VDC ballet/pilates instructor) will be performing as the lead in the upcoming Gilbert & Sullivan production, **The Gondoliers**. Show dates are **March 11, 12, 18, and 19** at the **Charlie White Theatre**, and **March 25** at **The McPherson Playhouse**. *Tickets are now on sale at the McPherson Box Office 386-6121.*

One of our very own students **Kelsie Mohr** recently won a Script writing competition and now has a chance to have her original play produced and performed. **A big congratulation to Kelsie for her success. We are all very proud of you!**

VDC COMPANY NEWS

The VDC Youth Company, along side Improv Victoria and Kaleidoscope Theatre for young children, performed for the launching of **Arts Month in Victoria** at The Bay Centre. They performed six works including Loonies From Heaven (modern), Buttons (hip hop), and an improvised duet.

The **VDC Youth Company** will be performing at The **Royal Theatre February 23**, as part of Dance Works fundraiser for their festival. Other performers and choreographers include Jacques Lemay, Sopranos Joanne Housnell, and Barbara Livingston, Lynda Raino, and Rudi Van Dantzig. Tickets are available at The **MacPherson Box Office**. *We encourage everyone to come out and support this event as it will be a great evening of entertainment!*

The **VDC Company** will also be performing at **Millstream Elementary School** on **March 2nd**. They will perform pieces by Stephanie Sy, Constance Cooke, Lisa Mellett, and Lyn Taylor.

A reminder that we still have a number of VDC Youth Company calendars for sale at the office for \$10 each.

Proceeds from the sale of these calendars go towards helping fund the VDC Youth Company's community outreach program.



VDC FACULTY NEWS

Constance Cooke (modern teacher & Co Artistic Director) will be traveling to Winnipeg next month to create a new work on the School of Contemporary Dancer's Professional Programme. Prior to moving to Victoria, Connie spent eight years in Winnipeg working with Contemporary Dancers. Connie will also travel to Regina this summer to create a new work on the Youth Ballet of Saskatchewan, during a two-week intensive summer school where she will also teach.

NEW FOR 2006/07 DANCE SEASON

We are starting the schedule for the **2006/07 season**. Next year we will be continuing to expand the school with new programming and additional classes. These include the addition of an adult modern dance programme, Exploration of Movement classes for people with special needs, lyrical Jazz classes and tots & folks.

Summer Classes

VDC will be running a number of classes throughout the summer. To stay informed check our website where we will be posting all the details as they become available. We will also be sending out notification via our e-mail, so please make sure that we have your correct e-mail address. If you are currently not receiving our e-news please see or call the office and we will add you to our e-mailing list. If there is a specific type of programming you would like to see during the summer please let us know about it and we will take it into consideration!

TRIPTYCH SHOW POSTPONED

The performance of **Triptych**, which was scheduled to be presented **Feb 25th**, has been postponed to **May 6th** here in our studio theatre. *When performed Triptych will take the viewing audience on an innovative ride, exploring dance and movement with the accompaniment of theatre, film and music. **Mark your calendars as this is a performance not to be missed.***

VDC CHILD SPONSORSHIP

VDC is sponsoring a child through Foster Parents Plan. We are pleased to introduce you all to **Amna Mohamed Hassan Salih**, a six year old girl from **Sudan**. We look forward to a long relationship with her and her family. We hope that the kids here at the VDC will get involved and learn about **Amna** and her family, and gain an awareness of what life is like for a child in another country. We encourage our kids here to write letters, send pictures, and contribute some of their own spare change each month. You can see Amna's picture posted outside of the office, along with her story. We hope everyone will take the time to read about Amna. If anyone would like to contribute, there is a donation box just inside the office door.

Your support is appreciated!

COSTUME FEES & INVOICES

A lot of costumes have been measured and costumes are in the process of being made or ordered. Invoices will be sent home with students. Any outstanding invoice balances are due before costumes can be picked up. Pick-up dates will be posted and communicated to the students during class.

If you have any questions regarding costumes, please contact the VDC office @ 477-9089

VDC STUDIO CONCERNS

A reminder to all students about the importance of keeping our facility clean. Please pick up after yourselves, throw away any garbage, etc... If you use the kitchen (glasses, dishes) please wash and put them away. Your help in this matter is greatly appreciated. *Take pride and have respect for this lovely premise.*

VICTORIA ARTS CONNECTION NEWS

New Office Administrator

You may have noticed a new face in the office, that of our new office administrator **Heidi Bergstrom**. Along with Heidi's administrative duties she will also be helping curate future Art Shows and exhibits here in the Victoria Arts Connection Gallery, Heidi was the curator of the Art Show for the Children's Gala and our current exhibit Baroque & Blue. We are very fortunate to be able to showcase such wonderful and diverse works of art here at the VAC. Every two months or so we will be featuring a new artist/group, so please take the opportunity to walk around and view some of the current works by Alfred Muma. **We welcome Heidi to the VDC & VAC family.**



VDC LOST & FOUND

Once again our lost and found box is full. If you think you are missing something, please come and check the lost and found box in the office.

VICTORIA ARTS CONNECTION GALLERY NEWS

This month the Gallery is featuring the work of *Alfred Muma's series 'Baroque & Blue*. Catalogues of Alfred's work are available for pick-up in the lobby on the coffee tables. Next to be featured in the VAC Gallery will be an exhibit by the Victoria Sculpture Guild, a number of the Guild's current members will be displaying their work.

FESTIVAL FEES

Festival Fees are now due. All students who are participating in Nanaimo, DanceWorks or Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festivals are asked to fill out a **yellow** form. Forms are available for pick-up in front of the VDC office. See lists posted outside the office for more information about entries. *If you have any questions in regards to filling out your form please ask Lisa or Connie.*

***Please fill out and return with payment ASAP. Specific dates and times of festivals will be posted as soon as we know them.**

Festival Time and Dates

We will be posting festival dates and times on lists outside the office. *Participating students it is your responsibility to keep informed!* Please check and mark your calendar with this important information. As we draw nearer to festival dates we will be sending more detailed information home with the students.

Volunteers Needed

DanceWorks is looking for volunteers to help out with backstage and other tasks at the upcoming festival. If you want to be a part of this, there is a sign-up sheet inside the office. The festival will contact you with times and duties.

VDC and VAC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 23	TAB	DanceWorks "Our community in performance"
March 13 to 19		No Classes Spring Break
March	TBA	Victoria Sculpture Guild Art Show
March 26 to April 7		Nanaimo Festival
April 8		Nanaimo Festival Gala
April 8 to 11	TBA	Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival
April 14 to 16		No Classes Easter Break
April 30		Greater Victoria Performing Arts Festival Dance Honours
May 6	8 pm	Triptych by Co. Constance Cooke Dance & MediaNet
May 7 to 15	TBA	Dance Works Festival
May 31		Dance Works Gala
June 1	TBA	VDC Dress Rehearsal (Royal Theatre)
June 3		Year End VDC Show (Royal Theatre)
June 5 to 9		Workshop Week

VDC CONTACT INFO



The Victoria Dance Connection's new entrance is at the front of the building on Quadra Street.

Suite 110- 2750 Quadra Street
Victoria, B.C. V8T 4E8

Tel: (250) 477-9089
info@victoriadanceconnection.com