

DARBY'S DANCERS NEWSLETTER

FALL'S BEAUTY

Request to Parents

Please help me keep my data current by making sure your local dance studio has the correct information on file for your child. I get a lot of returned mail and email because I don't have the correct info. If you are not receiving correspondence from me, please email me at the address below.

Training Opportunities

We strive to provide plenty of learning opportunities for the people involved in hosting our chapters. The next dates and locations are:

**Amherst, NH Oct. 19
Martinsburg, WV Nov. 2,**

If you are a studio owner, teacher, liaison or volunteer and you live in the New England States or the Virginia/DC area, please join us at our free trainings. Email Valerie to register.

darbysdancers@yahoo.com

We like our old chapters to join our new chapters for a great learning experience.

(Right: Younger class at DAA)



Beauty Inside and Out

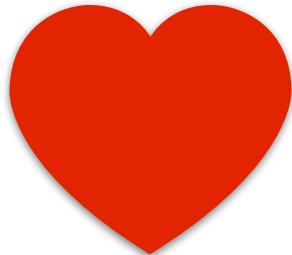
Patrick and I went on a trip this month to the beautiful state of Idaho, Yellowstone National Park and Grand Teton National Park. What glorious beauty we saw in the majestic mountains and lakes, streams and canyons, wildlife and sunsets! When I spend some time in places like that, I can't help being overwhelmed by the grand majesty of it all, leaving me to feel so small in all the vast splendor. We said we felt small, but not unworthy. Every tiny part that made up that scene had a significant role, culminating in one unified, all





Volunteers of the Month

We say it all the time, but that's not often enough. Our volunteers are the **heart** of Darby's Dancers and we can't thank them enough for all they do and all they mean to the program. Featured above are 4 young ladies who volunteer with the Darby's Dancers program in Meridian, Idaho. From left to right, Maggie, Bronwyn, Audrina and Magdalen happily volunteer at Dance Arts Academy every Saturday morning and are helpers and mentors for our dancers. The girls say they have so much fun, they love helping others and that their time with the dancers is such a good experience. "It's nice to see them have a place", says one volunteer. The girls love the opportunity to share their love of dance and their dance studio with their new friends. Thank you to **ALL** our volunteers, nationwide, and know that you are very much appreciated.



(Right: Dotty and her daughter, Kalli Hancock)

inclusive, community of a million parts coexisting as one. When Darby's Dancers is added to the curriculum in our dance studios, we are doing the same thing. It takes all kinds of children from all walks of life to form our inclusive studios and paves the way for a community of peaceful and loving environments where we all depend on each other. Our dance program, volunteer program, liaisons, studio owners and families all work together to make the world a better place for not only our friends with special needs, but for all our families.

Studio of the Month

We are so proud to feature **Dance Arts Academy in Meridian, Idaho** as our special studio this month. Dotty Hancock, studio owner, and I met at the Dance Teacher Life Conference in Phoenix, AZ last summer and Dotty started her classes at the beginning of the year. She is doing a wonderful job with all the dancers and is working to grow the program and make it even better every day. Dotty grew up dancing and has always had a love of teaching dance. Dotty is a graduate of Boise State University and has a degree in communication. She purchased her business in 2001, right after she



graduated from college. She has been at her current location in Meridian since 2005. Dotty is an excellent business woman, as well as, dance teacher. She even utilizes dance space in her studio for a full time preschool. Dotty is at work at 8:30 every morning and, like all hard working dance teachers, is often at the studio late into the evenings. At DAA, Dotty has created a family atmosphere where **EVERYONE** is welcome! DAA is perfect for Darby's Dancers!

Dancer of the Month

I chose two dancers this month to feature from Dance Arts Academy. The first is [Miss Kalli Hancock](#) (pictured above). Kalli is 14 years old and in the 8th grade at Victory Middle School in Meridian (near Boise). She has a 7 1/2 year old brother named Andrew. She loves to watch movies, play video games, ride her bike, do sing-alongs, and DANCE! She is a huge fan of singer and actress, Dove Cameron. Dove isn't the only one who is famous. Kalli told me she was famous, too, because she has been on TV and YouTube due to some stories that were done about Kalli and her new smile! When Kalli was born at 24 weeks, weighing in at just over a pound, she had a stroke. That has presented some issues over her life and a couple of years ago, Kalli had surgery to create a new smile. Kalli is a happy, silly, funny teenager who spends a lot of time at the studio.



She is proud to be a Darby's Dancer and says she likes to come to class to dance, have fun and see her new friends. Way to go, Kalli! Keep smiling!

Our little dancer of the month is [Miss Charlotte Rice](#). Sweet Charlotte is 7 years old and participates in the younger class at Dance Arts Academy. Charlotte lives in Meridian with her parents and 11 year old brother. She is in the 2nd grade at Willow Creek Elementary. Charlotte loves to draw and color and she takes gymnastics, in addition to dance. She loves the Disney princesses and she's a girl after my heart because she loves tea parties! I would love to sit down and have tea with her one day! Charlotte's mom says that participating in Darby's Dancers has improved her social skills, her ability to follow directions, improved her body awareness and has helped her to learn to wait for her turn. She loves that it gives Charlotte a low pressure activity to participate in and an opportunity to make new friends.



Congratulations to the entire Dance Arts Academy family!