

All England Dance

Update – January 2007

A Happy New Year to you all!

IMPORTANT NEWS!

Many of you will be aware that The Haymarket Theatre in Basingstoke has closed and will not re-open until at least the autumn (if then). The Committee is pleased to announce that the Southern Regional Final will be held at Ferneham Hall in Fareham.

We have also had to relocate the South East Final. This was mainly due to an overall increase in the cost of hiring the theatre in Tunbridge Wells, which threatened the viability of that Final. We are pleased to say that we have booked the Queen's Hall at Cranbrook School. You can visit their site (www.cranbrookschool.co.uk) and see the purpose built theatre.

(There is no change to the dates of either of these finals.)

TEACHER MEMBERS

The Committee is pleased to announce that the Joanne Marsden-Blackwell Award for Choreography at the National Finals will be split so that Groups are not competing with Solos, Duets and Trios. We will still be accepting only one entry per Teacher Member – further details after the Regional Finals.

And, at the risk of repeating ourselves.....

Don't forget you can renew your Teacher Membership at any time – it will be valid until the end of 2007. Renewing it now will save a last minute rush when your pupils qualify for a Regional Final and require your signature and current membership number on their entry form. Entries received from teachers who have not renewed will be returned.

It is worth a reminder that entries to the Regional Finals should go to the address listed in the Syllabus, please, and that entries submitted before 1 March are at a discounted rate – see the Syllabus.

At the recent Adjudicators' Meeting, the Contemporary/Modern Ballet section was discussed. This has been introduced, not to increase the number of entries, but to enable us to separate pure classical ballet at Regional and National Finals. Several important points were raised at the meeting.

- Local festivals are unlikely to have a separate section for contemporary work so, depending on their rules, pupils will probably only be allowed one 'ballet' entry.
- At present, adjudicators will often note on mark sheets when a dance has been incorrectly entered in the Ballet section when, for example, it should be in the Character section.. We have asked adjudicators to do the same with any contemporary/modern ballet work they see, so that it is entered correctly for the Regional Final.
- As a very general guide, anything which is not purely classical will fall into another category either: **Character** – classical work but telling a story or using props (fans, hoops, etc) or: **Contemporary/Modern Ballet**
- Finally, it should be noted that Contemporary/Modern Ballet sections are open to D and E, Senior A and Senior B age groups only.

If you are in doubt, please talk to us and we will clarify further.

FESTIVALS

We welcome Coalville Choreography as one of our nominated festivals. It runs in November and is organised by Karen Shaw, 26 Wyggeston Road Coalville, LE67 3RE (01530 815298). It will qualify to the Midlands Regional Final – although not until the 2009 Competition!

We also welcome a new member to our Panel of Adjudicators. June Hornby commenced her training in Devon and left with associates in six subjects. After dancing in professional pantomimes and summer shows, she opened Weymouth Dance Studio in 1971. She is now a Fellow with the I.S.T.D. and has students appearing with English National Ballet, West End musicals and contemporary companies. Her contact details are listed in the British Federation Year Book.

Many thanks to festival organisers who have already submitted their marked up programmes with the 84+ marks. If submitting a programme with all the marks, it is very helpful if you highlight the 84s and over with a coloured highlighter.

MOLLY LAKE AWARD 2006

This competition was held on Sunday 22 October 2006 at the Campus West Theatre in Welwyn Garden City. The winner was Nancy Osbaldeston from the English National Ballet School.