



Arizona Dance e-Star

a publication of the **Arizona Dance Coalition**

Volume 1, Issue 6

June 2011

Dear Readers,

The tap dance celebration in Tucson is over, but the work continues. *Thank you* to everyone who participated and to those who commuted from the Phoenix area to take master classes and/or participate in the *Sounds of the Soles of the Southwest* performance. It was a 3-hour show with more than 250 dancers, 6 musicians and 47 dances! We witnessed some incredible *feets!* Those attending for the first time were amazed at the level of talent and we can thank the faculty at all the various studios and private coaches for their accomplishments. There is no better venue for showcasing this tap talent and for the collaborations that occurred between teachers/choreographers, performers and musicians. It gave us purpose. It inspired us to create and connect. It gave us a reason to rehearse and perfect our craft. It made us want to learn

more about tap - a form of dance made in the U.S.A. And it gave ADC an opportunity to present yet another Lifetime Achievement Award to *Nian Cadman-Dake*. See Announcements.

The 98th Arizona Town Hall on Arts & Culture published their final recommendations and an excerpt is in our article section with a link to the full report. We need to educate our officials and administrators on the importance of the arts (education, business, health, and performance) and elect those who can engage the support of the communities in Arizona to make the arts thrive. It is not enough to just create art. *Who is the spokesperson for dance in Arizona? Who speaks up for dancers?* Inquiring minds want to know because you have a job to do.

Note: There will only be one issue of the e-Star covering July & August with a June 25 deadline. Share your stories and events. Let us know how we can help.

Sincerely, *Krystyna Parafinczuk*
Editor & ADC Treasurer

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The **Arizona Dance Coalition** is a membership-based, statewide 501(c)(3) nonprofit dance organization creating connections and communication between the general public and the dance community. ADC membership is available to individuals and organizations interested in the art of dance. You may join online at AzDanceCoalition.org. All questions about membership and sponsorship can be sent to Lisa@AzDanceCoalition.org. Calendar Events are posted online by ADC members. Article submissions, news, letters to the editor and advertising sales can be sent to Krystyna@AzDanceCoalition.org. Additional ADC contact information is on the last page.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

JULY/AUGUST ISSUE
of the

Arizona Dance e-Star

June 25

CALENDAR OF EVENTS listings are taken from the **Arizona Dance Coalition** website postings by ADC members. All postings of events are restricted to 501(c)(3) organizations with the exception of charitable and free events, educational workshops and master classes.

All submissions are monitored. Content may be edited.

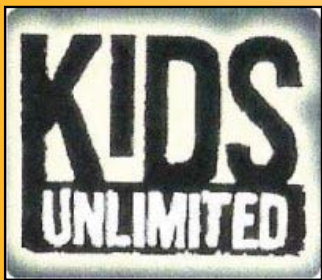
AzDanceCoalition.org

June 4, Saturday, 7:30 pm, Tempe Center for the Arts Theater, 700 West Rio Salado Parkway, Tempe

Desert Dance Theatre (DDT) presents **Cool at 90!** Choreographer **Marion Kirk Jones** is celebrating her 90th birthday. As a tribute to Jones and her choreographic legacy, DDT, ASU Dance Alumni and other college and community dancers will perform some of her past works: *Arachne*, *Sky Dancers*, *Quickening & Dancing the Malthusian*. Other works in the program will be *Let Go* by Lisa R. Chow and *Samsonite* by Step Raptis. Tickets: advance purchase before 6/4/11 - \$20 Adult, \$18 Senior, \$15 Student. On 6/4/11 - \$25 Adult, \$21 Senior, \$18 Student. Anytime - \$15 Group of 10+, Arizona Dance Coalition, Arizona Presenters Alliance.

VIP Deals - \$13 Friends of DDT.

TCA Box Office: 480-350-2822 or tempe.gov/tca



June 6-10, Monday-Friday, 9 - 4 pm **KU Studios**, Home of Kids Unlimited is a 501(c)(3) organization, 6066 N Oracle Rd, Tucson
Star to Be - Ultimate Boot Camp

The definitive camp for the triple threats out there in grades 6-10. Kick off the best summer ever with singing, dancing and acting and be a better performer for it. Fee \$200. To enroll, call 520/293-1225.

June 8, Wednesday, 2 pm, Mesa Main Library, 64 E. First St., Mesa, & **June 27, Monday, 10:45 am**, Desert Foothills Library, 38443 N. Schoolhouse Road, Cave Creek

Flamenco del Sol presents a FREE family show -

Viva Espana: A Journey Through Spain A free stay-cation trip through Spain for the entire family guided by Flamenco del Sol Spanish dance ensemble. Professionals Herlinda Lopez and Deanne Poulos, joined by three generations of dancers, showcase dances, music, castanets and costumes from various regions of Spain. Ole! Details, call 602/841-5185 or email FlamencoDelSol@azemporium.com





MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Desert Dance Theatre

Desert Dance Theatre (DDT) is a nonprofit, contemporary dance company that was founded in 1979 by four ASU Dance Graduates - *Debbie Pualani (Schofield) Blackmon, Billbob Brown, Dorothy (Anderson) Garant* and *Margie Romero Wolf*. Currently, under the artistic direction of *Lisa R. Chow* (ADC President & founding member), *Renee Davis*, Associate Artistic Director, *Marion Kirk Jones*, Artistic Director Emeritus and *Step Raptis*, DDT has an eclectic variety of dances in the current repertory, which range from classical, comical, abstract and theatrical. Comprised of experienced performers, choreographers and enthusiastic educators who strive to bring the openness, spontaneity and diversity of dance to the public, DDT offers a variety of quality programs to schools and communities that are inspiring, entertaining and educational, including: master classes, lecture demonstrations and performances.

DDT also specializes in theme-related programs that focus on cultural diversity and about the lives of prominent people who have fought for freedom in America through the form of music/dance/dramas. We have completed a trilogy of civil rights productions, *Free At Last*, *Sister Moses: The Story of Harriet Tubman* and *Judgments*, each of which may be featured along with current repertory. The company has also collaborated with *String Sounds* (string quartet), touring and performing over a thousand children's performances in elementary schools since 1985.

Through its *Guest Choreographer Series*, DDT also performs commissioned works by choreographers of national and international acclaim.

DDT also organizes and produces the annual *Arizona Dance Festival* which is held in October at the Tempe Center for the Arts.



Become a Friend of DDT. For membership benefits, [click here](#).



Photos by *Shea Photo*.

Let's Go, a piece choreographed by *Lisa Chow*, will be performed on Saturday, June 4, at **Cool at 90!** in celebration of *Marion Kirk Jones's* special 90th birthday. See details under Calendar of Events.

Desert Dance Theatre
 PO Box 25332
 Tempe, AZ 85285-5332
 Phone 480-962-4584, Fax 480-962-1887
info@DesertDanceTheatre.org



Announcements

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

presented to

NIAN CADMAN-DAKE



The **Arizona Dance Coalition** with great honor presented its **Lifetime Achievement Award** Saturday, May 21, 2011, to **Nian Cadman-Dake** during the *Sounds of the Soles of the Southwest* performance in Tucson. The Coalition selected Nian for her 32 years of service to the Arizona tap dance community in performance, education, and mentorship.

Nian, 68, teaches students ages seven to 90 and her coaching and choreography have won many 1st place awards for her students both young and “active.” Based out of the metro Phoenix area, with adult enrollment surpassing 350, Nian’s students tapped their way through ten countries promoting tap dancing, its health benefits and Arizona. Nian was the only dancer from auditions around the country to be chosen for the NBC TV show *Second Chance*, the search for America’s most talented seniors. She currently organizes adult talent competitions under the *All American Talent Performance Cruise* banner. Her work and passion have resulted in lifelong friendships around the globe bringing positive visibility to Arizona and to dance.

Originally from Youngstown, Ohio, Nian started dancing at 7, teaching at 10 and opened a dance studio while still in high school in her parents’ basement. Her summers were spent studying with dance legends in New York City -- *Jack Stanley, Ernest Carlos, Jack Pottiger, Ronn Daniels, Stan Mazin, Bob Audy, Luigi, Jo Jo Smith* and *Danny Daniels* to name a few. Later she would one day return with her students to NYC to perform at Radio City Music Hall and the Phoenix Little Theatre. She and her students would also drive 450 miles each way to perform for the airmen at least two to three times a year and were billed with the Thunderbirds flying team. Nian received a citation from Bob Hope for 14 years of USO shows and managed a very successful studio for 20 years (400+ students) before moving to Phoenix in 1980.

Nian is a certified international adjudicator and has judged the World Dance Competitions in Europe. She has assisted in preparing the graded system of tap and the exams for the Fred Astaire Performing Arts Association. Without question, Nian has played a significant role in the development of tap dancing in the Arizona dance community both in the valley and Tucson and it was fitting to present this award to her during Tucson’s 3rd annual National Tap Dance Day Celebration.

The Lifetime Achievement Award certificate was presented by ADC Treasurer *Krystyna Parafinczuk*. The actual award was a commissioned art piece entitled *TAP – My Life, My Love*, created by visual artist and award-winning vocalist *Joe Bourne*. Bourne presented his award and explained he used an encaustic medium (painting with bees wax) and depicted a subtle tap dancer in a dance position and a three dimensional tap in a sunset background.

Nian currently teaches at WestBrook Village, Tempe Dance Academy and choreographs for private students in Tucson and the valley.



Photo by About:BlankPhotography.com. Photos from the tap festival can be viewed on this website as well.



Joe Bourne writes: *When asked to create an art piece as a Lifetime Achievement Award for the Arizona Dance Coalition to be presented to Nian Cadman-Dake, I choose the encaustic medium (painting with bees wax).*

The word encaustic originates from the Greek encaustikos meaning, to heat or burn in. Encaustic is an ancient painting medium that mixes molten beeswax with resin and dry pigments. The art piece incorporates some of my favorite colors or yellows, blues, silver and bronze.

The piece, TAP – MY LIFE, MY LOVE, has a subtle tap dancer in a dance position and a three dimensional tap in a sunset background. Joe Bourne



Photo on the left: *Frank Trent* with artist *Lauren Allen*. Right: *Megan Maltos* (left, former Trent student), *Krystyna Parafinczuk*, and *Frank Trent* with his award held high. (You can enlarge this page to get a better look at the award). Photo on the right by About:Blank Photography.

While the ADC contemplated what type of award we would be presenting, **Frank Trent**, our first LAA recipient has been patiently waiting and enjoying his LAA certificate. We were fortunate to find yet another talented artist for a commissioned piece who was inspired by the Frankie's life and tap dance.

Lauren Allen writes: *In the creation of the award for Frankie Trent, I chose to use clay as my medium, as it is a material that lasts more than a lifetime once fired. The sculpture is a thrown head jar. The head is a rattle, forever keeping the beat of the music. The feet are enlarged to represent the focus on the choreography that Frankie has spent a lifetime perfecting. I chose to finish the sculpture in a glossy black glaze, representative of the reflection of Frankie's lifelong work and passion. The piece is full of visual movement and the character of the sculpture comes alive through the use of lines...eternally tapping his way into the future. Congratulations, Frankie, on all your achievements. Lauren Allen*

NOTE: When you are submitting information / photos, announcements & events, please include complete names of venues, locations, addresses and contact information.

Auditions - Performance, Scholarship

Friday, June 24 at 2:30 – 4:00 pm - Grand Canyon University

GCU Dance Education Performance Scholarship Auditions, renewable for dance education majors up to \$5,000 per year. Sanctuary Room of the Recreation Center, GCU Phoenix Campus, 3300 W Camelback Rd (between 31st and 35th Avenues) www.gcu.edu/danceauditions

How to sign up: write to Susannah Keita and RSVP at www.gcu.edu/campusevents.

Please remember that your scholarship award can only be processed if you have applied to Grand Canyon University. Please apply if you have not already done so. Visit www.gcu.edu/admissions.

Arizona Dance Coalition Projects, Regional & Festival News

Central Arizona (ShowUp.com)

The 12th Annual **Celebration of Dance** by Goldenlion Productions has its second performance **Saturday, June 4, at 8 pm** at the **Phoenix Theatre**, 100 E. McDowell, Phoenix. Tickets: \$25. 602-254-2151 for more information. Hundreds of dancers from around the valley perform in an evening of entertainment and artistry. View *YouTube* promo [here](#).

June 3-June 5, 2011 Celebration of Balanchine, Symphony Hall, 75 North Second Street Phoenix. From the grandeur of La Valse to the Phoenix premiere of the electric and intricate Monumentum pro Gesualdo and Movements for Piano and Orchestra, this program exhibits the pure talent of Ballet Arizona. Tickets: \$21.60-\$131.45 Info Phone: (602) 262-7272

ADC Retreat

The **Arizona Dance Coalition** is planning a retreat in Flagstaff the weekend of **August 13**. If anyone is interested in participating and brainstorming on how ADC can help promote Arizona Dance in the future, please respond to *Lisa Chow*, ADC president at Lisa@AzDanceCoalition.org.

Photo of the Month by LaCorte Photography

Hilary Tone & Jeff Bacigalupo (instructors at the Tucson Dance Academy) performing *Hand Jive*, *Sounds of the Soles of the Southwest* performance May 21, PCC CFA Proscenium Theatre, Tucson.



Arizona Dance e-Star Editor/Designer, Krystyna Parafinczuk

Contributors: Marlina Kessler & Lisa Chow

Final Recommendations ~ Arizona Town Hall on Arts & Culture, May 1-4, 2011

Excerpts from *Capitalizing on Arizona's Arts & Culture*. [View the entire report.](#)

...

Arizona can and must do more to capitalize on its arts and culture. Arizona needs to engage, empower, celebrate, and market our arts and culture as much as possible. As noted above, arts and culture are a vital part of Arizona's economy, education, and the shared and individual experiences of Arizonans and visitors alike. Arizona especially needs engaged and informed policymakers who understand and appreciate the economic and social importance of funding the arts. It is imperative that Arizona develop sustainable private and public policies that do not leave support for arts and culture susceptible to periodic changes in leadership and vision. ...

There are many opportunities for enhancement, partnership, and mutual support. Actions that could be taken to promote the best short-term and long-term interaction of arts, culture and the economy include:

- Supporting existing organizations within the arts and culture sector, including those that focus broadly on supporting the sector as a whole.
- Marketing arts and culture opportunities on a concerted and collaborative basis, including by promoting existing resources.
- Identifying opportunities for collaboration between existing organizations, including by merging certain functions when desirable to achieve economies of scale.
- Supporting and capitalizing on Arizona's historical prominence in the film industry.
- Designating organizations or individual leaders at the state level to be responsible for identifying and implementing strategies to promote arts and culture.
- Supporting and participating in the Cultural Data Project, which will regularly and consistently collect and analyze data in a standardized system that is shared and demonstrates the impact of nonprofit arts and culture in the Arizona economy.

Supporters of the arts should become politically active and aware and should take steps to increase the likelihood that persons supportive of the arts will be elected to public office. Advocates of arts and culture must speak more loudly, more clearly, and more frequently. Commitment to advocacy should become part of the selection criteria for arts and culture organization board members. Arts advocates must become involved and play an active part in chambers of commerce and other business groups. Arts advocates should have a seat at the table with the new Arizona Commerce Authority and similar local and regional business groups. ...

A lack of arts and culture education negatively affects the creativity, innovation and academic achievement of our students. The Arizona legislature has severely cut education funding at all levels and for all subjects, forcing schools to place greater emphasis on subjects tested for AIMS, such as reading, writing, math and science. Subjects involving arts and culture activities are de-emphasized. This has a negative effect on essential skills that impact student learning in other areas and denies them a valuable learning opportunity in their youth.

Arizona Town Hall is a private nonprofit corporation founded in 1962 for the purpose of identifying and discussing critical policy issues facing Arizona and creating solutions. Much of the success of the Arizona Town Halls lies in the fact that the process incorporates the knowledge, thoughts and ideas of all the participants. The Town Hall process has been adapted and utilized by many other groups who strive to create solutions by drawing upon diverse views and building informed coalitions. To learn about the 99th Town Hall meeting on November 6-9, visit aztownhall.org/TownHalls.asp.

Message from **Bob Booker**, Dir. of the Arizona Commission on the Arts dated May 31st - *We wanted to share with you some sobering news regarding the Kansas Arts Commission. Over the weekend, Kansas Governor Sam Brownback issued a line-item veto of the Kansas Arts Commission budget; Kansas becomes the first state without an arts agency. See the links below for more information about the elimination of the Kansas Arts Commission.*

- [Statement from Jonathan Katz, Executive Director of the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies](#)
- [Statement from the national arts advocacy organization, Americans for the Arts](#)
- [Article in today's LA Times: Kansas Governor Eliminates State Arts Funding](#)
- [Statement and information from Kansas Citizens for the Arts, the state's arts advocacy group](#)

COSTUME TIP by Marlina Kessler

Cutting fabric into 1" fringe panels for a Charleston or similar style costume is easy when you can lay a poster-size piece of graph paper (1" squares) over the fabric to use as a cutting guide. Cut with a rotary blade and use a metal ruler as a guide to insure a straight cut.



MARKETING TIP by Krystyna Parafinczuk

Imagery is the #1 psychological tool of elite athletes. Dancers are definitely elite and should use imagery to achieve excellence. But using the word "imagine" itself may be the powerful tool you need to use when fundraising. It helps people *see* what you're saying so they're viscerally experiencing it. Combining feelings and facts appeals to your audience's right *and* left brain. Now, they're fully engaged. You've got 60 seconds to make your point. GO!

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Board Members are needed with expertise in organization & event planning, marketing/graphics, writing and computer/website maintenance.
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