

September 2017

Newsletter

HARBOR DANCE CENTER

Hello Wonderful Harbor Dance Families,

Welcome new and returning families! We are so happy you are dancing with us. We hope this school season is getting off to a great start, and look forward to working with you all very much. Please ensure you read the monthly newsletters as it contains valuable and necessary information for you and your dancer. These will be posted on our website, which is also a wealth of information, at www.harbordance.net. View our website for

policies, events, schedules, inclement weather, and other information.



FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

"Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice, and most of all, love for what you are doing or learning to do." --Pele

FALL CLASSES BEGIN SEPTEMBER 11, 2017. The Fall schedule is attached in the body of the email and available any time on our website.

NEW OFFERING: Harbor Dance is **THRILLED** to add **FLAMENCO** to our class offerings. The class will be instructed by the inimitable **Marisela Fleites!** **Please see her impressive bio on page 2.** The class is on Wednesdays from 7:15-8:45 for beginners, ages 12 and up.

WELCOME! We would also like to welcome aboard new ballet instructor, **Cindy Michaels.** She too is very skilled and has a long history of experience, including past ownership of her own studio in California. Her bio is on page 3.

Marisela Fleites, Flamenco: A Cuban born dancer of Spanish descent, Marisela Fleites started dancing flamenco and Spanish dances at the age of 5, and has studied in Cuba, Spain, Mexico and the USA with masters like Olga Bustamante, Orlando Vargas, Stella Arauzo, Mari Carmen Guerrero, Oscar Nieto, Timo Lozano, Teo Morca, Citli Ocampo, Patricia Linares, Adriana Maresma, María Chacha Bermúdez, Belén Maya, and many others. Ms. Fleites directs the performing group Tacoma Flamenca. She holds a Ph.D. in Romance Languages and Literature and teaches Spanish and Latin American Studies at Green River College. Ms. Fleites has been teaching flamenco at the Washington Contemporary Ballet Studio since 2001, a non-for-profit institution that serves the Tacoma/Lakewood community. She also taught for the Tacoma Metro Parks Recreational and Educational programs from 2003-2007. She has done workshops at several other studios and venues like Metropolitan Ballet of Tacoma and Harbor Dance and Performance Center. She has done volunteer work with Public Schools, Guadalupe House and other non-profit institutions, teaching and performing Flamenco for educational and fundraising purposes. Fleites-Lear is also the chair and founder of the Tacoma-Cienfuegos Sister City Committee.

Fleites has performed extensively in Cuba and in the USA. The links below provide reviews and information about some of these performances. Marisela was featured for the "On Stage" section of the *OnTrack* Magazine (Spring 2016). In 2013 Marisela organized a Tacoma Flamenco Festival that brought renowned Flamenco artists to our community, notably Teo Morca, Gerardo de Alcala and Vicente Griego. The three performed with Ms. Fleites at the University Of Puget Sound *Norton Clapp Theater* to a sold out audience, provided a free workshop to the public and organized classes for the community. In November 2015 Fleites performed with Griego and Alcala for the *Classical Tuesdays in Old Town* series, for an audience of more than 250. She has done solo performances at the Harbor Museum (accompanied by guitarist John Bussoletti and Flamenco singer Samir Osorio), the Gig Harbor Public Library, the University of Puget Sound and other local and regional venues. She was selected as resident artist to choreograph the Spanish dances for the theater production of "The Force of Habit" in 2015 (University of Puget Sound). She is the director of the performing group Tacoma Flamenco <https://www.facebook.com/Tacoma-Flamenco-308815072481295/>. Together with world renowned Native American Flute Player Gary Stroutsos, Ms. Fleites created the choreography "Encuentro," a reimagining of the encounter between Spaniards and Native Americans through music and dance, rather than genocide and conquest. This was performed at the Panorama Theater and at the Mount Tahoma High School Theater in 2015. Ms. Fleites performs monthly at *La Gitana* in Olympia.

Cindy Michaels, Ballet: Cindy has been dancing for over 35 years and teaching for 22. She has a Bachelor's degree from the University of California Santa Barbara in Psychology. While attending, she participated in the University's dance program. The department's dance education focused on the movement philosophies of Martha Graham, Jose Limon, and Merce Cunningham. In addition to the tenured professors, Alice Condodina and Esa Bergson the classes were taught by "artists in residence" from those same companies. After graduation, Cindy continued her education in classical and contemporary movement at Valerie Houston Dance Theatre and Santa Barbara Ballet.

Over the years Cindy has had the opportunity to attend classes and master classes with Maggie Black, Finis Jhung, Twyla Tharp, Paul Taylor, Houston Ballet, members of Pilobolus, Robert Moses, Katherine Warner, Summer Lee Rhatigan, Stanko Milov, Bruce Wells, Alexandra Dickson, Elle Stromberg, Arturo Fernandez and Alonzo King. From 1997 through 2012 she owned and directed Redding Ballet Academie in Redding, California and served as the Artistic Director of Redding City Ballet, a 501 c(3) corporation. In 2012 Cindy turned over the studio and the artistic direction of the company to Diana Christensen. She is currently the ballet master and choreographer for Redding City Ballet and teaches ballet and contemporary movement for the Redding Arts Project under Diana Christensen. In addition to her work in the private sector she has been on the faculty of the Fine Arts, Communication and Social Science Department at Shasta College since 1997 teaching ballet, pointe and partnering, modern dance, jazz, and choreography and tap. Over the past twenty+ years, this has given her the opportunity to work with children, teens and adults in a classroom setting as well as in the capacity of director and choreographer in circumstances that range from teaching basic technique to the presentation of informal studio concerts; producing full dance productions and, participating in inter-department collaborations for musicals.

On to the mundane:

Tuition is a fixed amount based on the calendar season from September-June. Some months have 5 weeks, and some have breaks for holidays. Tuition is due on the first, and late on the 10th in which a late fee of \$10 will be incurred.

The **YEARLY CALENDAR** of events is also attached in the body of the email. Use this to reference breaks, special holidays and events.

AUTO-PAYMENT is available on the 1st or 5th of the month via debit or credit card. In September we will charge tuition on the 10th. A tuition discount is available to those enrolled in the auto payment program. Please see our tuition fee schedule below.

TUITION Schedule:

1 class per week.....	Autopayment price ... \$50	Non-autopayment price....\$55
2 classes per week.....	Autopayment price ... \$95	Non-autopayment price....\$105
3 classes per week.....	Autopayment price ... \$135	Non-autopayment price....\$145
4 classes per week.....	Autopayment price ... \$170	Non-autopayment price....\$180
5 classes per week.....	Autopayment price ... \$200	Non-autopayment price....\$210
6 classes per week.....	Autopayment price ... \$225	Non-autopayment price....\$235
7 classes per week.....	Autopayment price ... \$250	Non-autopayment price....\$260
Individual Unlimited.....	Autopayment price ... \$265	Non-autopayment price....\$275

MISSED CLASS/MAKE-UP POLICY: Dancers who miss their regular class are able to make up their class in any other class of appropriate age/ability level. Dancers are NOT required to make up their class in the genre of the class they missed. Dancers are asked to let the staff know beforehand if they will be making up a class. Missed classes will not be refunded.

FIRST MONTH SHIFTING: We anticipate shifting of dancers into other classes/levels over the first week or two of classes. Please check your email in case your dancer is asked to be shifted by an instructor and to see if we have contacted you from any existing wait list you may be on.

OUTSIDE-STUDIO ETIQUETTE: Please ensure dancers enter and exit the studio covered up (i.e. not in tights and a leo). They are welcome to change into their street clothes, as well, when not dancing.

DRESS CODE: Please view our dress code for all classes by clicking this link:
<http://www.harbordance.net/policies/>

NEW SHOES AND APPAREL: If your dancer needs apparel or shoes, please plan to come early or stay a bit late for their class the first week, as it will likely be very busy once classes begin at the studio.

LOST AND FOUND: Will be donated at the end of each month, please make sure you go through it before the end of the month.

WASHINGTON STATE FAIR: Harbor Dance's Cohesion Dance Teams and Ballet Company will pair up with our sister studio, Freedom Dance Center to put on an unbelievable show on September 11th from 3:00-5:00pm. We'll be on the education stage right inside the Pavilion by the Gold Gate. Come see an awesome show and enjoy the fair!