

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES!

- Mon., February 15.....Studio Closed in observance of President's Day
Watch "The Ultimate Cake-Off" featuring Long Beach Ballet's production of *The Nutcracker!* on The Learning Channel (TLC) – 10:00 p.m.
- Sat., February 27.....Sign-ups for Mentoring Day and Jr. Mentoring Day begin at 9:00 a.m
- Sun., March 7.....Mentoring Day for students in Academy Levels 2 & 3
- Sun., March 14.....Jr. Mentoring Day for students in Children Level 3 & Academy Level 1
- Sat., March 20.....Rehearsals for LBB's production of "Cinderella" begin
- Sat., April 3Studio Closed in observance of Easter
- Sun., April 11Spring Fest Showcase at Millikan High School
- Thu-Sun, May 13-16.....Regional Dance America Pacific Festival in Richland, Washington
- Sat., June 5-6.....LBB's production of "Cinderella" at the Carpenter Performing Arts Center

Cinderella

NEW DATES & VENUE!!!

**Carpenter Center –
Saturday, June 5-6, 2010**

Once again Long Beach Ballet will present David Wilcox's popular

production of "Cinderella." We are thrilled to present this production at the beautiful Carpenter Performing Arts Center this year! This production was last performed by the students of Long Beach Ballet seven years ago. This same ballet was set on the Guangzhou Ballet in 2005 and has become a popular piece in their on-going repertoire. We are proud to bring back this enchanting production to showcase our talented students this June. Rehearsals begin on Saturday, March 20th (see Saturday Rehearsal Schedule below). All Participation Forms and fees must be turned in no later than March 13th to be included in this year's production.



LBB Students in David Wilcox's CINDERELLA

Saturday Studio Rehearsals - Beginning March 20th thru May 29th

- Squirrels (Pre-Ballet 4 & Pre-Ballet 5) - castsrehearsals in regular class
- Mice (Children Level 1) – 2 casts..... 12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- Little Fairies (Children Level 3) – 2 casts..... 1:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Birds (Children Level 2) – 2 casts..... 1:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Demoiselles (Academy Level 1)..... 12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- Horses (Academy Level 2)..... 12:30 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- Picnic Dancers (Academy Level 3)..... 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- Palace Dancers (Academy Levels 5 & 6)..... 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- Big Fairies (Academy Level 5 & 6)..... 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- Palace Dancers (Academy Level 4)..... 3:00 p.m. – 4:00p.m.
- Gnomes (Boys)Friday evenings

NUTCRACKER 2009



Congratulations to our talented students who performed to almost sold-out houses in Long Beach and Pasadena! As always, our audiences were enthralled with our production that featured our amazing dancers, beautiful sets and costumes, and of

course the only production in this area that included a live symphony orchestra! It was a very exciting Nutcracker Season with Melissa, Ade and Jason from "So You Think You Can Dance" and principals from Pacific Northwest Ballet joining us as guest artists. We were also thrilled that the popular TLC show, "The Ultimate Cake-Off" chose to feature our "Nutcracker" in one of their episodes for this season. Our Saturday evening audience was treated to the final unveiling of the winning cake that was a 6-foot tall replica of our flying sleigh and horse including the Nutcracker Prince and Clara! Don't miss the airing of this episode on Monday, February 15th at 10:00 p.m. on the cable network, The Learning Channel (TLC).

Ade Obayomi, Jason Glover, Melissa Sandvig from "So You Think You Can Dance" pose with Ms. Shani post-performance.



All of our students are encouraged to participate in Long Beach Ballet's 2010 **Showcase of Classical Ballet** to be presented during our annual Spring Fest fundraising event on Sunday April 11th at Millikan High School.

Spring Fest Showcase

This entertaining and informational presentation will feature demonstrations of classroom training and performances in costume. It will give our parents a close-up look at the training methods that Long Beach Ballet incorporates that have produced so many professional dancers over the years.

Our annual "Silent Auction" will take place in conjunction with the Showcase and, as Long Beach Ballet's sole fundraising event of the year, will hopefully enjoy the support of our entire student population. (Long Beach Ballet is a non-profit organization and all donations are tax-deductible.)

Students in Pre-Ballet 3 thru Academy Level 4 will take part in on-stage ballet demonstrations conducted by our faculty. The demonstrations will be interspersed with performances by the higher level students who will present competition pieces from the 2010 Youth American Grand Prix and the Regional Dance America Festival.

We look forward to sharing the beautiful art of classical ballet with all of our students and their families during this annual Spring Fest Showcase!

Long Beach Ballet - MENTORING DAYS



Each Spring, Long Beach Ballet hosts our popular **MENTORING DAYS** offered to the young aspiring dancers in the Academy and Children levels. Each young student will spend a fun afternoon working one-on-one with their upper level Dancer who will coach them in a ballet class as well as a rehearsal. The day continues as the dancers change into their party clothes for an "Afternoon Tea Party" with their mentors. Each young dancer leaves with a personally signed photo of them with their mentor, a pair of signed pointe shoes and wonderful memories of their special afternoon. Mentoring Day for Academy Levels 2 & 3 is Sunday, March 7th. Jr. Mentoring Day for Children Level 3 & Academy Level 1 is Sunday, March 14th. Sign-ups will be on Saturday, February 27th beginning at 9:00 a.m. first-come, first served. This popular event has always filled up quickly, so come early and don't miss out!



Young dancers spend an enjoyable afternoon with their Mentor in class and at the Afternoon Tea Party.

■ LONG BEACH BALLET PERFORMING COMPANY ■



Senior Company News

Rehearsals are under way for another original ballet entitled "Enjoy!" choreographed by Johnny Zhong, as well as rehearsing "Oh So Suite" choreographed by Nancie Johnson and coached by Shani Englert. The Company will be presenting these pieces for the Regional Dance America Pacific Region adjudicator in a couple of weeks. The Company will attend the Regional Dance America (RDA) Pacific Festival in Richland, Washington this May, spending three days taking various master classes and attending performances by the Region's ballet companies. We are proud that Long Beach Ballet has been awarded "Honor Company" at RDA for the past several years.

Junior Company News

The Junior Company, comprised of students from Academy Level 5, has also started rehearsals for a piece entitled "Storms in Africa" which was choreographed for the LBB performing Company by Nancie Johnson for a past RDA Pacific Region Festival. The Junior Company dancers will also have the opportunity to travel to Richland, Washington this year for the RDA Festival and participate in the workshop classes taught by world-renowned teachers and dancers.

All of the Company dances will be presented at our upcoming SPRING FEST SHOWCASE in April at Millikan High School.



Words of Praise for Long Beach Ballet...

In case you hadn't noticed, we've been doing some good things for dancers here at the Long Beach Ballet Academy:

After seeing this year's Adjudication performance, Miss Alaine Haubert, formerly of American Ballet Theater and current ABT Summer Program director said,

"It was immediately apparent that these dancers have received fine training. This was one of the best groups of the tour for head-to-toe overall classical awareness. They had good technical foundation but also a nice movement quality both at barre and in center work. The ladies used a refreshing fluid port de bras, accompanied by consistently coordinated hand positions, and their feet worked well. The barre exercises encourage a lot of motion so that the dancers seemed warm and well-prepared for center. In center, Mr. Wilcox often emphasized the exactness of head positions, which is unusual. This is obviously what contributes to the overall coordinated look of these dancers. Sensitivity to classicism in the upper body also gives a completion to all actions, as well as a uniform look to the company as a whole."



Miami City Ballet principal dancer Haiyan Wu after teaching a master class at Long Beach Ballet:

"Over the past two years I have taught many master classes in the U.S. The students at Long Beach Ballet were the best trained of any I have seen outside of major company schools such as San Francisco and Houston."

Deborah Hadley, former principal dancer with San Francisco Ballet and Pacific Northwest Ballet, served as Regional Dance America's adjudicator for the 2007 National Festival. The following is an excerpt from her report on the

Long Beach Ballet: *"Based solely on the adjudication tour – given the number of powerful ballets shown, number of talented, well-trained dancers with lovely facilities (including strong men), level of choreography [and] production, technical challenges done well, and quality of media/programs/videos, etc., I'd have to say that this company is right at the top of the region. Very exciting group to watch."*

