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August 14, 2010

Greetings Dancers and Parents,

We hope that you are having a wonderful summer! School will soon be starting and we are excited to have you all back in the studio.

After concert we started gearing up for the Hollywood Connection Nationals held in Anaheim, CA. The first week of intensives was awesome with Amanda Leise, Henry Graham and Shelby Rabara getting us ready for Nationals. It was an outstanding week of technique and choreography! It was great to see so many of our studio dancers participate in the intensive that week. The improvement in flexibility, strength and technique was amazing.

Our intensives this summer included some amazing teachers along with our fabulous staff and we thank them for their time and energy. Larken Poynton went from the Crested Butte DancSummer program into our 3<sup>rd</sup> week intensive along with Jenny Schiff, Nikki Ramer and Kevin O'Keefe for our 2<sup>nd</sup> week intensive. It was a treat to have Cara Cooper of the Colorado Ballet teaching some wonderful variations. Along with Tiffany, Kmac and Jessica, it was an amazing summer. Thank you all.

We arrived in California on July 1, and got ready to start a week of classes, competition and meeting new people from all over the U. S. Chris and Jacob had a grueling schedule since both were nominated for "Icon of the Year" and learned choreography to perform in the closing awards banquet.

We are so proud of our dancers! Not only did they bring home 22 Gold Medals and 2 Silver, they won the coveted National Title for Technical excellence for "Ain't Nothin' Wrong With That" and the National Title for Outstanding Sportsmanship and Spirit. Mia Taskey brought home a 2<sup>nd</sup> place overall High Score plaque for her solo in her age and category and Takara Thede won a 3<sup>rd</sup> place overall High Score for her solo in the Open category. Take a look at the "Hall of Fame" when you come into the studio when classes start. The adults brought down the house with their "Shake Your Groove Thing" and their plaque will also be on display. Everyone had a great time!

Our timing was perfect to be able to see our own Angela Bergamo performing in California Adventure in Disneyland. She was able to come visit us in her busy schedule and we missed having her home this summer. We also got to see her on TV last Thursday night as a back -up dancer for an up and coming young singer, Collette Carr on TeenNick on Nightlife. Angela is having a great time doing what she loves most – DANCE! And then it's back to the books at Loyala Marymount.

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Tiffany and Amanda had a great time teaching for Boulder Jazz Dance Workshop and performing together for the Interweave show. Starbound Alumni, Brittney Kirkpatrick, Amy Menhennett and Sarah Troicky performed a piece that they choreographed jointly. It is so wonderful to see them perform together once again. They look great! Brittney will become a full-fledged company member for Schiff Dance Collective this year. Congratulations, Brittney!

Amanda is on her way back to Los Angeles after two years of training some fantastic dancers in Texas. Ida Saki had a great experience of dancing at the White House this summer and just finished up her yearlong Title for NYCDA as the National Senior Scholarship winner. Amanda will miss all of her students as she starts the next chapter of her life back in L. A. Touring with Urban Jamm will definitely keep her busy as will being back at the Edge Performing Arts Center. We hope to have her home occasionally!

We are excited for Alumnus, Tina Cookson and her successful audition with the "Darling Stilettos". Congratulations, Tina!

Don't forget all you alumni dancers out there - It's our 25<sup>th</sup> year and we will be sending out information on the 2011 Alumni Dance! Write us an email if you have moved so we can find you.

Don't forget to check out the Downtown Street Festival on Friday, August 27. Dance Dimensions will be set up outside the studio with shows at 6:30, 7:30 and 8:30 PM.

See you soon!

*Ms. Louise*