



APRIL

NEWSLETTER



QUICK REMINDER!

Recital meal &
flower order
forms are due
by
May 16th.

Thank you for
turning them in
with payment to
the front desk.

Please
remember to
make checks
out to G-Force
Dance
Company.

Adaptive Force Performing Arts April 2016 Newsletter

Dear AFPA Family,

Recital is almost here! This is by far the most exciting time of the year for our dancers, teachers and parents. Dancers have the chance to shine on stage and show their parents, friends and family all they have learned over the year. As a studio we take great pride in putting on an entertaining show that truly highlights each and every student's progress.

This year has been especially rewarding for all of the staff and teachers at AFPA. Not only have our Academy dancers shown amazing growth in their dance technique development, but also have shown improvement in their stage presence and performance abilities. What's more, our Company and Competition teams have knocked the socks off audiences and judges during their community and competition performances this season.

With all that said and the preparations in place, we are sure this year's recital will be a tremendous "Show of Force!" Break a leg dancers!

Warmly,

Mike & Amber Wittmers
Proud Owners of AFPA

Performance Company & G-Force

Competition Team Auditions Set For Sunday, May 15th!



Mark your calendars! Auditions for AFPA's Performance Company and G-Force Competition Team will be held on Sunday, May 15th at the studio..

Ages 6 - 9 will audition from 12-1:30 pm

Ages 10-12 audition 1:30-3 pm

Ages 13 & up audition from 3-4:30 pm

In order to audition, at least one parent must attend our "What-To-Expect" Pre-Audition Parent Meeting on Saturday, May 14th at 10:30 am at the studio.

[***Click here for more details!***](#)

Congrats Amazing April Students of the Month



Academy Dancer: Marissa Farhi

Marissa is 14 years old and has been dancing with AFPA since we opened in 2011! Marissa has been assisting Mr. Mike for the past two years and has mentioned several times that she would like to be a dance teacher when she grows older.

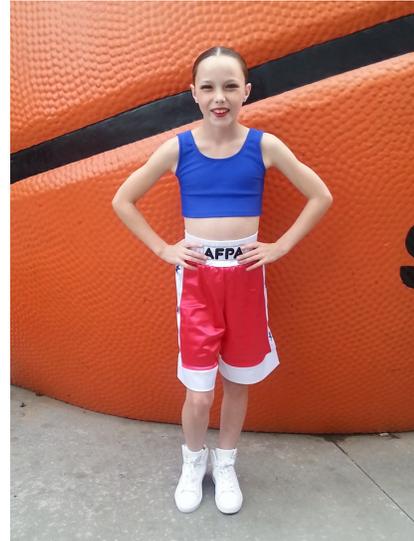
This upcoming year Marissa will be entering Cactus Shadows High School as a Freshman and will be enrolled in several honors

classes. Her maturity, self discipline and work ethic are only some of the things her AFPA teachers love about her. Marissa is also friendly and one of the best tap dancers at AFPA!

Performance Company Member: Caroline Chappel

Caroline is 11 years old and joined AFPA's performance company this year. Caroline has been studying Jazz, Tap and Hip Hop at AFPA since 2012, and added ballet and acro to her class schedule this year.

Caroline was one of our performers at our Dance The Magic performance at Disneyland last fall. Not only do all of her teachers at AFPA know what a hard worker she is, but dance conventions have also picked up on Caroline's talent. This season at Velocity Dance Convention Caroline was awarded a convention scholarship, and she was a scholarship finalist at LA Dance Magic. We know Caroline has a bright future in dance and can't wait to be a part of it.



Competition Member: Ella Witt

Ella is 9 years old and is a member of our Mini Competition Team. Although this is Ella's first year on our competition team she has also been dancing at AFPA since we opened in 2011!



Most recently at LA Dance Magic Convention, Ella placed first overall in the jazz category with her solo "Groove Is In The Heart". Ella also recently auditioned to be a model for a fashion show held at a National dance teacher conference and was selected. Hundreds of

teachers from around the world will see her model this upcoming seasons newest dance costumes, styles and trends. Whenever any of the AFPA faculty mention Ella, we immediately smile. Ella is an ideal teammate and supports her fellow dancers

wholeheartedly.



April Employee Spotlight: Meet Miss Judi

This month's AFPA employee spotlight is pointed directly on Miss Judi. We are so lucky to have Miss Judi at our studio. Her knowledge and kindness have helped us achieve so much.

Where did you grow up?

I grew up in Davenport, Iowa. In case you're wondering, no, I was not a farm girl. I was far from it!

When did you start dancing?

I started dancing when I was three years old, and in my first recital I was a kitten. Our



yearly recitals were at a beautiful, huge theater. It was very ornate and nothing like what you see today. It was more like the Orpheum Theater in downtown Phoenix. We also danced with a live orchestra, not recorded music.

What style(s) of dance did you start with?

I started dance by taking tap and soon started taking all forms of dance. I also thought tap was the "fun" style of dance, but my passion was ballet, pointe and jazz. I guess I would say that as a teenager, jazz was my favorite.

Were you a competition dancer?

I can't say that competitions existed as they do today back when I



was growing up in dance. I did go to conventions though, but as I remember, the competitions were more like dance titles, similar to what the "performers of the year" are today. I did compete for that title at the Chicago National Association of Dance Masters, a division of Dance Masters of America. The first year I competed I was the first runner up and the next year I was the

titleholder. It was a great experience. We were also tested for our knowledge of dance in whichever style we selected, so I chose ballet, jazz and tap.

Tell us a little about your career as a dancer.

Growing up, my dance career took me only to cities in the United States. I would have

to say that my very best travel destination would not be where **MY** dance career took me, but where **my son Brian's** took me and his father early in his dance career. He was working on

"Grease is the Word" for Simon Cowell in London, and then again while he was doing X-Factor more recently.



What type of music do you listen to?

I actually love all types of music, it just depends on what type of mood I'm in and maybe what kind of day I'm having. *I would also add that over my years of teaching dance, I have used many Prince (who I loved) albums. Albums or "vinyl" were all we used back then.*

Was anyone your inspiration?

Juliet Prouse was really my female dance idol, but most of the dancers today probably don't even know who she is. She had beautiful long legs and a style of her own. When I was growing up, dance was more about technique, definitely not about tricks like it is today. My male dance idol would have been Gus Giordano. He had a signature style and technique and today is known as the "Grandfather of Dance."

Favorite movie/musical?

I think probably Bye, Bye Birdie is one of my favorite, but I love watching all the old classic dance movies. My more current, all-time favorite is Chicago.

If you could travel anywhere, where would you go? I've been to Italy, but never to Tuscany. That's somewhere I've always wanted to go. I love beautiful scenery and from what I've seen in pictures and movies, it looks like a place I would enjoy!



Park Lane Jewelry Fundraiser Just In Time For Mother's Day. Give Mom Something Special!



The G-Force Competition Team is raising money to help cover the costs of their upcoming summer intensives and summer conventions.



If you are planning to buy something special for mom this Mother's Day, consider stylish and affordable jewelry from Park Lane.

From bracelets and rings to necklaces and earrings, you will find something special and memorable for your mom (or yourself!) *park+lane*

Plus, 50% of the sale goes directly back to the dancers!

[Here's a link to the online store.](#)

Check it out and place your order today!

