

August 2019

# Dance!

The Newsletter of the Miami Valley Dance Center

330 N. Broad Street Fairborn Ohio 45324 (937) 878-6488

**WWW.MIAMIVALLEYDANCECENTER.COM**

## FOUR DECADES!

Can you believe it? The Miami Valley Dance Center is celebrating 40 wonderful years of sharing the joy of dance!

We've got some fun things planned and a few surprises along the way as we make sure our celebration recognizes not only the parents, dancers, and staff who have graced the studio during that time, but all our other friends and supporters who have helped to make our studio the wonderful "dance home" it is.

Happy anniversary to us!

## SUMMER WINDING DOWN

We hope everyone has had a great summer and we look forward to seeing you back in class in the fall.

We're excited to be adding some new classes to our schedule this upcoming season and the new schedule is posted on our website now.

We sent a survey out several weeks ago and have received some great feedback and will be implementing some of the suggestions! If you

haven't had a chance to fill out your survey yet, please do so! We're always looking for suggestions and ways to improve our already fantastic program. If you don't see it check your spam folder

## FALL REGISTRATION

Registration for Fall Classes will be Saturday August 24, from noon to 3 p.m.

Online registration will open Monday, August 12 and run through noon on August 23. Use the link at the end of this article in the gray box for online registration.

Online registration link:

<https://secure.miamivalleydancecenter.com/registration/>

Please check the MVDC website for updates. If you were enrolled last year or attended summer classes your registration fee is waived for the upcoming dance season.

Dance supplies will be available at registration and a free studio t-shirt will be handed out to everyone who registers on August 24th. If you register online, you can still stop by to pick up a shirt on registration day. Quantities are limited though, so stop by early for best selection.

And finally...watch your email for your dancer's class placement recommendations for the upcoming year. Recommendations are based on the classes your dancer took last year; if they are interested in adding an additional style of dance, please contact Miss Kelly for recommendations.

## MVDC 2019-2020 Calendar

- August 24.....Registration
- September 9.....Classes Begin
- November 25-30.....Thanksgiving Break
- December 7....Tentative WCD Dress Rehearsal
- December 13.....Tentative WCD Performance
- December 23 - January 5.....Winter Break
- April 13-18.....Spring Break
- May 25 .....Memorial Day (Studio Closed)
- June 5.....Accounts must be paid in full
- June 19.....Annual Dance Extravaganza  
Dress Rehearsal
- June 20.....**40th ANNUAL DANCE  
EXTRAVAGANZA!**

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Dance! is a publication of the Miami Valley Dance Center, Fairborn Ohio  
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*Back to School Issue!*

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## DANCEWEAR AVAILABLE

Tawna with Gem City Dance Wear will be at registration for all your dance wear needs. MVDC dancers receive extra discounts for apparel. Can't make registration or have questions? Call Tawna at 937-260-9162 or emailTawna6988@gmail.com.

## RECITAL DVDs!

This year's recital was filmed by Main IT Services and the DVDs are expected in August for those who have ordered one. If you didn't order a DVD the first time around, call Main IT Services at (937) 260-9162 and they will be glad to take your order.

## 2019-2020 TEAMS

Auditions for the 2019- 2020 MVDC Dance Force will take place August 2-4.

We're expecting great things from Dance Force this dance year and we know that we won't be disappointed!

Results will be posted on our website soon after auditions.

**TAKE MORE  
CHANCES.  
DANCE MORE  
DANCES.**

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# MVDC MARCHES IN THE FAIRBORN 4TH OF JULY PARADE!

By comparison with last year's Fairborn 4th of July parade when it was so hot it felt like we were marching in a skillet on a hot stove, this year's parade was a bit milder. The proud members of the Miami Valley Dance Center once again dazzled the huge crowd that turned out for this wonderful annual event.

Congratulations to our 2019 4th of July marchers!



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## AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

The Stork delivered lots of the MVDC dancers in August near the end of Summer when the weather was still toasty. We hope that he had air conditioning on those flights!

Since we are not sure how old each of these summer birthday dancers is, we'll just use an average age of, say, 36 and wish each of them a happy 36th birthday with lots of cake and ice cream!

### August Birthdays:

Camille Bailey, Avery Bradford, Cynthia Bryant, Daphne Bussey, Scarlett Chen, Gabrielle Gibson, Madison Hoover, Riley Jones, Emma Kessler, Audra Kidd, Ava Lee, Alexis Leone, Olivia Lindsey, Lily Patrick, Jaycee Priest, Haleigh Sallee, Caroline Stroup, Lilliann

*Forget your troubles and dance*

— BOB MARLEY

## MVDC AT SWEET CORN FESTIVAL



Look for the Miami Valley Dance Center at this year's Fairborn Sweet Corn Festival. MVDC dancers will be performing from 3:45 - 4:15 at the popular annual event set for August 18.

Swallows, Kate Thacker, Zoey Vance, McKenna Wagers, and Chloe Wirick.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Yep, we're on Facebook and Instagram, too! "Like" us to keep up with all the MVDC happenings!

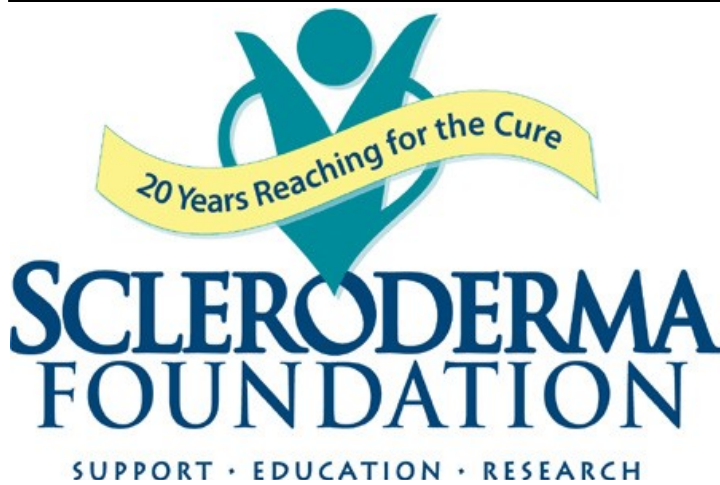
## END OF SEASON DANCE FORCE PARTY

The MVDC Dance Force recently enjoyed the end-of-the-season party and a great time was had by all as these photos clearly indicate!



Special thanks to the Hampshire family for hosting this event.





### Who

Scleroderma Foundation Greater Dayton

### What

Greater Dayton Stepping Out to Cure Scleroderma is our annual walk to raise funds and awareness for scleroderma research and patient education & support. Walk information and registration: [www.scleroderma.org/steppingoutgreaterdayton](http://www.scleroderma.org/steppingoutgreaterdayton)

### When

Saturday August 3<sup>rd</sup> 2019 9am

### Where

Fairborn Community Park 691 East Dayton-Yellow Springs Road Fairborn OH 45324

### Why

The Stepping Out to Cure Scleroderma walk is an event to raise awareness and funds to help research efforts and provide patient support and education. Scleroderma, which means “hard skin”, is a chronic connective tissue disease classified as one of the autoimmune rheumatic diseases. It can cause a thickening and tightening of the skin and damage to internal organs including the lungs, heart, kidneys, esophagus, and gastrointestinal tract. Medications and treatments can help with symptoms, but no cure exists for Scleroderma. Help us as we seek to increase understanding about treatment and management of scleroderma.

Community Park provides a scenic area for the event. The routes include  $\frac{3}{4}$ ,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile, and

5K distances for runners and walkers. Bring your own lunch. 300 participants are expected. A 50/50 drawing and raffles will be held with many prizes valued at over \$100. Face painting and crafts are some of the activities for kids! We will also recognize three families who have lost a loved one to Scleroderma with a “Gone, but not Forgotten Certificate”. Bring your family and friends!

Scleroderma is a chronic, often progressive autoimmune disease like Rheumatoid Arthritis, Lupus, & Multiple Sclerosis in which the body’s immune system attacks its own tissues.

Scleroderma, which literally means “hard skin,” can cause thickening and tightening of the skin, as well as serious damage to internal organs including the lungs, heart, kidneys, esophagus, and gastrointestinal tract.

An estimated 300,000 persons in the United States have Scleroderma. Approximately four times more women than men develop the disease.

The exact cause or causes of Scleroderma are unknown, and although medications can sometimes help, there is no cure.

**Registration:** 9:00am-10:30am

**Opening Ceremony:** 10:30am

**Fun Run & Walk:** Immediately after

**Prize Raffle:** 12:00pm

**Routes:**  $\frac{3}{4}$  mi., 1.5 mi. or 5k

To be guaranteed a T-shirt you must pre-register with a minimum donation of \$20 by July 22, 2019.

Children 12 and under are free.

Children’s size T-shirts are available to purchase online only for \$5.00.

Pets on leashes are welcome.

Team Captains raising over \$100 will be entered into a raffle for a 7 day Florida stay for up to 6 people. One raffle ticket for each \$100 raised.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
PLEASE CONTACT MVDC DANCER  
PENNY DAVIS AT (937)554-1425.**



*(Left) Penny Davis and BFF Marie Gay.*

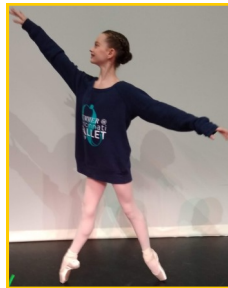
# Stankas & Stultz Attend Dance Intensives

**Madelyn Stankas**, a 13 year-old Dance Force team member and MVDC dancer, was excited to further her dance training over the summer with Cincinnati Ballet. She was accepted to the summer intensive program through audition and spent 3 weeks in classes that focused on ballet and pointe technique as well as classes in contemporary and modern dance, jazz and character dance, conditioning and dance history.

Madelyn loved the opportunity to work on details of her ballet technique and was very excited to push outside her comfort zone successfully in modern class, which involved a lot of improv. The dancers also learned repertoire for the 2019 Summer Intensive and Collegiate Workshop Performance at the end of the intensive.

Madelyn's group showcased their partnering in the Ensemble Pas de Deux, danced beautifully to choreography in Vivaldi Suite, and brought energy to the stage in their musical theater number "Magic to Do." One of her favorite moments in the performance was being selected for the pas de deux part in the Vivaldi piece.

She made many new friends and was very sad when her days full of dance with Cincinnati Ballet came to a close. She said, "I wish it was 10 weeks instead of 3!"



**Julia Stultz** had the opportunity to participate in the Indiana University High School Summer Dance Intensive in Bloomington, Indiana.

In this 12-day intensive, Julia had classes in many different styles of dance including Ballet, Contemporary, Modern, Aerial silks, and several others. Her favorite new style of dance she learned was Tango. She also had classes that focused on choreography composition, rhythmic analysis in music editing, and how to use dance to positively impact a community.

She loved taking a master class from David Dochoy, the director of Dance Kaleidoscope. On the last day, the students got to showcase their work for the intensive. Julia had the opportunity to perform in repertoires choreographed by Brandon Welch and Stephanie Nugent.

She also performed dances in the Graham technique, Tango, and West African styles. Julia's favorite parts of the intensive were meeting new

people from all over the country and learning all of the different styles of dance.



## Onyx Announces Company Members

Several months ago we announced the newest addition to the Miami Valley Dance Center, The Onyx Contemporary Dance Company!

OCDC will be under the artistic direction of Miss Amy Jones-Gibbons. It will be a non-profit organization dedicated to providing pre-professional students an opportunity to further their training in the technical and performance aspects of dance. OCDC's goal will be to instill an appreciation for the art of dance in a safe learning environment. This higher level of training will provide the young aspiring dancer with learning tools that will enhance discipline, character, and work ethic.

Onyx Contemporary Dance Company will also be committed to community outreach. Our dancers will develop strong connections through community performances by reaching the broadest possible audience.

The company will be under the artistic direction of Miss Amy Jones-Gibbons.

Auditions to join the Onyx Contemporary Dance Company were held June 3 and Onyx is proud

to announce the selection of the following initial members:

OLIVIA COOK  
EMILY FIELDS  
ALLISON FRIESEN  
MADISON HOOVER  
AVA KIM  
GABBY MCMASTER  
RAEANNE RICHARD  
JOLIE STANKAS  
MADELYN STANKAS  
JULIA STULTZ  
KENNY THACKER  
CHLOE WIRICK  
EMILY WISSMAN

Congratulations to the first members of the brand new Onyx Contemporary Dance Company!



## TEACHERS IN TRAINING

Teachers in Training, Kenny Thacker, McKenna Wagers and Julia Stultz recently completed their choreography project with flying colors.

The project is part of the requirements to complete their 2nd year of the program. The trainees have one more year to complete before coming an official assistant teacher.

The program is under the direction of Mrs. Karen Simpson.



"THERE ARE  
SHORT-CUTS TO  
HAPPINESS,  
AND DANCING IS  
ONE OF THEM."  
- VICKI BAUM