

Tucson Dance in the News

November 2009

Volume II, Issue 5

Discover the Difference at Tucson Dance Academy!

Tucson Dance Academy is a professional dance academy offering comprehensive lessons to all dance students, regardless of an individual's ability or reason for study. Our central philosophy is to encourage the best effort of each dancer, and to help them achieve their full dance potential, whether or not he or she plans to perform professionally.



Tammy Booth
Owner/Artistic Director

As owners of *Tucson Dance Academy*, Tammy and Tom Booth are grateful for the opportunity to share their love of the arts with people of all ages.

ITEMS NEEDED:

- Coats & Blankets (second-hand OK)
- Stuffing (1 lb boxes)
- Sweet Potatoes (16 oz cans)
- Mixed vegetables (15 oz cans)
- Cranberry Sauce (16 oz cans)
- Coffee (3 lb cans)
- Punch (1 gal jugs)

Collection Deadline for Thanksgiving meal is November 17th. Thank you for your generosity!

76 Year Broadway Dance Tradition Marches into Tucson

"It's worth the price of admission alone!" is a comment about "*Parade of the Wooden Soldiers*" that Tammy and Tom Booth, original producers and directors of the *Spirit of Christmas* have heard innumerable times over the course of the 21 year-long history of the Christmas variety show. It's no wonder, given the fact that the Rockettes' choreographic masterpiece, "*Parade of the Wooden Soldiers*," is the one original number, along with "*The Living Nativity*," that has run perennially since New York City's *Radio City Christmas Spectacular* began in 1933. A former Rockette herself, Tucson Dance director Tammy Booth has trained her dancers to authentically reproduce the rigid dance steps that have you believing that a stage full of dancers are overgrown, animated wooden toys. With stiff-legged military precision, dancers maintain perfectly straight lines while moving in unison through ever-shifting configurations that culminate with an awe-inspiring ending where a long line of

Help the Homeless

Starting this weekend, you'll notice collection boxes in our student lounge. Tucson Dance Academy is pleased to be supporting the Coat & Blanket Drive and Holiday Food drive for the Gospel Rescue mission. Each year, GRM host Thanksgiving and Christmas Banquets in South Tucson for about 3,000 needy Tucsonans. With the present state of the economy, the need is dire. Please bring your donations to the studio before November 17th.



TDA dancers performing "*Parade of the Wooden Soldiers*"

dancers topple into each other like a row of human dominoes.

Get Your Ticket for Holiday Fun NOW!
Auditorium is 40% Sold
Order tickets at:
tucsondanceacademy.com

Donning the tall fuzzy, plume-tipped Busby hat of the Wooden Soldier has become a rite of passage for generations of Tempe dancers; one that Tammy Booth is eager to pass on to Tucson Dancers in the next few years as they train and grow as dancers. For the past 20 year, Tammy has trained several generations of dancers at Tempe Dance Academy; many have gone on to perform professionally and all fondly recall their experience performing in *Spirit of Christmas*. For the Tucson premiere of *Spirit*

of *Christmas*, a troupe of Tempe Dance professional-level dancers will take the stage with Tucson Dancers to perform the highly skilled international and ballroom numbers that years of training under the Manville-Booth family at Tempe Dance Academy has prepared them for. Tucson dancers will get a glimpse at their future, as Tammy intends to build the kind of dance program in Tucson that has distinguished Tempe Dance Academy as one of the top 50 studios in the United States and Canada. Tammy Booth explains, "Our Tucson dancers are already carrying about half of the show this year, but in a few years time, they will take over the soldiers' roles, and they will be performing the Irish tap and dancing the tango and carrying the entire show." Thus, a proud dance tradition marches on into Tucson...

Impressive Results in Salt Lake City

Nine Tucson Dance Academy dancers made an impressive showing at NYCDA regional competition in Salt Lake City, a city noted to be a highly competitive venue. Five TDA dancers were selected as regional outstanding dancers and Platinum awards were abundant for our dancers. In a studio first, two dancers won top honors in different age divisions; Jadeyn McCook was named "Mini Outstanding Dancer" and Justine Hannan, "Junior Outstanding Dancer." Runners-up for

outstanding dancer included Harley Holthusen, Aubrey Zimmerman and Kelsey Eggerman. In the Mini division, Abbey Klingler received a ballet scholarship and Harley Holthusen, a tap scholarship. Two dancer's solos were awarded the highest scoring solos in their age divisions: Jadeyn McCooks "*When I See an Elephant Fly*" and Aubrey Zimmerman's "*Every Season*." Accompanying the Minis & Jrs, Teens Madyson McCook, Alex Gibbons and Lauryn Manning qualified their trio to participate in NYCDA Nationals. Congratulations!