



NISD Dance

August 2008
Volume 1 Issue 1

Newsletter for NISD Fine Arts Dance Teachers

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Letter from the Fine Arts Director
- 1 Getting Started
- 2 Let's Dance
- 2 Future Agenda
- 3 In the Spotlight
- 3 Curtain Call
- 4 Dance and Technology

Number of Students enrolled in Fine Arts Dance Classes 2007-08

Clark - 14%
Holmes - 11%
Jay - 0%
Marshall 12%
O'Connor 15%
Stevens 16%
Taft 11%
Warren 21%

*We've come long way, but we
still have much more to go.
Let's go from good to GREAT!*

Letter from the Fine Arts Director

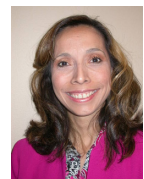
James Miculka



These are exciting times in the history of Northside ISD and especially for the Department of Fine Arts. The large number of new campuses, strong fiscal support for fine arts, and the additional fine arts instructors being hired to support and build programs are all reasons to join the NISD fine arts family. While we experience this growth and expansion, the single most important constant and high student / program success is the creative skill that our fine arts teachers possess in adapting and modifying to the situation at hand. Be encouraged to keep your campus fine arts program highly visible and connected in a meaningful way to each discipline of study provided on your campus. The content enclosed in this manual is reflective of the district office fine arts staff that works to serve each of you daily. Best wishes as you pursue tapping the artistic talent, passion, and potential of students enrolled in Northside schools.

Getting Started

By Elizabeth Sanchez-Lopez (Supervisor Dance/Theatre)



Welcome back to what I see as an exciting school year ahead for all of us here at Northside. As I've said before, I know you are the best in the industry, and you are dedicated to continue to improve the level of teaching you provide to your students on a day to day basis by going above and beyond to offer a unique personal touch to the needs of our dance students. This year we will go one step further by reaching out to our fellow dance teachers. Our motto this year, "**Sharing is Learning**".

Therefore the information included in the notebook, provided for you, is just the beginning. It is offered as a guide to our Northside Independent School District Fine Arts teachers to help increase student achievement. This guide is also a **work in progress**, therefore, we will examine and modify as needed throughout the year. As always, you are encouraged to use your own initiative and originality in supplementing the material provided.

I would like to contribute to your successes by continuing to provide you with the tools, information or even collaborating with you on any staff developments you may want to present this coming year. I invite you to contact me at any time. Once again welcome back, keep up the good work and as always, I wish you continued success.

*"Freedom for a dancer
means only one
thing...discipline."*

Dance Around Town

**Alamo City Dance Co.
presents "A SASPA
Spooktacular", October
25, 5 & 7 p.m.**

Virginia Louise Theater.
Tickets are \$5 for reserved
seating. Also featuring
SASPA Dance Co., Coming
Attractions, and Sasparillas.
There will be a carnival
between shows from 6 - 7
p.m. For tickets call (210)
495-2787.

**November Noir,
November 15**

Mystique Fusion Belly Dance
and Samara of San Antonio
present these daytime
multi-level bellydance
workshops and evening
performances. The
workshops are from 9 a.m.-
5:15 p.m. at the Radius
Cafe, 106 Auditorium Circle.

**San Antonio Metropolitan
Ballet's "Cinderella",
November 22 - 23**

Choreographed by Phillip
Broomhead with stars of the
San Francisco Ballet. More
information will be posted
as it becomes available.

<http://www.sametballet.org>

Let's Dance

Meet Our Newest NISD Fine Arts Dance Teachers

Here is a peek at our newest talent.

Brandeis – Jackie Aguirre

SMU graduate, received training at The School of
American Ballet, Kirov Academy, Vlademir Marek Ballet
Academy, former dance teacher at Edgewood Fine Arts
Academy.

O'Connor – Amy Pawelek

Texas State graduate, experience in teaching dance to
students with special needs, former dance teacher at
Belton High School.

Stevens – Candice Miller

St. Mary's Univ. graduate, former Walt Disney Dancer,
former English teacher at Stevens HS.

Warren – Angela Pina

Graduate of Southwest Texas State, member of the
Orchesis Modern Dance Club, former Harlendale
director and former SW Texas Strutter.

Marshall – Katie Smith

Texas State graduate, former Captain of the Texas
State Strutters, former pep squad director at Churchill
HS.

Future Agenda

Fine Arts Dance Meeting

Continuing to build a program is a group effort. It is no easy task and
often takes time and energy, but in the end all of our students will
benefit. Therefore, mark your calendars for our following
meetings/workshops and don't forget to bring your notebooks. Topics
include preparations for upcoming events, dance workshops, and
revising and improving the information in our dance notebook.

September 22 "Preparation for District Initiative: Winter Spectacular"

October 20

November 17

January 26

February 16

April 20

Newsletter Collaboration

Our newsletter will be created by you six times a year.
Sign up for your day of submission. Every teacher will
submit through a rotation process their information.

<p>National Dance Week April 24- May 3 Let's Plan Something Together!!</p>
--

In the Spotlight

Dianne Marks

Dianne Marks has been the director of the W. H. Taft Highsteppers for eight years, since 2000. She graduated from Texas State University (formerly Southwest Texas State University) where she was a 4 year Strutter, an officer for 2 years, and Captain as a senior. Dianne is currently completing her 18th year as a director/ dance educator. She has 18 years experience Directing Dance/ Drill Teams in the public schools, 18 years experience working with Pep Squads, and was a Cheer Director for 5 years. Dianne has instructed Dance camps, judged numerous local, regional and National level competitions (cheer and dance both) for 19 years. Dianne has been an active member of both Dance/Drill Team Directors of America and Texas Dance Educators Association for eighteen years. Dianne has served as an officer on the DTDA Executive Board for 3 years. Dianne has served as a former choreographer and chairperson for the National All Star Dance/Drill Team. She has served on staff for collegiate bowl games as well as the Neiman Marcus Adolphus Children's Parade.

Dianne has previously been named a Top Ten director in America (2003), and in 2005 was named as the #1 Nationally ranked director for Dance/Drill Team Directors of America. Dianne has led many teams to success with many 1st place titles on a consecutive basis. She is most pleased to have had a National Champion Team in 2002 and to win MA Dance National Champions in 2006. Dianne is proud that her teams have always ranked in the top 3 or above (for each category) at Nationals and at every competition attended. Dianne is an excited co-owner of the new Dance/Drill Team full service company EDC (Elite Dance Company). You are invited to check out EDC at www.edanceco.com. Dianne is the proud mother of a beautiful baby girl (and future dancer) Shaelyn Faith and has been married for 10 years to her wonderful husband Jared.

“Dance is the hidden language of the soul.”

– Martha Graham

Curtain Call - “Current and Future District Initiatives”

Future Performances / Lectures / Demonstrations

One of the greatest pleasures about working at Northside is to be able to offer our students the opportunity to showcase their talents outside of the campus as well as allow for time to meet and learn from others in their area of dance.

Winter Spectacular - Featuring all of NISD fine arts dance departments. Location: TBA

Close to the Artist - NISD will have the opportunity to bring in local dance artists to give workshops in various styles of dance.

NISD Dance Conference - Known as our old Dance Festival, students would be able to attend during the school day. They would take classes, attend lectures and exhibits.

NISD Dance Festival - NISD first arts dance competition. Each campus level of dance would present a dance in their favorite style. Judges would be from area colleges/universities and would deliver a critique and rate each individual campus level using the good/excellent/superior rating system.

Dance in the Making - Level 3 & 4 students would present and receive critique of their choreographies. Dance experts in the community would critique student's work.

NISD After School Dance - Former NISD dance students who are currently majoring in dance will have the opportunity to teach an after school dance program.

Summer Dance Camps - Two week camps presented at various elementary schools.

Welcome to the World of Dance - Campuses will present pieces from their end of the year recitals to a district audience.

Other: Performance through the year at Art Fest and Los Leones.

Dance & Technology Classical Ballet Technology Assignment Submitted by Julie Gardner-Shore

Daily Lesson Plan Ballet Unit

Course: Dance I

Unit & Topic: Ballet: The Ultimate Ballet Company

General Goal:

- The students will learn basic ballet history, terminology and technique.
- The students will be able to appreciate ballet as an art form and understand biographies of Ballet performers.

Objectives:

- The students will research a specific aspect of ballet and formulate a report on their subject. This is done to increase students research and reporting skills, as well as to acquaint them with various details of ballet.
- The students will be incorporating technology into this lesson by creating their own websites.
- The students will learn the important skills of communication with others in a group setting.

TEKS Addressed:

- The student is expected to communicate using appropriate anatomical and dance terminology in their projects. (2A)

Anticipatory Set:

- 2 min. Class will meet in the computer lab, tell the class to begin research project. Before class starts go over rules of lab and class expectations while in the lab.

Input & Guided Practice:

- Teacher will redirect students off task and help with questions regarding the project.
- Students will present their websites to the class for a verbal presentation grade as well as a content grade.

Closure:

Remind the students to meet in the lab again tomorrow

Materials Needed:

Computer lab

Student Handouts and Rubric can be downloaded off of Julie Gardner-Shore CMS.



NISD Dance
Fine Arts Dance Department Newsletter
Fine Arts Department
5651 Grissom Road
San Antonio, Texas 78251

Phone:
(210) 397-8814

Fax:
(210) 706-7260

E-mail your submission to:
Elizabeth.Sanchez-Lopez@nisd.net

“The dance teacher not only sets up the situation and suggests the material to be explored, but through suggestion and questions opens up a world of possibilities to be experienced by the child.

.... The teacher therefore acts as guide rather than director.” –J. Russell
