

# Minutes for Sept 2016 Open Board Meeting

Sun Sept 18, 2016 at 7pm & 7:30 Open at the Studio | Attendees: Jackie Drennan, Toni Loschiavo (dial in), Erin Drennan, Randi Katzman. Parent Advisors to the Board: Milagros Cruz, Kathy Garcia, Rachel Leo, Nina Marten

“We just wanted to extend a huge thank you to all of the parents at the open board meeting last night! We are going to have a great year with a lot of amazing events, productions and classes. We would not be able to get it all done with out everyone pitching in. We are so grateful!” – Ms Erin

Upcoming board meeting for November – set for November 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm at Savoy Tavern in Merrick.

Capital Fund Plans -offset cost of snow costumes and other Nutcracker scenery needs.

**Review of Nutcracker ticket policy** for parents with children in multiple shows and decided to offer a ‘run’ price of \$60 for families buying tickets to all three shows. 15% off groups of 15 or more. 15% off senior citizen groups. \$10 tickets for girl scout troop members.

**Assessment Day:** Plan next assessment date and open house will be Saturday, Dec 17<sup>th</sup> from 1:30-3:30 and students must sign up to be tested in advance.

**ABT Curriculum Review** and Implementation Review and voted in favor of keeping our original syllabus.

**2016 2017 Fundraising:** Gala plan for auction 2017: Designate Date and Committees – will hold our first gala meeting on November 10<sup>th</sup> after closed board meeting. Asked people to email [misserin@integralballet.com](mailto:misserin@integralballet.com) if interested in volunteering to be on the gala planning committee. Decided to stick with La Piazza for this year’s spring auction and gala and go with Parisian theme.

Everyone liked the idea of a Paint Night with Diane Noto for a Fall Fundraiser on either November 19<sup>th</sup> or December 10<sup>th</sup>. Planning for 20-25 attendees with BYOW. Will include info to parents in next email blast. Paint night will offset costs of new snow costumes for older corps.

**2016-2017 School Year policies review:** withdrawal policies and registration forms were reviewed and OK’ed.

**2016-2017 Calendar Finalization.** We reviewed important dates for the upcoming school year and will add the pre-Nut performance at Nathan Hale, the open house and assessment date, the paint night, the gala and other finalized dates this week to the website calendar.

**Integral Ballet vista print calendars** for sale at Nutcracker boutique were reviewed and approved to sell for \$20 per piece. Ms Erin will edit photos and make changes once portrait files are received from Stacy and add an Integral Ballet and staff bio section.

Nutcracker Review: Update on Auditions/Cast size/Date change for performance for 2016

Booster submission date for Nutcracker program reviewed: Submit by Nov 1.

Reviewed system for backstage volunteering/ticketing for parents with children in multiple shows. Added side door ushers to backstage volunteer needs. Oct 10 rehearsal date set as costuming fitting day:

Jeana, Kathy and Deanna will be available to assist with fittings and tagging costumes. A volunteer sign up sheet for each performance will be on the front credenza for people to sign up.

**Scholarship Applications for 2016-2017** school year/2017 Spring Semester: We currently have 17 of 150 students on scholarship, work study or financial aid. Reviewed scholarship/work study application process and reminded families to submit applications the semester prior.

**Reviewed the Freeport Rec Centre & Project Plié** programs which will continue through the 2016-2017 school year as is.

**Introduce new parent advisors to the board-** Nina Marten and Milagros Cruz.

**Field Trip Planning-** Jaclyn Houseknecht and Rachel Leo volunteered to help with the field trip planning. The studio will include info in the next email blast and Jaclyn will be the point of contact for parents to sign up. Rachel will RSVP a pre or post show lunch at PJ Clarkes.

**2015-2016 Fundraising** allowed us to purchase our third and last Nutcracker backdrop – a used Land of Sweets in the style of the one we rented last year and got great feedback on. We also purchased one of the snow machines and are renting another for a more robust snow scene. Besides a pointe snow corps and new professional 7 piece bodice/4 layer tutus - Our next major project will be the growing tree. We are going to save it for 2017 and hopefully not drop the tree on another Clara this year by making some tweaks to the musical cues of one tree exiting and one coming on. We also will be making a sled and incorporating adult Victorian costumes for parent roles in the party scene.

**Les Mis Auditions** will take place Jan 8<sup>th</sup>. We will have separate fall and spring semester 'company' participation as long as dancers are maintaining and meeting their class requirements prior to auditioning.

**Recital Planning and Backstage policies** – reviewed new security measures in place at Brookside and discussed how to plan ahead for dress rehearsal portraits and signing in. Ms Erin will remind parents via the recital info packet to arrive 15 minutes prior to cast call to sign in. Parents will not be allowed to remain in the backstage area during the performance as usual. No men permitted in the dressing room area. Students from pre-ballet through higher levels must remain backstage for the duration of the 2 hour show. Tots may be picked up to leave, may sit with their parents in theater (with a paid ticket) or may remain backstage with their class chaperone. Barricades will be set up around the backstage dressing room door to alleviate burdens on the volunteers watching the door.