



Bella DANCE ACADEMY

DANCE NOTES | APRIL & MAY 2020

VOLUME 16, ISSUE NINE

From the Directors



We can hardly believe that it is almost May, and that we have all experienced such an unpredictable month. We hope everyone is healthy and safe, and that dancers are finding joy in their online classes.

We've been so incredibly impressed with the effort of our staff, students and dance families in making distance learning the best it can be!

Being in the studio without students is definitely a unique experience. Buildings can be built and furnished, but it is very clear that it is the human element that brings a space to life and makes it thrive. Please know that the studio is not the same without you and we miss each and every one of you. Like you, our faculty has quickly come to realize it is not just the learning and classroom interactions we value, but also the many shared experiences, personal connections, and social connectedness we often take for granted. We hope that this time away will bring more appreciation for our dance

community and beyond. While we do miss you at the studio, we are so extremely grateful to have the opportunity to connect with you each week through BDA Online Classes.

There have been ups and downs, but we are here, and we are dedicated to finishing the season strong for our students, staff and community.

A HUGE thank you to our leadership team and teaching faculty – you stepped up to an unimaginable challenge and went all in to make this happen for our students and each other! Thank you for adapting so quickly, keeping an open mind and providing a seamless transition to this new teaching platform.

To our students and studio families – we are beyond thankful for your support, encouragement and flexibility! We hope you feel the love and energy that has been poured into our online classrooms and lesson plans – you have an army of people supporting you (and cheering for you!) not just now, but always.

We don't just teach dance – we teach resilience, compassion and kindness, promote strength and forgiveness, breed courage and confidence and provide a safe space for our dancers to blossom into their very own best and tomorrow's leaders. We connect students with peers, who become friends for life, and with teachers who become lifelong mentors. We build community – this month has proven that even when we are not together, our bond

is as strong as family, and even though we are not at the studio, dance will always be a second home.

While there is so much that we do not know in this ever-changing environment, we DO know this...

1. Our teachers are going to continue to show up and show out for your kids in our weekly classes and activities (which go until June 5th)!
2. We are going to honour our graduates in a special way!
3. We are going to continue to make prudent decisions that prioritize the safety and health of our staff, students, and community-at-large.
4. We will continue to adapt and we will get through this together.
5. Because of your support, our studio will be here for the kids today... and we will be here when the day comes that we can see each other again in person.

In the meantime, we THANK YOU for your ongoing support for our staff and our students as we seek to continue to be an anchor of familiarity and community at this time.

**Thank you
for being here
with us.**

With love and gratitude,

Miss Phoenix & Miss Lina



As of Monday, March 30th, we jumped right back into our (*slightly condensed*) 2019/2020 season schedule through BDA ONLINE.

Classes are streamed live via Zoom, and our Google Classrooms are filled with a TON of amazing bonus material to keep our students happy, healthy and safe while waiting for things to bounce back in our community.

All BDA Students will continue to have access to:

- Weekly live streamed classes and continued choreography
- Correction & connection time with teachers
- Time to check in with classmates, see familiar faces and friends
- Storytimes with Miss Phoenix
- Pop up classes and family dance parties
- Links to national free content
- A CLI Online Studio registration opportunity
- Opportunities for optional one-on-one instruction with our teachers and other national guests artists

MOVING FORWARD - Our new BDA Online will run for the remainder (**until Saturday, June 5th**) or until we are able to resume in person classes.

Our year-end performance will be reschedule and re-imagined as needed! Stay tuned for the updated plan!



STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Janessa Henderson

Congratulations Janessa! You are so very deserving of this special recognition! Janessa has been dancing with Bella for 12 years. She has taken many classes over the years - Ballet, Jazz, Tap, Musical Theatre, Leaps, Jumps & Turns, Contemporary, Modern, Pointe and more! Janessa has danced in a Disneyland Parade, on a Broadway stage and has been a member of the Bella Beats Dance Troupe since 2014. Most recently, Miss Janessa became a member of the BDA faculty and is currently teaching Broadway Babies, Tap, and leading our Spring 9 Week Session Classes.

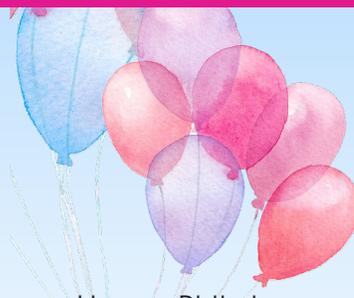
As a student, Janessa is described as a kind, helpful, and hardworking dancer. She always comes to class prepared and with a positive attitude. She's always willing to try new steps and works hard to challenge herself each and every day.

Janessa is an exemplary student, an incredible role model for her peers and inspiring mentor for her students. We are so thankful to have the opportunity to work with Janessa as a student, performer, competitive dancer and as part of our faculty!

Janessa says that her favourite thing about being at the studio "is the sense of family you get when you go there! Between the loving faculty, the excitement of the students, the supportive parents and my amazing dance team, it truly has turned into my second home!"

Congratulations Janessa! We are so happy that BDA is your home away from home and so grateful that you are part of our BDA family and faculty!

Happy Birthday!

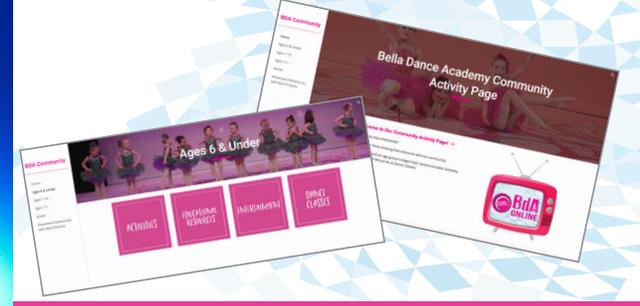


Happy Birthday to you, Happy Birthday to you, Happy Birthday

Miss Phoenix, Simone and Miss Ally,

Happy very special spring birthday to you!

We hope you both have an amazing birthday filled with sunshine, smiles and birthday cake! Happy Birthday!



BELLA BEATS COMPETITION TEAM

A HUGE shout out to our Bella Beats Competition Team for a very successful weekend at **Summit Elite Dance Challenge** on Vancouver Island last month!

The team danced amongst some very talented performers, studios and performance companies and were FABULOUS! We are so proud of the BDA team – staff and students and forever thankful for our dance family and the ongoing support of the YK community! Congratulations to everyone!

Thank you to all of our dancers, dance families, BDA instructors, choreographers, chaperones, and instructors for their ambition, creativity, hard work, support and passion! We are so proud and can't wait to head back to the competition world!

To see detailed competition results, please visit our **Parent Information Group on Facebook**. You will be so impressed – they were amazing – danced so beautifully and placed so well amongst tough competition! (Can you tell we are proud?!?)



BDA COMMUNITY PAGE

Looking for fun ways to stay entertained?

We have published a Community Activity Page (<https://sites.google.com/view/bda-communitypage>) for YOU!

This website has tons of great ways to stay entertained, with games, activities, educational resources and dance classes for all ages! Please share it with all of your friends and family!

Let's get everyone dancing!

CALLING ALL 10 & 15 YEAR BDA DANCERS!



Have you been dancing with Bella for 10 or 15 consecutive seasons?

We have a list drafted, but we want to ensure we have everyone!!

If you starting dancing with us during our 2010/2011 season (Under The Big Top was our year-end theme), and you have been dancing ever since – please email Miss Lina (lina@belladance.ca) to ensure you are on the list!

Thank You!!!

SATURDAY NIGHT MOVIE NIGHT

Jump into your jammies, grab your popcorn and snuggle up to with your family – Saturday Night is MOVIE NIGHT with Bella Dance!

Watch our Facebook page for the Movie of the Week (or choose one you can't wait to see!) and send us a photo of your family movie night!

A fun way to participate in a community activity together, from our own homes!



WE ARE HIRING!!

**Do you love working with kids?
Do you want to make a difference?**

Bella Dance Academy is currently looking for energetic individuals to join our dynamic team. Please check out our website (www.belladance.ca/careers) for more information on how to apply for the following positions:

Dance Instructor (2020/2021 season)

Office Manager/Director of First Impressions

Application deadline: Monday, May 4th

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Coming Soon

**Year End Photos
Year End Celebration
Student Appreciation
Early Bird Summer Registration
2020/2021 Fall Registration**

We will be setting dates and releasing more information on all of our upcoming dates by mid-May.

Thank you for your patience as we navigate these uncertain times.

COVID-19

If you have a small business, please let us know how we can support you.

If you know someone who depended on schools for breakfast and lunch, or an elderly person who needs supplies please email or phone Miss Lina or Miss Phoenix.

We will do what we can to stand in the gap. We are all in this together.



A huge shout out to our Ballet/Pointe C Class!!

We've had perfect attendance for all 4 weeks of our virtual classes so far! These dancers have such a positive and hardworking approach to every class; what great leaders they are for the studio.

