

## Studio Construction Progress

Building continues... The building itself is nearing completion as the roof, windows, walls and some doors of our studio space are all done. Painting the building itself and finishing things like the electrical box, front doors and the parking lot are all that is left to be done.

The current completion time is mid-June! Then after a couple of months to set up the inside we should be in our new home.

Also 203rd Street and 97th Ave are both open to the public at this time so take a drive by if you have time!

You can see the latest photos of what's happening at [dancingfordessert.ca/future-home.htm](http://dancingfordessert.ca/future-home.htm).



## Emily's Dance Paper

Many of you noticed that we had an observer at our parties for the last few months. Emily Lam is a student at Trinity Western University who asked us if she could observe our school for an ethnography paper on Ballroom Dancing. We thought that would be alright with us.

After many dances, numerous interviews, and hours and hours of note-taking, Emily has completed her paper and has been kind enough to share it with us. You can find it on our website under the News tab. Thanks to everyone who made her experience with us such a good one!



## Etiquette Tips Personal Hygiene

Ballroom Dancing is certainly one of the finer things in life, and sound personal hygiene helps keep the finer things fine.

Clean clothes,  
Clean bodies and  
Clean breath are the 3 key C's.

On a related note summer is coming and warm weather is on the way. And while dancing is great exercise and a good way to work up a sweat it is always important to be considerate of your partners.

If you sweat a lot consider a change of shirt at a long party on a hot night. Also a small towel can be a handy accomplice.



## Peer Teaching

Please note that it is NOT ok for any student to offer unsolicited advice to their fellow students at any time. This holds true no matter what level either student is in.

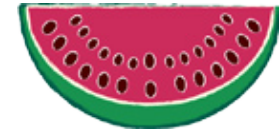
While dance advice is usually offered with the best intentions it is rarely well received. At best this type of advice is tolerated. At worst it is hurtful, condescending, disruptive and counterproductive.

The best policy in all learning situations is to listen to the teacher and focus on how *you* could be better. Consider that the very best dancers are those who can make things work with any partner. If you are having specific problems with specific partners please let us know.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. For more etiquette tips visit: [www.dancingfordessert.ca/etiquette.htm](http://www.dancingfordessert.ca/etiquette.htm)

# DancingforDessert

## SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2009



# THANK YOU!

Thank you so much for your tremendous response to our recent questionnaire! We really appreciate both the positive comments and the constructive criticism as well.

Based on your input and our own ideas we will certainly be implementing some changes as we transition into our new location. We will keep you updated.

If you haven't had a chance to fill in a questionnaire, or you have more ideas to share, please let us know. We are always interested in what you have to say.

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[www.dancingfordessert.ca](http://www.dancingfordessert.ca)

## Harrison Hot Springs

Saturday June 27th

Our 4th annual trip to Harrison Hot Springs is set for June 27th! Our dinner reservation is for 6:30.

This event is a lot of fun and includes a delicious meal, lots of general dancing and a great show as well.

If you have not received an invitation please let us know. We would love to see you there!

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

### Changes to Rumba Syllabus

Starting in the late May intro classes we will be introducing some important changes to our Rumba program. Most obviously we will begin using the side or 'alternate' basic as our new basic step. We will continue to teach the Box Rumba, but not as a part of our core Rumba program.

On the whole we are excited that this change will streamline our syllabus and make learning the Rumba more relational with our Cha Cha and Salsa Steps.

Please keep in mind that both the box and side basic styles are widely taught and widely danced. Furthermore, almost all of the steps that we teach at any level work with either basic.

All of our upcoming Rumba classes will include instruction on how to apply these changes to your own dancing. Enjoy!

## Spring Showcase

Tuesday, May 26th. 8 - 10 pm. Tickets: \$10

Please join us for our 2nd Annual Spring Showcase! Here is a look at the evening's festivities.

### 8:30 Student Solos Routines

**9:00 Jack and Jill Competition - Semi Final**  
(We are still accepting registrations for this event)

### 9:15 Jack & Jill Competition - Final

### 9:45 Professional Show

A great performance is never as good without a rowdy, appreciative audience. Clap and cheer with gusto and don't forget to shout your favorite couple's number during the Jack and Jill Competition! Guests are welcome to this event so invite your other favorite people to come along and enjoy the evening. It's going to be a ball!

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**Please note** that we do not allow videotaping of *any* live performance at any of our school events.



A dance performance is meant to be enjoyed live, with all of the energy, intensity and emotionality that goes along with that. On top of that the possibility of ending up on YouTube is an uncomfortable idea for many people.

We do videotape all performances in-house and provide individual performers with a copy of their own dancing. All other video recording is prohibited at all times.

Thank you very much for your cooperation :)



## GROUP CLASS LEARNING TIP

We strive to balance our classes with equal numbers of men and ladies. However, it is normal in any dance school that many classes won't have perfect numbers.

If you find you're dancing solo please place yourself between two couples so that you get a partner next time and see this as a great *opportunity* to practice the steps by yourself for an even greater understanding of how they work. If you can dance a step by yourself then you are on balance and have ownership of the foot positions, rhythm and alignments of the step. Ultimately this will make you a better dancer, and a more sought-after partner.

In fact it is likely that in the future we will introduce some form of progress check to ensure that students who want to progress into a new level can dance the basic figures of the previous levels on time, by themselves.

## Party Music!

We are very open to suggestions for music at our parties. If you have songs you would love to hear send us an email with your ideas!

## Dance Wisdom!

"First come the sweat and the tears, then comes the glory." -Nureyev