

Commonwealth Society of Teachers of Dancing

President-Diane Gepp B.Ed. Dip,Teach,CSTD Theatrical, Tap, Classical, Highland
Patron - Her Excellency Lady Cosgrove



EST. 1933

infoDANCE



To Encourage

To Educate

To Express

To Enjoy

For Over 80 Years

From the President



For many of you exams are over and it's concert time! On behalf of the Society I would like to congratulate everyone involved in exam sessions in Victoria, South Australia, N.S.W, Western Australia and Queensland. All these States have had exams in the past 3 months and to organizers, teachers, students and parents our thanks for taking on this exciting, challenging and rewarding experience. Students learn a great deal from the examination experience

Exams help to give the student a **wonderful feeling of accomplishment** and **satisfaction** in knowing they are improving each year. It also gives them a **reward in the form of medal, trophy or certificate** to show for all their hard work. Dance exams help to develop confidence in performance, a key to a successful dancer. They also help to teach life skills. There are always pressured times in life and gaining experience and a sense of achievement through the examination process helps to prepare children for some of the challenges life might present. The CSTD exam system helps to reward achievement and adds educational value for future generations of dancers.

CSTD has a very proud history but more importantly a bright and exciting future. We are committed to providing dance that is relevant for the 21st Century. This year we have introduced our new Pre School program Come Dance With Me, our new Theatrical and Performing Arts syllabus, released updates in our Modern Jazz, released the next CSTD Jason Winters Contemporary Technique level and are preparing our new progressive grades ballet music composed by Mr Michael Brett which will be available by the end of October. We also welcomed to the international stage at the APDC 2015 Thailand, our very first Australian competitors.

CSTD JOINS SOCIAL MEDIA



CSTD is excited to announce that we have moved into the SOCIAL MEDIA space. This month we have launched our new Facebook page *The Commonwealth Society of Teachers of Dancing*.

We also have Twitter and Instagram accounts @CSTDdance.

We have new videos in both spaces and each will feature information and photos related to all our activities.

Each week we will feature several of the photos taken at the Perth Competitions and Queensland & Victorian Festivals. Keep watching to see if your students appear.

If your CSTD students are doing something special either in your studio or on the big stage please send your photos, info and taglines to cstd@gmail.com

Barbara Lynch CSTD Treasure

Barbara started life on a sheep station with her parents Josie and Peter. She went to boarding school in Deniliquin about 50 miles away. Barbara and her mother hated the separation and eventually she was home schooled by her mother until the family moved to Preston when Peter joined the Navy.

At 9 years of age Barbara saw a girl doing cartwheels and told her mum she wanted to dance. Barbara danced at Jenny Brenan and Lena Shugg schools being introduced to the Royal South Street Competitions. Barbara also trained in the Borovansky method and under Martin Rubenstein who began her training as a teacher. She improved her tapping with Olive Wallace. CSTD saw Barbara appear as a competitor at the age of 13 and in adult life as a CSTD teacher. Barbara has won the Troupe Aggregate 13 years in a row and has won the Aggregate in total 24 times, teaching many Aggregate and Grand Aggregate winners. Her students were always well disciplined on and off the stage and costumes were immaculate. Barbara's concerts were held in such venues as Her Majesty's Theatre, The Princess, Comedy and with a special grant from the Pratt Foundation held a concert at the Melbourne Concert Hall. In the latter years concerts were at Crown.

Barbara has been teaching for almost 70 years with successful students performing in productions with the Australian Ballet, in musical theatre doing 42nd Street, West side Story, A Chorus Line, Cats and countless others. Her dedication to the art has helped promote CSTD to be one of the elite competitions in Victoria.

Barbara, you certainly are a living CSTD treasure, thank you from the Executive Committee, Comp Committee, fellow teachers and friends that witnessed all your achievements.



Major Ballet Uniforms Compulsory for Exams from 2016

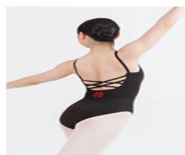
Further to our advice regarding Major Ballet uniforms in the August Infodance and the website:
please make any enquiries, regarding prices, styles and orders via email to :

dancepress@bigpond.com or in person at danceXpress Ballet Shop Unit 1/15 Halley Rd BALCATT

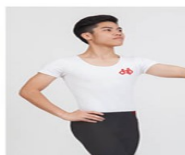
Australia Majors



UNF0041AF
Australia Majors
Leotard Design F (Female)
Half Double Front
Available in:
Cotton Black



UNF0041AG
Australia Majors
Leotard Design G (Female)
Double Front
Available in:
Cotton Black



UNF0041AD
Australia Progressive and
Foundation Grade/Majors
Leotard Design D (Male)
Available in:
Cotton White



UNF0041AH
Australia Majors Tights (Boys)
Available in:
Cotton Black

Professional Development

Many of you have paid your subscriptions, attached your relevant PD and will now have received your financial membership certificate and card. Thank you for doing so in such a timely manner.

In some cases the PD requirement has not been clearly understood so I hope these points clarify it for everyone.

Professional Development is an essential requirement in all industries and helps provide a safe, technically sound studio for parents and students.

For the 2105/16 year any PD undertaken in the past 18 months counts for this year. However you must **attach the certificate as evidence to your subscription form.**

PD undertaken in syllabus work from other Societies DOES NOT qualify for this CSTD requirement.

Workshops and courses undertaken in allied areas, such as child development, theatre technical skills, business management will all be considered on application and presentation of evidence of attendance or attainment.

Participation in the ADI Certificate IV course is also recognized as PD.

First Aid certification will be recognized once every two years. That is you cannot use it two years in a row as the PD requirement. It must also have been achieved within 12months of the subscriptions being due?

The President understands and is sympathetic to extraordinary cases. Life is complicated and where there are extenuating circumstances please put it in an email and it will be considered.

What if I haven't done PD?

For the 2015/16 year if you have not completed any PD and still want to enter candidates for exams you will be required to pay a \$40.00 administration fee and you must attend a PD before you can enter candidates for exams. Your State organizer cannot accept entries unless you have completed this requirement.

I didn't know I had to attend a PD

CSTD has published the PD requirement in newsletters, at teachers meetings and as a memorandum from State Organisers since April 2014. It has been discussed in nearly all newsletters this year and therefore all teachers have had a great deal of notice.

Please refer to your State Organiser for course and workshop dates for 2016, these will also be available on our website under news and events.

VIC -	Lauren Downie	beg93401@bigpond.net.au
QLD -	Helen Twist	helen_twist@hotmail.com
NSW -	Sharin Jessop	majesticpaa@mac.com
SA -	Lynda Purkis	edad_lynda@live.com.au
WA -	Debbie McRitchie	deanco@upnaway.com
	Marilyn Fisher	danceexpress@iinet.au

The Leslie. P. Newman Award

In our last newsletter we announced the inauguration of the Leslie. P. Newman Award for Service to CSTD. I received nominations for Executive members, Examiners, State organizers and in one case posthumous, all very very worthy nominees, however after careful consideration it was decided in it's inaugural year it should go to someone who is at the grass roots of this Society someone who epitomizes all we wish to promote in our teachers and who has been part of the CSTD for a significant time. The inaugural winner of the award for contribution and service to CSTD was GAIL MEADE. Ms. Meade has given enormous support to CSTD at a grass roots level, her integrity and humility are without question.

Gail started her dance training at the age of 2 years with Shirley Halliday and this is her 45th year of teaching. Gail was the first person in WA to obtain the prestigious Blue Sash Award which was presented to her by our founder Miss Dorothy Gladstone. Gail went on to teach for Miss Halliday choreographing stage and television work and toured with the Borovansky ballet company before opening her own school in 1969. Today she has over 500 students attending The Gail Meade Performing Arts Centre. As a prominent figure in the studio Gail oversees the classes run by her competent staff. Gail has 3 daughters all of whom have had successful dance careers and been involved with the CSTD, right through to achieving their Blue Sash with Supreme pass.

Deanne Smith and Renee Davey, two of Gail's daughters are currently CSTD Examiners. Both have examined and adjudicated overseas, which Gail has also done on behalf of our Society and conducted workshops and Summer schools in Singapore, Thailand and Canada. Gail always readjusts her tight studio timetable to allow the girls the time required to fulfil these commitments.

Gail has trained students who have gone on to open their own dance studios and are also now members of CSTD along with many students performing professionally around the globe. During her 45 years of running her own studio Gail has entered over 50 CSTD Teacher Certificates and Diplomas and was the first school in Australia to enter students for Premier Danseur of whom all five were successful in the first year of this exam. Gail also prepared the dancer who appears on our Premier Danseur syllabus video. This is our most prestigious ballet award and Gail has entered the most of these in any of our centers throughout the world.

Graduated GMPAC students have been accepted into many of the world's leading dance companies and professional dance arenas. Gail's quiet and unassuming manner has made her a very popular teacher with the reputation of both professional excellence and an inviting sense of courtesy and humour.

Gail epitomizes the qualities Michael Newman spoke about in his presentation speech and which feature on the trophy, **discipline, integrity, passion for dance.**



PROGRESSIVE GRADES ALTERNATE MUSIC RELEASED

You have been waiting for it!

The new Progressive Grades Music (Alternate music) is now available in 2 x CD Roms Grades 1-3 & 4-6 \$49.95 per CD Rom. The current music for grades 1-6 can still be used until the end of 2018.

MODERN JAZZ GRADES 5 & 6 NEW MUSIC RELEASED

New music has been written for the Modern Jazz grades 5 & 6 and will be available for purchase in 2016. Grades 7 & 8 will be updated in 2017.

Welcome to our new Members

Robert McClellan	Affiliate	QLD
Cassy Lee	Affiliate	QLD
Kendall Lane	Affiliate	QLD
Samantha Weston	Affiliate	QLD
Danielle Spaseski	Affiliate	WA



We warmly welcome you to the Society



Election of Executive Committee

The following members were elected to the committee for 2015/16.

President	Mrs D Gepp	(2yrs)
Vice President	Mrs S. Breen	(2yrs)
Hon. Treasurer	Ms C. Evans	(2yrs)

The following general Executive Committee members still have 1 year remaining of their elected term:

Mrs. S. Alback, Miss L. Downie, Miss. C. Boots, Mrs. J. Richards, Mrs. M. Fisher,
Mr. I. Clifton-Shanhun, Mrs. M. Shanks.

We thank them for their ongoing commitment and service to the Society.