



NEWSLETTER



The latest news and updates from Academy Of Dance HK



IN THIS ISSUE:

REFLECTION ON 2020:

- ANNUAL SHOW
 - COMPETITIONS
 - EXAMS
 - ONLINE CLASSES
 - WHAT'S NEW
-

PLANS FOR 2021

- EXAMS
 - _ ANNUAL SHOW
 - _ SUMMER
-

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

REFLECTION ON 2020

What a year 2020 was! Our teachers and students have shown how adaptable they are and have continued dancing throughout it all! We couldn't be prouder of our students taking classes online to make sure they keep up with their dancing, ready for when we could return to the studio! Lets have a look back on the year to see just what the Academy of Dance family have accomplished!

Annual Show

We started off 2020 with a bang with our annual show 'Story Of My Life'. Our students of all ages showcased their talents in Hip Hop, Jazz, Ballet and Contemporary. A big thank you to our parent volunteers who helped on our show days!



Online Classes

By February, HK was hit by Covid 19 and our online journey began. We made our transition into online classes and our teachers and students showed their determination to keep dancing! Our teachers learnt how to move classes online and our dancers unlocked new skills as we learnt our exam syllabuses and focused on our strength and technique. Thank you to all of our dance families for supporting your children into online dance classes!

What's New

- In 2020 we began our first ever Pointe class ran by our Head Ballet Teacher, Miss Marina. Our students were so excited to get their first ever pointe shoes, we can't wait to see the progress in the class this year!
- Taking payments by Autopay (thank you to the families who have signed up to pay by this method, it saves us so much admin work!)
- We began our End of Term Awards, which is recognition from our teachers to students they feel made a big effort during a term.



Competitions

We have still managed to have a great 2020 for competitions. Sadly we couldn't enter our troupes this year but we did welcome new soloists. Whenever we could, we were in the studios creating solos and polishing! We took part in 4 competitions which were held by video entry, in person and zoom. A big congratulations to all of our competition entries, we are so proud of you continuing to push yourselves and your dancing! Check out our next page for a list of our 2020 results.



Aspire Global Dance Challenge July 2020

- Aidan Jazz Solo: Boys Solo 1st Place, Novice Solo 1st Place
- Kezia Hip Hop Solo: 14 & under 2nd Place
- Tasia Hip Hop Solo: 10 & under 1st Place
- Charlotte Jazz Solo: 14 & under 1st Place

Hong Kong (Asia) Choreography & Solo Competition 2020

- Carmela Jazz Solo: 6 & under 1st Place
- Tansey Jazz Solo: 7 & under 1st Place
- Aidan Jazz Solo: 8 & under 2nd Place
- Charlotte Jazz Solo: 13 & under 1st Place
- Kezia Jazz Solo: 13 & under 2nd Place
- Mandy Contemporary: Contemporary Open Gold Award
- Hayley Jazz Solo - 13 & under Gold Award
- Tasia Jazz Solo - 13 & under Gold Award
- Kezia and Tasia Hip Hop Duo - Small Group Gold Award

Hong Kong Challenge Cup Christmas Entry 2020

- Aidan Jazz Solo: 7-9 years Gold Award & Best Performer in Jazz Junior Division
- Hayley Jazz Solo: 13-15 years Gold Award & Best Performer in Jazz Senior Division
- Carmela Jazz Solo: 4-6 years Silver Award
- Tansey Jazz Solo: 7-9 years Silver Award
- Charlotte Jazz & Lyrical Solo: 10-12 years Gold Award for both
- Nathania, Charlotte & Tasia Jazz Trio: 10-12 years Gold Award
- Kezia Hip Hop Solo: 13-15 years Silver Award
- Tasia Hip Hop Solo: 10-12 years Silver Award
- Kassidi Lau Hip Hop Solo: 13-15 years Silver Award
- Nathania Jazz Solo: 10-12 years Silver Award
- Kezia & Tasia Hip Hop Duo: 13-15 years Bronze Award
- Mandy Lyrical Solo: 13-15 years Bronze Award

Get The Beat 2020

- Hayley Jazz Solo: 12 & Under Diamond Score
- Kezia & Tasia Hip Hop Duo: 13 & Under 2nd Place Platinum Score
- Tasia Jazz Solo: 10 & Under Platinum Score / Hip Hop Solo: 3rd place, Double Platinum Score
- Kezia Jazz Solo: 13 & Under Platinum Score / Hip Hop Solo: 3rd place Platinum Score
- Charlotte, Nathania & Tasia Jazz Trio - 11 & Under 3rd place Double Platinum Score
- Charlotte Jazz Solo: 11 & Under Double Platinum Score / Lyrical Solo: Double Platinum Score
- Nathania Jazz Solo: 11 & Under Double Platinum Score
- Mandy Lyrical Solo: 15-19 Years Double Platinum Score
- Tansey Jazz Solo: 6 & Under Double Platinum Score
- Aidan Jazz Solo: 8 & Under Platinum Score
- Carmela Jazz Solo: 5 & Under Platinum Score



Exams 2020

After a few postponements we held our annual APDA examinations in November 2020 by video entry. We had our highest ever marks to date and we couldn't be more proud of students hard work in learning and working on their exam syllabuses. Special well done to Riley Liu and Cassidy Kao who were awarded 'Top Mark' award for gaining the highest mark in their examination grade level worldwide! Eight more of our students also received 'Top Tier' award for gaining one of the top four marks in their examination grade level worldwide. A big thank you to our parent volunteers for helping out on our exam weekend and working with us to make it run as smoothly as possible! We also had a photographer take photos of our students on this weekend, a few photos will be reshot once we are open and then these will be sent out asap!

Plans For 2021

Examinations

We will be having our 2021 annual examinations in June by video entry, dates TBC. Anyone wanting to take part in our examinations needs to be enrolled for our full Term 3 (March 1st - June 30th 2021).

Show

We are hoping to plan a show for the end of 2021. This is dependent upon the Covid-19 situation in HK, and we will keep everyone updated.

Competitions

We have 4 dance competitions lined up already and we are looking forward to starting our troupe rehearsals. This year we have 5 troupes and have new solists, duos and trios!



Message From Miss Sonia, Director of Academy Of Dance

Dear Dance Family,

Wow what a year it was in 2020. I think we can all agree we faced some unexpected challenges and certainly had our fair share of stress trying to overcome the obstacles faced. However with everything in me I can truly say I have never been prouder of my Academy of Dance team of teachers, staff and the families who made this year truly inspirational. With every new challenge the motto of our team has been, let's make this a good thing.... Having a positive outlook and ability to pivot and be flexible in challenging times has given us the tools we needed to survive the pandemic and come out not just surviving, but actually thriving. Every student who has had to zoom from the discomfort of their small living rooms, thank you, every parent who has had to put up with hearing 5,6,7,8 over and over again from our teachers as we try to keep your children engaged and performing their best, thank you. Thank you to all the families who stuck in there without complaint when we have had to close due to recent outbreaks. Thank you to the staff who show up with a smile to every zoom class they were never trained to do, and who have had to learn on the job how to do their job in pandemic times. Staff who haven't been able to see their own families for over a year and still don't know when they will. Staff who have picked up the surprise gap left by me not being able to get back to Hong Kong myself and having to make the tough decision to permanently stay in New Zealand. I absolutely can not wait to get back to Hong Kong myself to see all of you and see how much everyone has grown over the past year! I hope 2021 will truly be the year we continue to shine and prove that we CAN do it, we DON'T quit and we WON'T give up our dreams. We made it through 2020 together, let's make 2021 even more memorable. Keep Dancing, with love and hugs, Miss Sonia xxx



Annual Show 'Story Of My Life'



Zoom & In Studio Classes



Competitions



Examinations

