



the school of presidio *dance* theatre

SHERENE MELANIA, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Bringing the World of Dance Into the Lives of Children™

PRESCHOOL: A NEW PROGRAM WITH NEW TEACHERS!!!!

The School of Presidio Dance Theatre offers a ballet-based international dance specialty with cultural education. The Preschool Program is designed for children ages 2.5-5 years. The curriculum is sequential and leads to entrance into the Youth Company of Presidio Dance Theatre.

Electives include one time per week choices of:

Tutu Tuesdays, Pre-Ballet

••**IT'S BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!!!!**••

In 2002, Sherene Melania, (now, Presidio Dance Theatre's Artistic Director) had recently returned from Saint Petersburg, Russia, completing a two-year ballet apprenticeship with Kirov Ballet's Mistress, Gabriella Komleva. Concurrently, Ms. Melania studied the historical classical ballets at the prestigious Saint Petersburg State Conservatory and received a Certificate for Ballet Direction Specialty and Choreographer. The archives of the Conservatory were open to her (the only American to be invited in the Conservatory's ballet program—by the Russian Ministry of Culture). This gave Sherene the unique opportunity to develop and bring to San Francisco, TUTU TUESDAYS, launched in 2003. Especially for preschoolers, TUTU TUESDAYS is a wonderful and unique introduction to ballet. Students enjoy learning the very basics of ballet, while exposed to wonderful ballets and rich classical music, little known in the USA. Each week, Ms. Courtney will teach Miss Sherene's carefully developed and age-appropriate curriculum, which focuses on the gorgeous Russian ballets of the Mariinsky Theatre including: Raymonda, Snow Maiden, Chopiniana, Fairy Doll, The Little Humpbacked Horse, Laurencia, Firebird, Sheherazade, and Fountain of Baktisserai. Students especially enjoy viewing fabulous professional tutus from the collections of Presidio Dance Theatre, created especially for PDT, by the artists and designers of the Kirov Ballet from Saint Petersburg. Students are encouraged to wear the tutus of their choice each week!

International Folk Dance & Rhythms

The dance specialty of Presidio Dance Theatre, international folk, is formatted into a class for young children, based upon the repertoire of its signature production, DANCING ACROSS CULTURES™. Students learn the national steps of a variety of countries, for example: Irish, Mexican, Russian, Chinese, to name a few. The music is from around the world and matched for each class. Children learn to understand themselves and their relationship with the world. We believe that folk dance with cultural education, enriches and enhances all areas of learning and growth.



Tap for Mommy & Me

This class is designed for young children and their Mommies who want to enjoy a class together! Each week, Miss Courtney will introduce steps and rhythms appropriate for beginner Moms and students. The class includes great stretching exercises for coordination, building rhythmic skills, and working as a group of "artists in training." Through tap, children learn about their bodies, the space around them, and each other. It's great fun and fast exercise for Moms!

Creative Movement & Music

Creative Movement is a joyful way for children to explore movement through music, develop physical skills, channel energy, stimulate imagination and promote creativity. Creative movement uses body actions to: communicate an image (the wind), communicate an idea (a journey) or communicate a feeling (strength). Young children are provided with opportunities for noncompetitive, success-oriented and creative experiences.

PRINCESS 101

••**IT'S BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!!!!**••

In 2004, Miss Sherene launched this class, named "How Does A Princess Dance?" at Presidio Dance Theatre, based on the great ballets. It was a hit! This Fall, Miss Courtney and Miss Allison re-create a wonderful morning for young children to receive performing and visual arts training. Each week, a "Princess" from the great ballets will be introduced to the

students. The students will learn about the ballet and try-out steps, see the professional Princess Costumes from the ballets from the collection of Presidio Dance Theatre, and then participate in an interesting arts/crafts workshop, based upon the featured Princess and the Ballet.

Curriculum for this class has been created by Sberene Melania, Artistic Director of Presidio Dance Theatre. Ms. Melania holds a Certificate for Ballet Direction Specialty from the Saint Petersburg State Conservatory in Russia and shortly, will complete a Masters Degree in Arts Education from Harvard University.

Pre-Ballet & Tap Combo Class

The Combo Class is designed to give young children an opportunity to be introduced to both pre-ballet and tap. Parents may leave or observe through a window into the studio. Students enjoy the exercises that lead to coordination, creative movement, and simple ballet technique. Each class also involves exercises to build rhythm and musicality. At 4 yrs, the students enter the Preparatory Classes, which continue the sequential development.

All students may perform in the spring recital in May at the Palace of Fine Arts if interested.

Leading the Preschool Program is Courtney Kiel.



PRESCHOOL CLASSES (All in Studio B)

Class	Age	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
TUTU Tuesday Pre-Ballet	2.5-3 yrs		9:45-10:30AM Kiel				
TUTU Tuesday Pre-Ballet	2.5-3 yrs		3:00-3:45PM Kiel				
MOMMY & ME Tap & All That Jazz	2.5-3 yrs		10:30-11:15AM Kiel				
International Dance and Rhythms	3-4 yrs			11:15-Noon Kiel			
Creative Movement and Music	3-4 yrs			3:00-3:45PM Kiel	9:45-10:30AM Kiel		
PRINCESS 101 Visual & Perf. Arts	3-5 yrs				10:30-Noon Taylor/Kiel		
Pre-Ballet & Tap Combo	2.5-3 yrs			10:30-11:15AM Kiel			
Pre-Ballet & Tap Combo	4-5 yrs				3:00-3:45PM Kiel		

Last updated 6/17/10

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.PRESIDIODANCE.ORG OR CALL 415 561-3958