



Photo: Sheryl McAvoy

Miller Marley

November 2014

Clara's Dream Celebrates 10 Years

For the last ten years a treasured holiday tradition has become Miller Marley's production of *Clara's Dream*. *Clara's Dream* features the artistic talents of the Miller Marley Youth Ballet, Miller Marley Youth Ballet 2, and a talented cast of guest performers. Written and choreographed by Matthew Donnell with additional staging and choreography by Artistic Director, Laura Branson, this adaptation of the classical *Nutcracker* follows Clara on a magical journey that leads to a dream-like world that exists beyond a little girl's wildest imagination. This year Miller Marley celebrates the tenth anniversary of *Clara's Dream*!

Act One will consist of *A Holiday Musical Revue* featuring the Miller Marley performance companies. Act Two consists of Miller Marley's *Clara's Dream*.

Clara's Dream will be performed on December 6th & 7th at 2:00pm & 7:00pm in the Performing Arts Center of Blue Valley North High School.

Tickets for *Clara's Dream* can be purchased on Miller Marley's new site: www.millermarley.org starting November 6th! Reserved seating tickets are available for \$12, \$18, and \$25. Everyone will need a ticket to see the show. This will include Act I performers that want to stay and watch Act II.



Watch Week!

Parents are invited into classes during Watch Week

November 3rd - 9th
Levels 1-9 (NO Combo Classes)
November 10th - 16th
All Combo Classes

A New Way to Connect for Miller Marley Families

www.millermarley.org
Launch Date: November 6

A brand new website has been designed for Miller Marley families. Much thanks to the help of Ron Wells, life at Miller Marley just got easier!

Features of this new site provide the Miller Marley community to connect online, purchase tickets for studio performances, and will eventually be set up for online enrollment and payment.

BREAKING NEWS: This year families will have the opportunity to purchase tickets for *Clara's Dream* through this website!

First thing you will want to do is register and create a free account on the website so when the tickets go on sale that step is already completed!

Have no fear there will be step-by-step instructions on the website.

Save the Date for Miller Marley's Dance Showcase!

**Saturday, May 23 &
Sunday, May 24
at 6:00 pm
At the
Historic Music Hall**



Photo: Annie Paglus

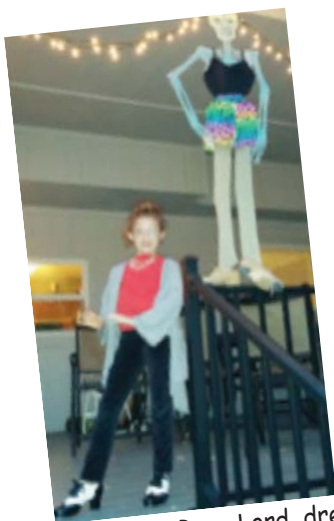


Summer Intensive Highlights

Every Summer Miller Marley Alumni return to the studio to instruct the Summer Intensive. For two weeks students have an opportunity to study from these master teachers who are out in the world of theater and dance working professionally!

Photo Credit: Vivian Nazarro

Photo: David Lord



Third Grader, Emma Rose Lord, dressed up as Ms. Shirley Marley for "Role Model Day" at her school!

Spotlight on Shirley Marley

Over the summer, maybe you noticed a camera-man walking around the studio filming bits of pieces of classes. Alumna, Shannon Durig and filmmaker, Seth Fuller, have made several trips from LA to KC to create a documentary about our very own Shirley Marley. They've interviewed staff, students, and alumni to get the full story of this remarkable woman. They plan to enter this documentary into the Kansas City Film Festival, as well as the Sundance Festival. Stay tuned for more information!

Photo: Vivian Nazzaro



MM Entertainers cheer on the KC Royals!

Tips for Getting the Most Out of Your Class

Advice from both teachers and students for making the most out of your class(es) at Miller Marley.

- 1.** Do your **PERSONAL BEST** for **YOU!** Instead of comparing yourself to others learn from them! Set goals for yourself and strive to reach them!
- 2.** Make Up Missed Classes! If you miss a class you are welcome to make up the class in your level or below! Get your money's worth and stay caught up!
- 3.** Follow the dress code! Take the extra time to wear the required dress, get your hair out of your face, and wear the proper shoes! Dress for success!
- 4.** Take every correction that is given as if the teacher was talking directly to **YOU.** A correction or critique means your teacher **CARES** and wants to help you improve!
- 5.** Love what you do and forget the politics! Have faith that your instructors know what is best. The rest will fall into place!

Performance Troupes Start a New Season

A year full of performances and a repertoire of songs and dances lie ahead for Miller Marley's performance troupes! In August, directors of each of the performance troupes sent out invitations to new members! Invitations are based on openings in the troupe, teacher recommendations based on skill and work ethic, a student's dance level, and the variety of dance classes the student takes. These troupes are a yearlong commitment, which requires each member to take a certain number of classes throughout the entire year. Congratulations to all of our new TiniTainers, MiniTainers, Show Biz Performers, and Entertainers! Miller Marley's performance troupes just finished up their fall season including shows at the Kansas City Zoo and Carolyn's Country Cousins Pumpkin Patch! They are preparing for the Holiday season with

performances planned for the first act of Clara's Dream, Union Station, and local senior living facilities!



MM TiniTainers performing at the KC Zoo
Photo: Vivian Nazzaro

Conventions & Competitions

The Junior and Senior Competition Teams will be participating in the NYCDA Convention and Competition **November 7th - November 9th!** This will be the first of many for the season. Erin Robertson & Tara Wells held auditions last spring for students, and the teams have been working hard with guest choreographers as they prepare for the upcoming competition season!



MM Jr. Competition Team
Cheer on the K.C. Royals
Photo: Erin Robertson

MM Staff Welcomes Two New Baby Girls!



Hadley Ann Corcoran
Photo Credit: Bella Baby

Julie Kennedy became a grandmother when her daughter, Melissa & Curt Corcoran welcomed Hadley Ann Corcoran (pictured left) on October 22!



Hallie Ann Branson
Photo Credit: April Mick

Laura and Kyle Branson, welcomed Hallie Ann Branson (pictured right) into their family on July 29th!

MM Alumni Update



Ryan Worsing (pictured left): *Can-Can* at Paper Mill Playhouse in New Jersey

Hayley Podschun (pictured right): *Goodspeed Opera House* in CT performing in the World Premiere of *Holiday Inn* as Lila Dixon.



Angel Reda: Victor, Victoria in Houston, TX and Chicago on Broadway.

Kaitlyn Davidson: just finished up on Broadway in Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella* and will be touring with *White Christmas* as Judy Haynes.

Lisa Karlin: National Tour of *Pippin*

Mindy Moeller: *Radio City Christmas Spectacular* as a Rockette - NYC

Laura Kaufman: Company Member in *Odyssey* Dance Theatre in Salt Lake City, Utah

Megan (Arnott) Schueller: Dancer in *Aladdin Show* at Disneyland

Rachel Thomas: Resident Artist Broadway Under the Stars Transcendence Theater Company in Sonoma, CA.

Cassiday (Proctor) Capello: Morning radio personality on *Drex & Manny Show* on KISS 95.1 in Charlotte, NC

Kandice Kingsley: Professional Dancer at Bloc Talent Agency in Los Angeles, CA

Janine DiVita: *Evita* in *Evita* at Engeman Theater- NY

Theater/Dance Programs & College Dance Teams:

Classy Cats:

Brittany Rouse (pictured bottom right)

Rock Chalk Dancers:

Lindsey Mehlin & Cora Schimke

NYU:

Kyle Mullins (Graduate Program) & Gabbie Fried (Undergraduate)

Oklahoma City University:

Noelle Bradley, Ally Garton, Lauren Mylin, & Alex Peterson

University of Oklahoma: Ashley Coffin

AMDA, NY: Andrew Thompson

University of Arizona:

Ryan Dervin & Mitch McCroskey

Hope College in Holland, MI:

Jenna Wetzell & Nathan Rommel

University of Kansas:

Krisa Farrington & Mikaela Morgan



Photo: Tracy Oxler