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August 25, 2009

MEMO

To:
From: Carol Bartlett, Barbara Weisberger and the Peabody Dance family
Re: Estelle Dennis Scholarship Program updated news

All of us at Peabody Dance are eagerly looking forward to Saturday, September 12, 2009, the first day of our Estelle Dennis Scholarship class, and as the date gets closer we hope that all 24 of you who have been accepted into this terrific program share our excitement. Enclosed is another copy of the Program Information and Guidelines, which we trust you've received earlier and read carefully. This memo adds some extremely important reminders, clarifications, and especially some new and/or changed information.

Actually the essential areas concerning Class Dates, Attendance, Punctuality, Conduct and Progress remain the same as in the original message; however, after much discussion among the Peabody directors and faculty, we have made some changes to Dress Code instructions, which in the end should be helpful. Updated Dress Code instructions are outlined below:

1. We continue to require a white tank top or short sleeved fitted T-shirt, thin white cotton socks, as well as hair combed or tied back or held back with a headband;
2. We still will supply each boy with white dance shoes, but just in case our order is not received by September 12 and you don't have your own ballet slippers, please bring a pair of dark socks for the first class.
3. **Do not purchase the requested black spandex biker shorts if you haven't already done so.** At least for the first semester, boys who do not already have biker shorts (or black tights) may wear gym shorts which are no longer than mid-thigh length and as fitted as possible. Boys who do have spandex biker shorts, (or black tights from previous training), along with the required athletic supporters or jock straps, may certainly wear them.

In the long run these changes make sense because: a. The first semester is a trial period, and we'd like to save your family some financial investment when possible; b. Our teachers, Mr. Rainey and Mr. Rinko-Gay, will have the opportunity to advise and answer your questions about proper dress for class; c. Peabody may be able to get dancewear for class at wholesale prices. In the meanwhile, please call our new direct telephone line at (410)-234-4626 or email dance@peabody.jhu.edu if you have any questions.

We also want to remind you about the urgently important orientation at noon on Saturday, September 12, 2009 before class begins. All the accepted boys and one parent or guardian or adult family member are invited. (Sorry, the limited studio space prevents us from inviting more than one family guest, but we'll try to make up for that in the future). We recommend that everyone arrives for the orientation no later than 11:40 am; and all boys should be dressed for class under their outer clothing. "Under dressing" is recommended not only for September 12 but for all subsequent class days. We do have a boys' dressing/bathroom, but all 24 boys at once will push out the walls a bit.

There is quite a bit to absorb here, so organize your questions for the orientation gathering, or again, do not hesitate to contact us if you need assistance. We look forward with anticipation to seeing you on September 12, 2009, and send all our warm regards to you and your family.