

Poetry in Motion is recital theme

Written by Holyoke Enterprise



Ballet, tap, jazz and pointe steps graced the stage of the HHS auditorium Friday evening, May 22, as Holyoke Dance Academy presented its "Poetry in Motion" dance recital.

Colorful costumes and bright smiles added to the program, under the direction of dance teacher Kelsey Kunkel. She handled the choreography for most numbers, assisted by student Kracinda Thompson in a number of them.

All HDA dancers joined in "We're Dancing" at the end of the program, as acknowledgement was made for those who assisted with the year's classes at the Peerless Center, as well as the year-end program.

Thompson presented Kunkel a gift, noting it is the last year Kunkel will be teaching lessons here.

Opening the program in fine fashion was the pre-ballet class. Clover Adler, Jimena Nuñez and Emma Thompson, along with Kunkel and Kracinda Thompson, performed to "Winnie the Pooh." Later, as the pre-tap group, they danced to "The Bunny Hop."

"A Disorderly Mind," danced to "Pale Silver Moon," involved a duet performance by Thompson and Kunkel. The dance was about the fight between the good and bad conscience of a person who is thinking they are not thin enough in the eyes of other people.

Stevie Baker and Lauren Prior, beginning jazz students, danced to "Respect."

Kracinda Thompson performed a pointe solo to "Kerosene." She teamed up with Brittney Prottzman for an advanced jazz number, "You Make Me Sick;" modern dance with Shandra Johnson to "Pilgrim;" advanced tap with Jill Guernsey to "The Devil Went Down to Georgia;" duet with Nathan Peregoy to "When the Stars go Blue;" and an advanced ballet trio with Camille Elliott and Sara Hiller to "Boom, Boom, Boom."

Danielle Brandt, Erin Guernsey and Erin Pettigrew danced to "Strauss Jr. Annen Polka, Op. 117" as the intermediate ballet class.

Intermediate tap dancers Emily Krogmeier and Rebecca Owens tapped to "Fabulous;" and intermediate jazz dancers Brook Prottzman and Keegan Shaw entertained to "Jump, Jive and Wail."

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Erika Meakins, Brooklyn Plumb, Loren Jo Oberle and Kya Thacker won the audience's hearts with a beginning ballet number to "Raindrops Keep Falling on my Head" and a beginning tap number to "Limbo Rock."