



so you wanna dance in nyc?

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E-newsletter

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Jazz Ain't Dead...cuz Martha Stewart is Pole Dancing!!

Written by Ryan Daniel Beck

Hey Divas (and Divas in Training),

I certainly hope that this blast finds you well and happily dancing your heart out. This upcoming week is an exciting time. I am officially kicking off classes at Just Groove NYC (226 E 54th, btw 2nd and 3rd, 9th floor) This spot is a cool new concept for folks who want to dance in a very welcoming, approachable, safe environment. Martha Stewart featured this studio last week on TV and it is looking to be a very cool new venue...they offer a pole dancing studio, and Martha got up on that pole and started doing her thing...AMAZING! All the classes are open level, and everyone of different techniques and backgrounds are encouraged to participate. Come check it out, and if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to hit me up. I teach here on Tues 12:30 and 5:30.

Its So You Think You Can Dance audition season again...if you are in the New York area,

The audition is on Jan 25th at the Manhattan center, be sure to bring all the required forms to the audition! I asked Liz Williams, who has been through the drill a number of times and always made it to the Vegas round, for some tips. Here is what she said:

"My biggest piece of advice would be NO STRESS... there are typically thousands of people auditioning in NY and at times can seem overwhelming but know that you are awesome and stay in "your zone". I like to rename SYTYCD "Hurry up...and WAIT" because everything starts out with high energy but they are longggg days. The camera crew will constantly try to get you pumped up, gives you some super adrenaline rushes :) I would go with a close friend... for support, comfort, and someone to giggle with throughout the audition process. Bring lots of snacks and water! BE

YOURSELF...when the camera is around (not to be obnoxious) but make sure you are seen. Their job is to make stories about interesting and talented dancers. So think about something that makes you unique and can set you apart from others. As for the solo's they say to have about a minute choreographed... but have some improv up your sleeve! Some dancers danced for 10 seconds while others danced for 3 minutes. There is a round of improv before you even see the judges in front of Jeff (lead producer). They constantly reiterate to get right into your "tricks" and not to build up or hold them to the end because you never know when they are going to stop your music. So basically try and find a balance of "tricks" (whether that be showing off extension or some sort of tumbling), emotion, musicality, good transitions and control. Do the things that you do well.. or create your own signature move that makes people relate to you when they see it. I hopped in line I think around 4 30am LOL people camped out...kind of ridiculous BUT the closer you are to the front the shorter your day will be. No solo the first day just improv...the solo is for the judges on the second day for callbacks. As I said, Jeff determines who he thinks the judges should see and he will give you a "golden ticket" to proceed. He picks VERY talented dancers and the ones you know America will laugh at (terrible I know, but boosts the ratings)"

Another SYTYCD featured dancer, Kellen Stancil, offered this: "Go in with an open mind and dont expect anything! If you don't make it, know that it sometimes has nothing to do with you talent! Always stay true to yourself and dont ever let anyone decide what you are meant to do in life! Dance pure and you will be fulfilled."

All the required audition forms can be found by clicking below!! Have fun!!

<http://fox.com/blogs/dance/2009/12/15/auditions-dates-so-you-think-you-can-dance/>

APAP

Hopefully, some of you were able to catch at least one or two of the APAP(<http://www.artspresenters.org/>) performances that were going on last week. I trekked down to DNA to catch my friend Candice Franklin and her performance group "Jazz Ain't Dead." I must admit, I am a HUGE sucker for live jazz...so when you get a group of very talented musicians, riffing for the rafters(we are talking vocal gymnastics people!!)...and then some D-I-V-A dancers doing their thing in collaboration...WOW, I was in heaven and had to resist the urge to get out of my seat and start my own groove motif!! If you get a chance, check out this video of the performance, comment, and show those dancers some love!!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nton1yUA3ww>

My Current Teaching Schedule:

Adv Contemporary Classes are on Thurs 7:30pm and Friday 1pm @ MMAC

Open Jazz Classes are on Monday 9:15am @ JCC and Monday 7:30pm @ Chelsea Piers

Sat 12:30 @ EQX Chelsea 17th and 10th

Latin Class is on Tues 10:30am @ 74th and 2nd EQX

Just Groove NYC Jazz on Tues @ 12:30 and 5:30

Peace and Love,

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<http://www.youtube.com/ryandanielbeck>
<http://www.manhattanmovement.com/classes/instructors/ryan-daniel-beck/>

