

31 YEARS OF CELEBRATING *Dance* IN ROSWELL

Little girls dancing in tutus is what gives parents and grandparents a reason to beam with pride, and The Tolbert Yilmaz School of Dance has been making that happen for the past 31 years.

Artistic director and founder, Nancy Tolbert Yilmaz, has a heart for dancing as well as an extensive dancing background. She studied with Robert Joffrey in New York, performed with Walt Disney Productions, worked for Pittman Correy with Southern Ballet of Atlanta, and was a featured performer in the opening and closing ceremonies of the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta.

The Tolbert Yilmaz School of Dance opened in 1979 on Canton Street in one of Roswell's historic homes. "We opened our studio at the right time and place when Roswell was putting itself on the map with families and becoming the best place to raise their children," Nancy says. She runs the school today along with Mary Lynn Taylor, the associate director; Tracey Bayly, pre-professional company director; Pamela Scheurman, business manager; and over 20 faculty, staff, and class musicians.

The Tolbert Yilmaz School of Dance offers classes for children, from age 2 years all the way up to adult professional classes. "We are a full service studio," Nancy explains. "We also have our classical ballet company, The Roswell Dance Theatre, which is an Honor company with the Southeastern Regional Ballet Association with Regional Dance America. Since the founding of the Roswell Dance Theatre in 1985, we have seen tremendous growth not only in our school, but with the Roswell Dance Theatre as well". Offering opportunities for dancers ages 10 to 18 years-old, the Roswell Dance Theatre has performed nationally as well as internationally for the past 24 years. Performances have been given in Australia, Fiji, New Zealand, Spain, England, Italy, Germany and Austria. Most of the dancers who graduate from the Roswell Dance Theatre earn scholarships and go on to major in dance in college, and then on to professional dance careers. Tolbert Yilmaz dancers are currently dancing at North Carolina School of the Arts, Marymount Manhattan College, New York University, Point Park College, Ballet Hispanico, Walt Disney World, and many more.

The Tolbert Yilmaz School of Dance and the Roswell Dance Theatre are famous in Roswell for their annual "Nutcracker" production, with a cast of over 250 performers. This production is presented each December at the Roswell Cultural Arts Center. Mary Lynn explains, "We have a full week of performances, including shows in the mornings for schools and evening shows for the public.

There is a Character Breakfast on Saturday morning for our younger audience members, an afternoon matinee, and a VIP Champagne Gala Reception on Saturday evening. Our holiday performances offer something for everyone."

Nancy adds, "We also present a benefit concert each October, directed by associate director Mary Lynn Taylor, entitled 'Hugs from Young Choreographers'. This concert benefits a local charity and has raised thousands of dollars over the years. The dance company concludes the season in May with a spring concert, directed by pre-professional company director Tracey Bayly, that has included, 'Paquita', 'Swan Lake', 'Giselle', 'Sleeping Beauty' and many, many more.

For more information on the classes offered, please call The Tolbert Yilmaz School of Dance at (770) 998-0259, or visit the Website or the studio at either www.tysod.com or 10400 Alpharetta Street, Building D, Roswell, GA 30075.



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REGISTER NOW FOR CLASSES BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 8TH!

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SCHOOL OF DANCE

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Ages 2 — Adult