

# EMPAS NEWS

COMPETITIONS | EXAMS | FUNDRAISING | WORKSHOPS

## IDTA Exams February 2018

Well done to all students who undertook their IDTA exams in February. Many distinctions were obtained and all pupils should be very pleased with their results. Special mention to Luke Fairless & Sophie Reddy who received nominations for 2019's IDTA International Theatre Dance Awards.

Luke received nominations for all three exams taken and will represent EMPAS in the Ballet Grades, Theatre Craft Grades and Modern Jazz Grades. Sophie also received nominations for both her exams taken and will represent EMPAS in the Ballet Grades and Theatre Craft Grades.

I would also like to congratulate Luke & Sophie for both receiving 94% for their Grade 5 Theatre Craft exam, it really is an exceptional mark and you should both be very proud of yourselves!



## IDTA Tyneside Gala

EMPAS took part in the IDTA Tyneside Gala on 21st January 2018 at the Sunderland Empire with two new pieces choreographed in memory of David Bowie. The dance's were split into a Classical and a Modern Jazz piece and included children between the ages of 8 and 17. We hope all students involved enjoyed the experience!

Please see below a photo of the students involved:



## TAP ATTACK!

EMPAS was thrilled to hold TAP Attack workshops with Jo Scanlan (Guinness World Record™ breaking tap dancer) and her son Kai Scanlan (13 x World Tap Champion) on 15th February 2018. The workshop was attended by schools from all over the region as well as our students aged between 7 and 15 years old. I'm sure you all had a lot to take away from the workshops and a lot to be practising at home also. We try to hold as many workshops as possible with leading professionals from all over the country in as many styles as we can, this helps to expose our students to greater opportunities and broaden their experiences with different choreographers.

## East Coast Dance Festival

Well done to all EMPAS students who participated in the East Coast Dance Festival on 11th-13th February 2018.

- 1st Novice Tap - Kady Martin & Libby Smith
- 1st Open Modern - Libby Smith
- 1st Novice Tap - Libby Donnelly
- 1st Novice Modern - Kady Martin
- 1st Novice Modern - Cody Martin
- 1st Novice Ballet Trio - Amy Sparshott, Livvy Congerton & Rachel Currie
- 2nd Open Song & Dance - Kady Martin
- 2nd Open Ballet - Cody Martin
- 2nd Novice Modern - Amy Sparshott
- 2nd Novice Modern - Poppy Old
- 2nd Novice Ballet - Carla Ayuk
- 3rd Open Ballet - Libby Donnelly
- 3rd Open Modern - Libby Donnelly
- 3rd Open Ballet - Kady Martin
- 3rd Novice Ballet Duet - Jessica Atkinson & Eve Harris
- 3rd Novice Tap - Remy Samuelson-Sandvid
- 3rd Novice Modern - Remy Samuelson- Sandvid
- 3rd Novice Song & Dance - Libby Hall
- 3rd Improv Section - Cody Martin

Winner of the Highest Mark Novice Under 11 Trophy - Kady Martin  
(See photo below)



### EMPAS Presentation Evening

EMPAS held it's annual Exam Presentation Evening on 27th January 2018. We hope you all had a fantastic evening and all children enjoyed receiving their well deserved medals, certificates and trophies. It is always a great school bonding evening and lovely to see our older dancers with the younger dancers and to see our mums up having a dance too!

## IDTA International Theatre Dance Awards 2018

EMPAS students were successful in securing 14 nominations over 2017 for the IDTA Theatre Dance Awards on 17th & 18th February 2018. Nominations are given by IDTA examiners on any Grade 4 & above Theatre Dance examination. Students are chosen from more than 7,500 candidates to compete for the scholarships in Manchester. It is such an honour to take part in these Theatre Awards and we are very proud of all EMPAS students for representing the school so fantastically!

Results below:

- Theatre Craft Grades - Luke Fairless - Runner Up**
- Theatre Craft Performers - Elena Davidson - 3rd Commendation**
- Tap Grades - Luke Fairless - Finalist
- Ballet Performers - Elena Davidson
- Ballet Performers - Katy Walton (Did not attend)
- Modern Performers - Elena Davidson
- Modern Performers - Sophie Liddle (Did not attend)
- Modern Performers - Sophie Emson
- Modern Grades - Sophie Apedaile (Did not attend)
- Theatre Craft Grades - Sophie Apedaile (Did not attend)
- Theatre Craft Grades - Emily Newell (Did not attend)
- Theatre Craft Grades - Sophie Reddy
- Tap Grades - Sophie Reddy
- Tap Grades - Keira Birkett



(Top Left: Elena Davidson & Luke Fairless - Theatre Craft, Top Right: Sophie Emson & Elena Davidson - Modern Jazz, Bottom Left: Keira Birkett, Luke Fairless - Tap & Elena Davidson, Bottom Right: Sophie Reddy with Elaine Milbourne - Theatre Craft)

## EMPAS FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Our busiest time of year is now as we get ready for the Spring Dance Festival at the Tyne Theatre, Newcastle. We are busy sorting out costumes for all of the groups and if any parent is willing and able to help please give me or another member of the Funds Team a shout.

There are still some costumes to be returned to us and we will send out another reminder shortly – if anyone has costumes to return or they haven't been marked off the list please let us know.

Also there are a small number of pupils who still need to pay costume fee for this year's competition. Bills were issued in January and are now overdue and we would appreciate it if these could be settled as soon as possible as we are now purchasing costumes. If anyone is having difficulty paying please let Andrea Emson know and we can work out a payment plan if necessary.

### Upcoming Event:

#### Bag-pack at Morrison's, Blaydon in May

If we can fundraise enough at this event it might be possible to reduce the cost of costumes for the following year's competition.

Keep up  
to date  
with  
**EMPAS!**



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Performing Arts School

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Elaine Milbourne  
Performing Arts School

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Section**  
[www.empas.co.uk](http://www.empas.co.uk)



#### Recent Funds Raised:

Singing @ Eldon Square	£245.03
Christmas Raffle	£106.00
Dancing @ Metro Centre	£28.75

#### EMPAS Presentation Evening:

Raffle	£246.00
Football Cards	£27.00
Tombola	£110.00
Surplus from Ticket Sales	£162.81

**Total: £925.59**

#### Recent Funds Used:

Around £60.00 was used to subsidise the cost of costumes for the IDTA Tyneside Gala 2018.

We will also be looking at using some of the funds to subsidise the price of the change of venue for the Spring Dance Festival dress rehearsal, this is to keep ticket prices down for parents and spectators.

**EMPAS would like to thank the fundraising committee for their ongoing support and all EMPAS pupils/parents for contributing the above totals!**

## Spring Dance Festival 2018

We hope all students are looking forward to our annual Spring Dance Festival on 5th/6th/7th May 2018 at the Tyne Theatre, Newcastle. Please keep checking the EMPAS Member's Section for rehearsal updates and keep practising at home.

The dress rehearsal has been confirmed for 29th April (Venue TBC).

All students and parents from EMPAS are welcome to get tickets and it is worth coming to watch if you are interested in entering next year.

## PHOTO'S OF THE TERM



**Jemma practising her splits in the snow!**

**Want to be featured in next term's newsletter?**

Send your photos to [admin@empas.co.uk](mailto:admin@empas.co.uk) or to the Facebook page for a chance to be featured on the Instagram/Facebook/Website and the Newsletter!



**Hannah on 'pointe' in the snow!**

**Photo Credit: Hannah Todd Photography**