

Each and every year proves to be more successful than the previous thanks to all the teachers, parents and students

We started, with admitting students from ages three and up to the school in January 2006. It was all new starts including a new venue, located at 1201 Fort Street, called Ballet Victoria (BV). BV was very accommodating, and we extend our sincere gratitude to Ms. Jaelyn Sloan, Director.

Below is a picture of Siya Kashyap and her cousin Saleena Keram enjoying some juice at registration. We want to acknowledge Siya's mom, Mrs. Beena Kashyap as one of our alumni mom's. Her eldest daughter, who is now 14 years old, Meera Kashyap, joined Shan~e~Punjab Dance School when she was five, and later joined by her other sister Krishna Kashyap.



Above is a photograph of the advanced senior's team at Shan~e~Punjab Dance School, as they paint their Dhandia (sticks) for the Garba Dance. From left to right are Amy Grewal-Khangura, Serena Rai, Aneeta Takhar, Keira Dheensaw and Amrita Dhindsa. This is real teamwork and what a great group of girls we have!

Thanks to all our teachers, for the first Term of 2006, **Keira Dheensaw** and **Gina Sangha** as a pair taught girls from ages 10-14. **Janessa Sundher** with assistance from **Lauren Labh**, taught girls ages 3-6. Amy Grewal-Khangura whom taught the advanced senior's the Garba Dance.

We would like to thank Dr. Sydney Price-Sparling for the ethnic dresses for the Garba (Dhandia) Dance. As well as providing us rights to incorporate her

poem, "O Canada", which she organized for the 1994 Victoria Commonwealth Games Opening Ceremony.

(Below) A group photo taken by Amy Grewal-Khangura after Term II, at Victoria Dance Connections.



Performances 2006

During our time at BV, which was from January – April 2, 2006, we participated in **Arts in Victoria Festival** on February 25, 2006. This was a day, where artists from British Columbia, painted drawings of the students inspired by the performances, and by the rhythm and beat of the various Punjabi and Hindi music. The music in essence, led the artist. If anyone is interested in a copy of the artists work, please contact Ms. Sloan, Director of Ballet Victoria. As part of our participation, we included the O'Canada Poem, written and composed by Dr. Sidney Price-Sparling. Other performances included the Garba (Dhandia) Dance, Ek Kuri Gujarat Di, a vibrant and energetic dance by our youngest but most talented group of students and IMPROV or Ad hoc Bhangra/Giddha by Amy Grewal-Khangura, Gina Sangha and Sonia.

The **Pride of Shan~e~Punjab Show**, took place on April 2, 2006, at BV, in

the evening, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. We started off with a pizza dinner, games, and certificates at 5:00 p.m. between students and their teachers. We ended up with a delicious cake depicting the National Flag of India/Canada, baked by Meera, Krishna and Siya Kashyap; and Halina Johl. To this final demonstration we added a special piece, the **Sisters Projects**. The goal was to pair off each student with their best friend or sister. The pairs then spent their own time, to work on an innovative artistic, creative or dance piece, incorporating their own unique talents, as well as culture. First, I thought, this might be a difficult task, but there was so much talent, that it made it all that much easier and very exciting. Projects included an instrumental performance using a Viola and Violin; soccer movements choreographed to Indian music; a peacock dance, displaying the bird of India, with an India flag cake (as mentioned above); paintings/drawings; fashion show; hip hop dance; Punjabi skit and finally arts/crafts in the form of the Pride of Shan~e~Punjab Program with a group photograph using Photoshop. All of these performances had little rehearsal time; this truly shows the unique talents of our students!! WE ARE SO PROUD!

2006 Fall Registration!
September 4, 2006 Picnic @12-2:00 pm
Games, Games and more games... (if weather permits, otherwise, indoors and parents will be notified) then...
Registration for existing and new students! Official registration
3-6pm, **August 27 2006** at Victoria
Dance Connections, suite 110-2750
Quadra Street.
SEP Dance Workshop!!
September 30, 2006 @ Ballet Victoria



Keira Dheensaw and Janessa Sunder (above) paired to present their Sisters Project along with Lauren Labh and Serena Rai.

Folkfest 2006 – July 1, 2006

Was a great success!! Everyone performed incredibly well. I do believe our youngest group; ages 3-6 stole the show, with their lime green lengha's and colourful dupatta's or chunnies (veils). Photographs will be available on our upcoming website. The advanced senior's team is working on traditional Bhangra dancing. This dance is choreographed by Sonia, with guidance for traditional steps from our very well known Mr. Kushdev Gill (nickname Kushia – meaning happy). Thanks to Mr. Kushdev Gill, who taught the very first senior's group for the 1994 Folkfest, and for a Fundraiser to raise monies for ethnic dresses to be worn at the 1994 Victoria Commonwealth Games Opening Ceremony. This fundraiser was held at the University of Victoria, in June 1994. Mr. Gill, comes

with exceptional skills in traditional bhangra, and believe it or not Giddha! He was the captain of his district and province level teams in Punjab India. He also organized and choreographed a men's bhangra team, in Victoria, in the early 1990's. **He will be teaching boys this fall 2006 – please Register!**

Amy's Mehndi Ceremony – July 15, 2006



Advanced senior's performing Garba (above) at Amy's Mehndi Ceremony, traditional Bhangra (below) as well as Keira's Group performing a Bollywood style dance (next page).





Phone Moms In previous years, mom's had kindly offered to conduct phone calls for change in rehearsal time or location, upcoming events, confirmation of delivery of newsletters and/or forms; and gathering information. As classes are getting larger, and with so many aspects for one person to manage, we have our PHONE MOM's who have come to the rescue! This term the phone mom's are Mrs. Binder Moor for Keira's group (ages 10-14); and Mrs. Karen Basi for Janessa's group (ages 4-6). As new groups develop, phone mom's will be seeked!

2006 World Martial Arts Games – August 18, 2006

An exceptional Indian folk dance performance by **Lauren Labh, Amrita Dhindsa and Serena Baidwal**. Their performance was part of a story of the history of martial arts – which originated in India. This history along with photographs will be on our upcoming website.

Dragon Boat Festival – August 19, 2006

Our New Venue

The shoe, as they say, “finally fits”, we have been a part of Victoria Dance Connections, at Suite 110-2750 Quadra Street, since the beginning of May 2006, as part of Term II, and now will be continuing with Term III on September 10, 2006.

New Developments

Yes, after 14 years, it is time for a website. We will be sending out Consent Forms, to get permission for group and individual photo's to be on the website. These are to be signed by parents of all ages, including those students who have turned 19.

CLASSES

Bhangra/Giddha for girls and Boys
 Bhangra, bollywood, hindi, musicals, garba, singing, drama/skits, dhol lessons etc.
 NEW -Self-Development Workshop with Mrs. Karen Basi, w/ assistance from Amy Grewal-Khangura and Ruby

Great News!

Sonia has been asked by the **Vancouver International Bhangra Celebration (VIBC)**, to become the Vancouver Island representative. As well, a great relationship has been formed with **Armaan Designs**, owned by Mrs. Davie (Davinder) Bains-Gill in the form of an Armaan Fashion Show Fundraiser. We will be hosting a **Giddha Night** for women of all ages this fall 2006! A fundraising committee is currently being formed. If you have experience planning such special events, **please call Sonia at (250) 727-9430 or email at shan~e~punjab@shaw.ca.**

