



The Miss Merin Award

The Miss Merin award was created in the memory of Miss Merin Melnyk, who embodied the values of Jeunesse Classique Ballet. Miss Merin was an inspiration to her peers as a dancer, and then continued to inspire her students when she became a Ballet Mistress with Jeunesse Classique Ballet. Miss Merin will always be remembered for her dedication to classical ballet, her professionalism and talent, and first and foremost her kindness.

Each production, the Miss Merin Award will go to the dancer who best emulates Jeunesse Classique Ballet Society values, as determined by the JCBS Board, and based upon input by the Repetiteur, Artistic Director, Rehearsal Mistresses and Board Members.

The Miss Merin Award is not skill based. The focus of the award will be upon the professionalism, work ethic, respect and discipline that classical ballet inspires. Specifically, the following guidelines will be considered:

- ~ attendance at rehearsals
- ~ proper attire and hair during rehearsals
- ~ professional acceptance of roles awarded
- ~ is attentive during rehearsals
- ~ listens and is respectful to the rehearsal mistresses and volunteers
- ~ has a positive attitude
- ~ is a positive role model to fellow dancers
- ~ has an exceptional work ethic
- ~ satisfies all obligations including financial and patron volunteer requirements in a timely manner

It is these characteristics, taken together, that help lead to success in the future whether in the ballet world, academic world or corporate arena.

The recipient of the Miss Merin Award will receive a JCBS scholarship in addition to being recognized on “The Miss Merin Award” plaque proudly displayed in the JCBS office. As a scholarship, the ‘*costume & rehearsal fee*’ for one future JCBS Production will be waived – noting that membership, patron requirements and bonds will still apply.

The Miss Merin Award will be presented following the last performance at the theatre for both “The Nutcracker” and the Spring Production. Dancers are requested to stay on stage after the final curtain falls at the theatre. We will announce the winner of this prestigious, heartwarming award. A group picture of the cast will be taken after the award presentation.

The Board of the Jeunesse Classique Ballet Society