

'Ring Them Bells' celebrates 40 years of dance

■ The program features dancers from Beckie's Studio of Dance

LA GRANDE — Beckie's Studio of Dance will present the holiday dance show "Ring Them Bells" Dec. 17 to celebrate 40 years of dance in Union County.

The show will be held at the La Grande High School auditorium. Doors open at 6 p.m., and the dancing starts at 6:30 p.m. Admission is at the door and costs \$10 for teenagers and adults, \$8 for children. Entry is through the doors on Second Street.

Proceeds go toward scholarships, costume accessories and new equipment for the La Grande dance studio.

According to a press release, "This will be a very entertaining show with a wide variety of dance styles including ballet, pointe,

tap, jazz and acrobatics. Along with Fluffy Snowflakes, Tumbling Soldiers, Tap-dancing Reindeer and Hip-Hop Elves, our featured numbers will be performed by the Studios Co.B.Dancers. These are dancers who have reached a level of intermediate and advanced skill with excellence in performance."

Many of the dancers began studying dance at age 4 and are now in their teens and 20s.

In March 2020 the studio teachers and Co.B.Dancers will be attending "Jump" in Portland.

The three-day dance convention will include master classes for teachers, while students can participate in workshops, classes and competition.

"Jump" is considered to be the

largest dance convention in the world touring nationally and internationally with celebrated dancers, choreographers and other professionals in the field teaching classes in all styles of dance including ballroom and musical theater.

"Our studio is very excited to attend this year as we will have the opportunity to take class from world renowned tap dancer, actor, singer and director Savion Glover," Beckie Thompson-Hendrickson said in the press release.

Beckie's Studio of Dance focuses on dance education, history, passion, love and excellence.

The instructors are Beckie Thompson-Hendrickson, dance educator and studio director; Daisy Thompson-Giddings, dance educator and former Portland Blazer Dancer; Heather Watson, dance instructor (has been with the studio for 27 years); Betsy Carson, dance instructor (has been with the studio for 24 years); and Alexa Yohannan, dance instructor (has been with the studio for 20 years).

Thompson-Hendrickson founded her studio in 1979 when she moved to La Grande from Portland.

Beckie's Studio of Dance is at 110 Depot St. in La Grande.



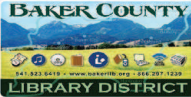
Acrobatic dancers Avery Myer and Brianna Brown rehearse for the Dec. 17 Holiday Dance Show to be performed by Beckie's Studio of Dance in the La Grande High School auditorium. Myer and Brown are members of the studio's Co.B.



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