

# Fine arts: Performers 'love doing the kids' shows'

Continued from Page 1A

"Giselle" takes place in an autumnal German Rhineland in the Middle Ages, and tells the story of a peasant girl, Giselle, fancied by nobleman Duke Albrecht, who is betrothed to Bathilde, daughter of the Duke of Courland. Albrecht disguises himself as Loys, a humble villager, in an effort to woo Giselle.

Paige Wilkey, a dancer with the Oregon Ballet Theatre, played the title role. Her partner Alexander Negron played Albrecht.

"I hired them to come and be the stars," Wall said.

Negron, from New York City, started dancing at 8 after outreach school Ballet Tech visited his class to encourage more involvement in the arts. Wilkey, from Los Angeles, has been dancing since 3. Both are soon headed for the corps de ballet in Milwaukee.

"I love doing the kids' shows," Negron said, adding that while adults know how to sit and be quiet, the kids are responsive, wearing emotions on their sleeves.

In the ballet, Albrecht's deception is discovered by Hilarion, a local gamekeeper also after Giselle's affections. Hilarion was played by 16-year-old Joe Justice from Warrenton. Justice was 13 and having issues at school when his principal learned he liked to dance for fun



From left, 6-year-old Lexey Wilson, her mother Cassie and twin sister Evie take in a Friday performance of "Giselle" by the Astoria School of Ballet at the Liberty Theater. The outing, her daughters' first ballet, reminded Cassie Wilson of going to see "The Nutcracker" in Portland with her sister and grandmother.

and introduced him to Wall, who gave him a scholarship. Wall described Justice, her only older male dancer, as another rising talent destined for bigger stages.

## Getting ready for the show

The school's yearly show is announced in December. The 40 or so dancers at the school continue classes, while practicing for the big performances in May. A volunteer corps, including many of the dancers' par-

ents, creates the sets and does the lighting.

Peggy Boisvert, who played Giselle's mother Berthe, also helped create 54 costumes.

"It's a lot of time," Wall said. "It's a lot of energy."

The shows provide the dancers a chance to perform for big, enthusiastic crowds, including some of their peers from school and family. Gloria Reeves said she traveled from Oklahoma to Astoria specifically to see granddaughter Josie Reeves,

a second-grader at John Jacob Astor Elementary School.

"I am impressed, because I was stricken with stage fright," said Josie's mother, Kimberly Chaput. "But she thrives on it."

Another dancer who seemed to thrive on live performances was Wall's 4-year-old daughter, Hudson Sandel, who played a village girl.

"When I was a little kid, I couldn't do it," Sandel said, adding she was excited to get a first performance under her belt.



Gamekeeper Hilarion, played by Joe Justice from Warrenton, performs in front of the Duke of Courland, left, played by Sen Incavo, and his daughter, Bathilde, played by Daina Ploghoft. Justice was drawn to ballet as an outlet after getting in trouble at school. More photos online at DailyAstorian.com



Alexander Negron and Paige Wilkey, two dancers on loan from the Oregon Ballet Theatre, prepare to play the title roles of Duke Albrecht of Silesia and peasant girl Giselle, in an Astoria School of Ballet production of "Giselle" Friday at the Liberty Theater.

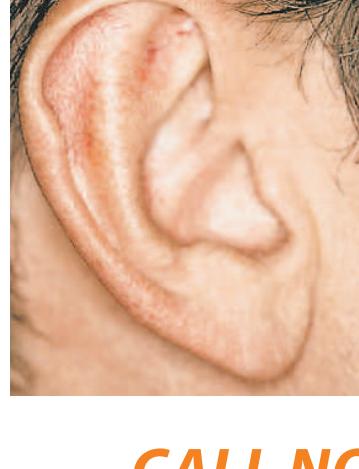


Daryan Gres, a dancer with Astoria Ballet Company, receives some makeup around her eyes from Amanda Caisian before a performance of "Giselle" at the Liberty Theater Friday.



Nobleman Duke Albrecht of Silesia, played by Alexander Negron, dances with peasant girl Giselle, played by Paige Wilkey. The two Oregon Ballet Theatre dancers were hired by Director Margaret Wall to be the stars of the Astoria School of Ballet's production of "Giselle" at the Liberty Theater.

# HEALTH NOTIFICATION Are You Hard of Hearing?



A major name brand hearing aid provider wishes to field test a remarkable new digital hearing instrument in the area. This offer is free of charge and you are under no obligation. These revolutionary 100% Digital instruments use the latest technology to comfortably and almost invisibly help you hear more clearly. This technology solves the "stopped up ears" and "head in a barrel" sensation some people experience.

If you wish to participate, you will be required to have your hearing tested in our office FREE OF CHARGE to determine candidacy and review your results with the hearing instruments with our hearing care specialist.

At the end of this evaluation, you may keep your instrument, if you so desire, at a tremendous saving for participating in this field test. Special testing will be done to determine the increased benefits of this technology.

Benefits of hearing aids vary by type and degree of hearing loss, noise environment, accuracy of hearing test, and proper fit. This is a wonderful opportunity to determine if hearing help is available for your hearing loss and get hearing help at a very affordable price.

**CALL NOW IF YOU WISH TO BE INCLUDED IN THIS FIELD TEST**

**THIS WEEK ONLY  
NOW Through Friday, May 13, 2016**

**Call today to make your reservation for a Hearing Aid Field Test**

### Miracle-Ear Center

Youngs Bay Plaza

173 S. Hwy 101

Warrenton, OR 97146

(503) 836-7921

[www.miracle-ear-warrenton.com](http://www.miracle-ear-warrenton.com)

### Miracle-Ear Center

2505 Main Ave N, Suite C

Tillamook, OR 97141

(503) 836-7926

[www.miracle-ear-tillamook.com](http://www.miracle-ear-tillamook.com)

 **Miracle-Ear®**

Since 1990 the Miracle-Ear Foundation™ has been providing hearing aids, follow-up care, and educational resources to people with hearing loss who demonstrate personal inability to financially provide for their hearing health needs. We do this because we believe everyone in our community deserves quality hearing instruments.

### Special Notice State Employees

You may qualify for a hearing aid benefit up to \$4,000 every 4 years. Call for eligibility status.

