

ENTERTAINMENT & ARTS

Dance students learn from 'Saltimbanco' artistic director

By **KATHLEEN L. RADCLIFF**

Suburban News Publications

It's not every day a dancer has an opportunity to learn from a master.

However, 24 students at Dublin Dance Centre and Gymnastics had that opportunity Friday, Aug. 14, as Adam Miller, artistic director for *Saltimbanco*, taught a master ballet class to students ranging from eighth-graders to recent high school graduates.

"Much of what I teach in a master class depends on how much time I have," Miller said.

"If I have two hours, I can teach a more broader, technical perspective.

"Since I have an hour and a half with this class, what I will teach will be more of an overview of my technical view of ballet, and I will try to give them a sense of the career, touching on a bit of the circus, and the casting process," Miller said.

Technical tips the dancers received during class included things such as "Only move the parts of the machine that need to move," he said to his students, during the Temps lie portion of work at the barre.

"The fewer moving parts, the faster you can go."

"When I do Releves, I'm actually sending the energy from my toe into the ground," he

said, as the rest of the body rises, with a smooth and continuous rise.

"If you look at a building that's made to be strong, there is usually some opposition," he said.

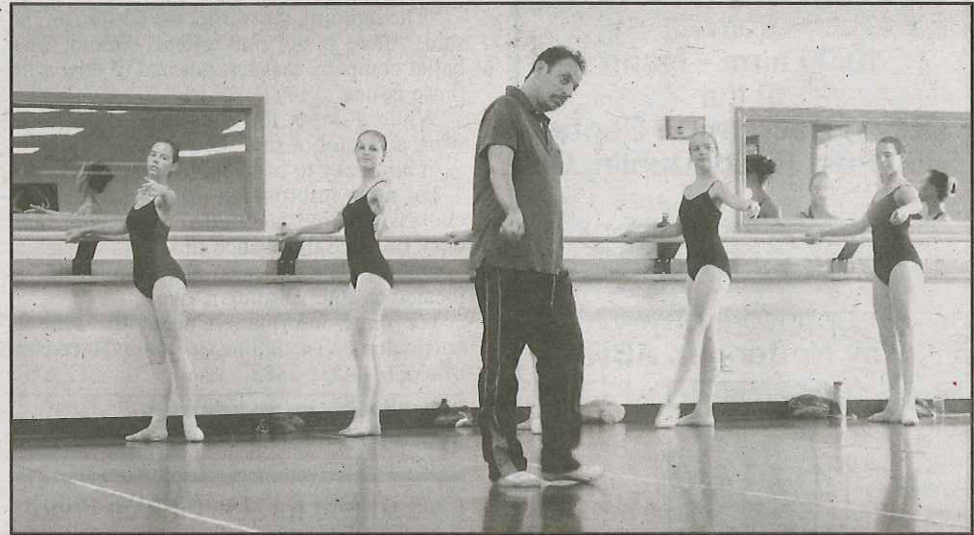
Saltimbanco is the Cirque du Soleil's first "classic" touring show to be presented in arenas. It will be performed in Nationwide Arena through Aug. 23, spokeswoman Emily Miklos said in an information release.

Miller is an accomplished ballet dancer, choreographer and artistic director, who trained on scholarship at the School of American Ballet, American Ballet Theatre School and graduated from the North Carolina School of Arts, according to information from his biography.

He has danced major roles in most of the full-length classical ballets, including *The Nutcracker*, *Coppelia*, *The Sleeping Beauty*, *Swan Lake* and *A Midsummer's Night Dream*.

Miller began his professional career with the Pennsylvania Ballet, and has been a principal dancer with the Pacific Northwest Ballet, Hartford Ballet and Les Grands Ballets Canadiens.

He has also collaborated on special projects with Pilobolus, the National Theatre of the Deaf and Christopher D'Amboise's Off-Center Ballet.



SNP photo by Dan Trittschuh

Adam Miller, artistic director for Cirque du Soleil's *Saltimbanco* production, provides hands-on instruction for ballet students at Dublin Dance Centre & Gymnastics on Friday morning, Aug. 14.

"When I was at Hartford, I was asked to participate in a collaborative project with the National Theatre for the Deaf," Miller said. The project was a production of *Hamlet*, he said.

"Pilobolus as well as the work with the

National Theatre was more theatrical, and it was to introduce movement into the program," he said.

He has served as artistic director for

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DANCE

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Saltimbanco since July 2008.

"It's been an ongoing adventure, and I still have a lot to learn," he said, adding his training and work as a ballet dancer, choreographer and artistic director have helped in his work with the troupe.

"The lighting, the music, the costumes," he said, "there is not one artistic director of a ballet company that has not had to deal with those issues."

While it is not for everyone, "It's a lot of work and a lot of fun," he said.

"I am lucky to be in such a place," he said.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit online at cirquedusoleil.com, and click on the Saltimbanco link.

Dublin Dance Centre and Gymnastics is located at 2665 Farmers Drive.

For more information about the schools curriculum, visit online at dublindance.com or call 614-761-2882.

ARTS BRIEFS

Cast sought for 'On Golden Pond'

Emerald City Players will hold auditions for *On Golden Pond* by Ernest Thompson at 7 p.m. Sunday and Monday, Aug. 23 and 24 at Emerald City Theater, 6799 Dublin Center Dr.

Auditions will be reading from the script and a prepared monologue is required.

Performances are slated for October.

For more information visit emeraldcityplayers.com

Dublin invites geocachers, art lovers to hunt down Riverboxes

The Dublin Arts Council has commissioned three innovative and environmentally sensitive artists to create new Riverboxes, inspired by the pastime of letterboxing or geocaching.

Participants will combine map-reading or GPS skills and artistic pursuits with delightful "treasure hunts" in beautiful scenic places.

The first series of six vessels was installed in 2007. We are adding new Riverboxes to the collection because so many members of the community have responded positively to these public artworks and have asked for more.

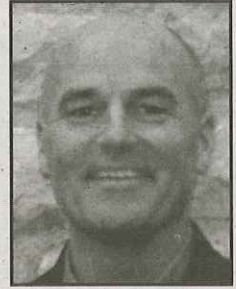
The Dublin Arts Council will place clues to the whereabouts of the new Riverboxes, which will be discretely placed in Dublin Parks with access to the Scioto River, on the organization's Web site, dublinarts.org, on Sept. 11, with printed information about the new series available for pick-up at the arts council beginning the same day.

Riverboxers are encouraged to bring a personal journal and an ink stamp, either handmade or commercially produced, as they search for Riverbox locations. Letterboxing and geocaching hobbyists often mark their journals with the ink stamps discovered at each location, and in turn

imprint the Riverbox journal with their own ink stamp and a brief note. To help first-timers fully enjoy the experience, DAC has made Riverbox starter kits, which include a paper bag journal, marker and ink stamp, available for purchase in our gift shop for \$10.

I'm so pleased with the participating artists, their qualifications and their interest in Dublin. We are looking forward to seeing what they've created! Funding and support for Riverboxes has been provided by a grant from the Dublin Foundation, which also supported the creation of the original Riverbox series. The city of Dublin Parks and Open Space Department and the Dublin Historical Society have collaborated with Dublin Arts Council in the project's development.

I hope you'll join us for the exploration and discovery of Riverboxes in Dublin's lovely parks this fall.



David Guion
Executive Director
Dublin Arts Council

