

TESTIMONIALS 2017 – MISCHIEF MANAGED

I hope you've had a chance to catch a breath. Thank you for another wonderful concert. I've come to expect great concerts but I'm still amazed at what you achieve each year. I'm always so impressed by the camaraderie and team spirit among the students and the parents - many a CEO could learn from CBCC. You give all of us parents such wonderful moments seeing our children doing what they love. Thank you for all your hard work and for genuinely caring about your students.

We haven't spoken, but I'm a mum to a new Primary student [...] I just wanted to say thank you and congratulations on such a wonderful performance last week! Our whole family enjoyed it immensely and we were so impressed - from the music and lighting to the choreography and of course the stunning dancing, especially by your senior students - it was a real joy and totally entertaining. We were also impressed with the teaching and care of the children. It was like [my daughter] grew over night - she was so happy and composed going into the rehearsals and performances at the theatre. Thank you to you and your staff for have such confidence in even the little ones.

You run such a great ballet school and the returns the girls get out of it go so much further than dance skills. The show was just fabulous. Beautifully put together, beautifully costumed and beautifully danced. It was such a thrill to see all the dances together, in context, and the progress the students have made (I am thinking particularly about Andrew and his solo)- it just amazes me.

A HUGE congratulations yet again on another amazing masterpiece!! Your ability to bring together such an incredible range of music, choreography, costumes, sets, props, lighting and more than 200 children, together with their assorted parents, is an accomplishment that beggars belief! So many of the dances were standouts in their own right, and left me exhilarated and amazed. I had to hold back from yelling out 'Bravo' for fear of completely embarrassing [my children]! I especially loved the clever choreography and fantastic facial expressions of 'Portraits', and the 'Ghosts' piece with its stirring music together with the striking use of the tulle skirts in the blue lighting – a very powerful and moving piece. Of course both Death Eaters and Wizard Chess were also absolutely fabulous – but we already knew that. It was wonderful to finally see them in their rightful context!! The only complaint from my family was that the incredibly creative and effective Quidditch tap routine, which really delivered for that iconic game, was far too short!

The mix of dance styles and age groups interspersed through the three acts also added extra depth, especially in Act 1. I think you get my drift: I/we loved it!! I realise there are way too many superlatives, but they are all genuine! My sincere

thanks also for making available to me at the last minute the two tickets: that was unexpected and very kind of you.

I hope you've had a chance to catch your breath in the last 24 hours and taken time to reflect on your successful delivery of an incredibly ambitious concept: a Harry Potter CBCC ballet concert! Bravo!!!!

Hope you have managed to catch up on some sleep over the last few days after another wonderful performance. I don't know where you get the energy (or all the ideas!) but I really appreciate all the effort that is put into bringing it altogether – am so pleased that we can be a part of them and that each year [my daughter] is loving dance that extra bit more 😊

Thank you for another wonderful concert. The girls both loved the experience and we really enjoyed the show.

I also wanted to say that dance has been particularly important to [our daughter] this year. She's had an awful year at school (she has lovely friends but a disengaged teacher and a child who was aggressive towards her all year). Dance has been a real sanctuary from that and we've had a number of family and friends comment on how much it has helped her cope with those challenges. We are very grateful for all you do for the children.

I hope you have a wonderful break!

I'm going to call Monday and gush about how amazing your school's performance was! Lil... OMG she is out of this world. I FELT her truly outstanding on that stage. And the thestrals!!! Wow amazing! And the classics – gorgeous And the dementors And the DEATH EATERS!!!!!!!!!!!! That choreography was just magnificent – was that you??? [editor's note – definitely not!] Can't thank you enough for letting me part of your world and your years work and you are truly an amazing creative genius OK that's enough for now Will continue Monday

Just wanted to thank you for all your effort in putting together the concert. It was fantastic, [my children] had such a wonderful time performing.

Dear Lorraine,

Before going to bed tonight We wanted to email you to say thank you for delivering another spectacular concert this year.

It was an amazing concert. [My daughter] has not yet got into the Harry Potter books or movies. Despite this she was thrilled to be performing in Mischief Managed and did enjoy the concert.

My husband, mother and I were blown away by the professionalism, technique and passion shown by the students throughout the concert but particularly by intermediate and above.

You Can't Stop the best was amazing - the dancing while moving benches around the stage and making different formations and so quick! The Time Turner, Wizard Chess so clever, Portraits - amazing modern with crisp and clear lines and backdrop, Ghosts, Dumbledoors Army, Thestrals, Castle, the Battle, Bellatrix Lestrange and her ladies wow amazing.. We could go on and on there were so many highlights.

This is the second year my mother has flown down [...] to watch the concert and she wasn't disappointed. She believes that she wouldn't be able to find a ballet school in Brisbane that performs a concert at such a high standard and with such professionalism.

She was blown away by the passion of the Senior Performance Class as well as the freshness and fun of the primary ballet levels.

We also invited two families to watch this year whose children do ballet. We have been able to catch-up with one after the show today and they will look to put their girls into your ballet academy next year. We are yet to check in with the other, who's son does ballet at another ballet school. I hope they were equally impressed and change to your centre as well. We brought over two students to your centre this year [...] and will continue to promote the centre.

We are so grateful and feel blessed to have found you and your ballet centre. The dedication of your teachers, students and support staff and the community of parents and children is supportive and welcoming. Our daughter is inspired and we look forward to continuing to support her in her journey of developing and discovering the world of ballet and dance. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication to the centre and teaching our daughter and all the other students. You are truly inspiring.

Thanks for a great year, I've loved every moment of it. The show this year was amazing, and it was great to be a part of it.

[...] I am so glad I came! It was absolutely amazing, easily one of the best dance concerts I have seen. I was absolutely transported! I particularly loved the Diagon alley, Portraits, Mandrakes and Chess scenes. But the third act was the icing on the cake and just fabulous. The girls in the castle scene and Lilly were very powerful and the other solos tied all the preceding parts together. Very well done to all the students and I do not know how you managed to organise them all and find all that great music!

Hi Lorraine,

thank you so much for all your effort as our first performance experience... I was truly blown away by the level of coordination and quality of performance. Testament to the hard genius and hard work all round!

You definitely live up to your outstanding reputation. [My daughter] has come away buzzed about dancing and won't stop, which makes my heart sing!

I loved your compilation an ending of the Harry Potter story...Well done!

It was great to be part of the make up team and have a great Christmas break.

... (oh – loved loved loved the mandrake dance – Beth was hilarious too!) is that the show was, to use your words, EPIC! I had no idea how you'd do it – but you did it and it truly left me lost for words! [My husband] is right – you are very clever! How is it that my daughter can blow me away when I see her dance all the time? It was my [celebration] on Saturday and what a way to spend it – at a fabulously brilliant show (with champagne with wonderful friends at intermission! ☺) that I will remember for many many years to come. As always the best word is simply THANKYOU!

I just like to say thank you for everything you have done for me this year. As you could probably tell I was really really upset when I heard from the doctor that there's a chance I wouldn't be able to dance at the end of year concert... but you helped me go through that and I just want to say thank you

For that. I've loved working on the show, exams and class work. I can't wait until next year!

Hands down best concert I've ever been to!!!!

What a brilliant show this year! [My daughter] absolutely loved it and it was great to see her en pointe in the show too.

It's taken me a while to get to this – trying to figure out how to express in words just how incredible this year's show was, coming as it did with so much expectation from the students whose enthusiasm for the Harry Potter theme had no bounds! You know our family are always big fans of your shows, but this year's show was just phenomenal – the story, the casting, the music, sets, costuming, staging and lighting all came together with your choreography to produce a show that we will happily remember (and watch and rewatch the video) for many years to come. Seeing all the hard work behind the scenes makes you appreciate so much the massive effort that goes into such an epic production and we are so grateful to you and all of the CBCC staff and family that work so hard every year to give such incredible experiences to the students. We enjoyed so much sharing this year's show with friends and family, and have had immensely positive feedback from everyone. This year we have seen [our daughter] grow so much in her dancing and the show was a wonderful, magical culmination to a fabulous year. Thankyou from our family to everyone at CBCC and we hope you have a lovely restful Christmas!

Congrats on the CAT award nominations too - well deserved of course. I heard the news about the picture frames dance being performed at the awards night – what a brilliant dance and what a wonderful thing to be invited to perform. The Land of Stories books are on their way to our house for holiday reading! Thankyou as always to you for all that you do. Looking forward to next year!

Congratulations on the most fabulous show - we are just completely in awe every year 😊

We can't thank you enough for all your hard work.

Congratulations on another fabulous show!! Very impressive and lots of very talented dancers.

It was lots of fun helping backstage and all the kids were having a great time and were well behaved

Firstly can I send my biggest thank you for another fabulous production. My family and I really enjoyed the show. More importantly, [my child] loved being a part of it all.

I am looking forward to the concert tomorrow - my husband who is watching tonight tells me it is fabulous!

We absolutely loved the concert today - we are so grateful that [our child] is a part of your ballet company.

Your shows are so professional I get goosebumps!

Looking forward to 2018! I hope you enjoy your break. I was so impressed by the professionalism of both the dancers and the whole performance. And, what a clever idea it was to have the whole event coordinated through the one theme! So clever! Not to mention that your senior dancers were breathtakingly good! After her dance, [my daughter] watched the Friday evening show, and to be honest, I expected we'd leave after Act 2 but [my daughter] was totally entranced by the dancing and stayed engaged all the way to the end! Thank you for all your hard work and passion for sharing dance with the young people of Canberra.

I take the opportunity to congratulate you for the wonderful production you made. [My daughters} had an amazing time and experience and it was a pleasure to attend it and watch it.

Firstly, both [my husband] and I want to congratulate you and your team on the great end of year concert, we both really enjoyed them. Thank you for yours and Miss Christina's gentle guidance and patience with [our child] over the past year, she is a sensitive kid and has struggled at times with change. She is always happy to come to dancing and dances her way through her everyday life. [Our child] really respects you both and it nice for her to have a stable and consistent influence outside home and the school environment. [My husband] and I were both pleasantly surprised and delighted at her dancing in the concert and we can see how far she has come in the last few years. We plan to be around in the winter of 2018 so she can be a part of the ballet exam cycle. We appreciate all your hard work and efforts.

[My child] had the most wonderful time, I think she felt even more part of it in performance group – she was sad not to be able to attend the after party. She felt so special being with the older girls, who looked after them so well. Thank you also for the card – she was very thrilled to get it from you.

We had a great team dressing in the VIP room (Heidi was awesome) – and it is such a pleasure to watch the little ones perform after spending time with them backstage – they are very good kids!

I also just wanted to add that while we loved every single performer....we really loved watching Lily. Her performance was just spectacular and [my child] was telling everyone that would listen that she choreographed her solo (something to look up to!). She was really amazing and while I am sure her leaving will leave a huge hole... no doubt we will see her on stage again in some capacity.... ;)

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a peaceful break with family

Thank you for another fabulous show this year... It was such a pleasure getting to work backstage with everyone, and I loved seeing how everybody has grown and matured since the last show

Thank you for all your wonderful work and what a show... wow!
Sorry I missed you after the show ... really wanted to give you a big hug!!!
Take care and enjoy some down time!

Huge congratulations for the show from [my daughter] and !!!!!!!! I don't know how you manage it – but it gets better every year!

The show was fantastic and we all enjoyed it. I think the girls were a bit sad on the trip home on Saturday night. Thank you for another wonderful year, the girls get so much out of it all and it is a pleasure to see how much they enjoy dance and all that comes with it.

Firstly, I just want to congratulate you again on a wonderful show! It doesn't matter how many of your shows I've seen, I'm always blown away by the way you put it all together, and by the very high standard of dancing of all the students. This year, I want to particularly congratulate you on supporting Andrew in becoming the fine young male dancer you've guided him to become!!

I also want to take this opportunity to wish you a very good holiday, Christmas and New Year and some well deserved rest and relaxation! :-) Thank you for everything you do for the students everyday, and for fostering such a happy community spirit at your dance school!

MORE TESTIMONIALS - 2017

Thank you Lorraine for all the time and effort that you put in to trying to make this happen. All this extra work for the girls is appreciated. Dancing is the highlight of [my daughter's] week. She just loves it and I can see how her ability to cope with pressure, change and the unknown - eg turning up and dancing on a stage never before seen and working out which curtain to use etcetera - and general resilience have grown (not to mention another whole bunch of positive attributes) since being involved with dancing.

[My daughter] loves performance group, she was on cloud nine when she got home today.

Ps: [My daughter] told me last week that ' Miss Lorraine is so funny mum - makes we laugh at every lesson' - I said that someone who deals with that many children needs a very good sense of humor.

Hi Lorraine

Congratulations to you and all the kids for a fantastic CDF. Both [my children] really enjoyed the experience. I also want to thank you for having age appropriate costumes, choreography and music. The under 14 jazz section was certainly 'eye opening'! I'm very pleased the girls go to CBCC and all the CBCC children looked really nice in foyer with their neat track suits, minimal makeup on and no silly over ballet shoes shoes! 😊

Thanks again!

As an aside, [my daughter] really loves ballet. She told me all about the steps, leaps etc in a lot of detail. I didn't know she spoke French :).

I have no doubt she listens to everything you say because her word phrasing, explaining how each move is done correctly, were not her words. She also told me that even if she wasn't good at ballet she would still love it which to me says everything.

We look forward to yet another high quality performance! The time & energy, Lorraine, that you put into each years' shows is astounding and very much appreciated.

Good evening Lorraine

Firstly I'd just like to thank you for the fabulous ballet lessons [my daughter] has thoroughly enjoyed this year! She has grown in strength and grace this year as a direct result of her lesson – but most importantly she has had fun and continues to love ballet and dancing.

Sadly, [my daughter] will not be able to re-enrol for 2018, as we will be moving to Newcastle. In fact, we are moving the Monday after the concert just so [my daughter] can perform. She would have been devastated to have missed it. It is very likely we will be back in Canberra in three years', at which time I would love for [my daughter] to come back and join the CBCC

Thank you for all your hard work, and the excellent efforts of [my daughter's] teacher, in running such a fabulous Ballet School and classes. I am so looking forward to the end of year performance to see how much [my daughter] has improved this year.

Best wishes...