136th Year, No. 39

May 15, 2008

## Local dancers capture top awards

The Long Island Ballet Competition (LIBC), the result of a unique collaboration of several major Long Island dance organizations, announced the results of its ground breaking balletcentric dance competition held Saturday, May 3 at the Maguire Theater at SUNY Old Westbury. The competition was adjudicated by internationally renowned Ballet Masters Lupe Serrano, John Prinz and Rosanna Seravalli.

Junior Division winners were: Anna Craddock (Seiskaya Ballet) 1st, Nana Tadokoro (Lumière Ballet) 2nd and Tatiana Ferraro (Lumière Ballet) 3rd. In the hotly contested Senior Division: Isabelle Hay (Huntington Ballet Academy) 1st, Alexis Lucena (Seiskaya Ballet) 2nd and Jennifer Pauker (Vicky Semegiatos PAC, Brooklyn) 3rd. In the Pre-Professional Division: Mariana DeMarco (Seiskaya Ballet) 1st, Danielle Morano (Seiskaya



Pictured is Alexis Lucena of East Patchogue, 2nd Senior, dancing "Esmeralda."

Ballet) 2nd and Elizabeth Cappabianca (Vicky Semegiatos PAC, Brooklyn) 3rd.

According to Seiskaya Ballet representative Regina Marsh, "the competition achieved its primary goal of promoting and encouraging a high standard of excellence in classical ballet on Long Island. The LIBC was a spirited competition that was professionally staged to the delight of all."

East Patchogue's Alexis Lucena, 14, captured 2nd place in the Senior Division where scoring differentials were tight among the top finishers. Seiskaya Ballet captured four of the top six awards.

"Seiskaya students have won medals and plaudits in international ballet competitions in France, Switzerland, Bulgaria and America. "We are delighted to have the LIBC create a forum here on Long Island which, with nurturing, can blossom into a national level competition," noted Dimitri Papadakos Seiskaya Ballet's Administrative Director.