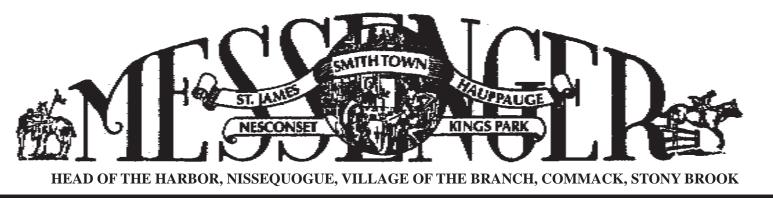
## **SMITHTOWN'S FIRST NEWSPAPER**



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Entertainment News

## **Celebrating the Rise of Tomorrow's Ballet Stars**

The Long Island Ballet Competition (LIBC) announced Long Island's first balletcentric dance competition. This ground breaking event will take place Saturday, May 3 and Sunday, 4 at the Maguire Theater at SUNY Old Westbury. Focusing on promoting and encouraging a high standard of excellence in classical ballet, the LIBC represents a unique collaboration of several major Long Island dance organizations, a first in and of itself. Open to aspiring dancers, ages 9 to 18, in three divisions: Junior (9-11), Senior (12-14) and Pre-Professional (15-18), the competition will be adjudicated by internationally renowned Ballet Masters Lupe Serrano, John Prinz and Rosanna Seravalli. For complete information, visit www. liballetcompetition.com.

Attracting fifty-four competitors, from Brooklyn to Suffolk's East End, the LIBC will feature local competitors as well. Seiskaya Ballet trained



Danielle Morano of St. James, will compete in the upcoming LI Ballet Competition.

dancer Danielle Morano, 17, of St. James will compete in the LIBC's PreProfessional Division. The Smithtown High School East junior has established an enviable record of accomplishments. The critically acclaimed dancer's list of acceptances to prestigious summer programs includes NYCB's School of American Ballet, Suzanne Farrell's Kennedy Center Program and the New York State Summer School for the Arts in Saratoga Springs.

The LIBC competition begins on Saturday, May 3 commencing at 1:30PM. On Sunday, May 4 for non-competitors, an Intermediate Ballet Master Class (10-11:15AM), fee \$20, plus a free Pointe Shoe Seminar (1-1:45PM), taught by Mary Carpenter, faculty member of Steps on Broadway and pointe shoe expert and master fitter, will be offered. Immediately following, the LIBC Gala begins at 2PM concluding with the awards ceremony. This is a great opportunity for ballet aficionados, students and parents to enjoy the best Long Island has to offer. Tickets are available as weekend passes - adults, \$25, seniors and children under 18, \$15 or Sunday only at \$15. For more information, call Marnie Katzman at (516) 223-2522 ext.11 or e-mail: marnieliacf@gmail.com.