

YOUNG METAMORPHOSIS DANCER RECEIVES 2013 KAK SCHOLARSHIP

Talented seventeen year old Marie Lashley has received the 2013 award of the Kathleen Armstrong Kilgour (KAK) Dance Scholarship. Marie is a member of the popular Metamorphosis Dance Company, which comprises senior talented students of the well-established Caribbean School of Dancing. Metamorphosis is currently in rehearsal for its upcoming season, "Language of the Soul", from 25 to 28 April at Queen's Hall.

The Kathleen Armstrong Kilgour (KAK) Dance Scholarship is awarded to a deserving Metamorphosis dancer for commitment and dedication to dance practice. During the award ceremony on Tuesday 2nd April, Nancy Herrera, Artistic Director of Metamorphosis summed up her character as follows: "This year's winner is definitely talented, very committed. I find it very difficult to figure her out because we cannot work out whether she is shy, but she has a fierce opinion inside. I would like to congratulate her on being pushed because she doesn't want to be pushed but at the same time allowing us to push her."

The KAK Dance Scholarship is an award presented in memory of the mother of professor/author/actor/dancer and Trinidadian Dr. Joanne Kilgour-Dowdy, the late Kathleen Armstrong Kilgour. It was established to support young talented Trinidadian dancers financially in their formative stages of training. The award will assist young dancers to become performance-ready and attain the necessary qualifications for eligibility into full time professional dance training. The scholarship will be awarded annually and is a one-time non-renewable award. Former government Minister, Mr. Peter Taylor, a lawyer and former Minister of Legal Affairs, presented the award to Marie on behalf of Dr. Kilgour Dowdy.

Recipients are selected by the Artistic Director of the Metamorphosis Dance Company on the advice of the senior teaching staff at the Caribbean School of Dancing, on the following criteria: 1) enrolled at the Caribbean School of Dancing and training at the Intermediate level in two dance techniques; 2) a member of the Metamorphosis Dance Company; and 3) show potential to go onto professional dance training.

To be a member of the Metamorphosis Dance Company, a dancer has to have trained for at least two years in the Intermediate level at the Caribbean School of Dancing or taken the Intermediate dance examinations. Marie, a Form 5 student at St. Joseph's Convent, Port of Spain, has been dancing since age 7 and has been a Metamorphosis dancer for the past 4 years. She has already achieved distinctions in Grade 7 and intermediate ballet and is now awaiting the results of her Advanced 1 ballet examination. She has recently been accepted to pursue a contemporary intensive programme with the Joffrey Ballet School, USA, in the summer of 2013.

Audiences will see Marie dance in Metamorphosis' season performance of "Language of the Soul", scheduled for 25 – 28 April 2013 at Queen's Hall. Contact 625-3225 or 684-6823 for tickets and further information.