

# TESTIMONIALS 2016

Dear Lorraine...

.... It was an amazing show. I had to keep reminding myself that this was an amateur production.....it was all SO professional !!!

To say the kids enjoyed themselves is an understatement. Being a dresser I got to witness the backstage buzz and these kids were loving every minute!!

I watched the Friday night performance and after collecting [my daughter] from the theatre, she was on such a high. Her very first comment was, "I don't want this to end tomorrow!"

I thoroughly enjoyed being a dresser especially as it allowed me to get to know [the girls]. I have to say Lorraine, I was so impressed with each and everyone of those girls in dressing room [number]. The politeness, enthusiasm, comradore and support all the girls showed each other was a joy to witness and I have no doubt, a credit to you! Not to mention their professionalism and independence! They are a lovely bunch of girls!!!

... Once again, thank you and a huge congratulations!!!!

Neverland was the most wonderful and spectacular event. (I even have to admit that it brought me to tears. ... A combination of the sad bit at the end and feeling so proud of all the kids and staff that had put in so much work.) I really could feel your passion for this show come through in the absolutely fabulous event that it was. The dancing, costumes, music and lighting were all amazing. I was sitting in a side balcony and could really see all the perfect formations. I loved seeing the class exercises for the younger girls being brought into the dances for the show. And the kids all enjoyed themselves so very much. What a great experience for them all. I just can't describe properly how fantastic I thought the show was!

Dear Miss Lorraine,

With tears still in my eyes, I just want to thank you for putting together this wonderful performance! What a show! While my 5-year old was only a small part of this great performance, she absolutely enjoyed the experience! I couldn't hold back my tears when she appeared on the stage! Please pass on my gratitude to Miss Christina, who has done magic turning a stubborn little girl who once called dancing boring into a religious follower of every moves in the show. Please also pass on my gratitude to those who volunteered! Without them, this just wasn't possible!

We just wanted to thank you for another year and wonderful concert it was truly magical!!! ....

We wanted to THANK YOU from the bottom of our hearts for all your teaching, kindness and guidance given to [my daughter] over the years, it has been a wonderful experience!!! The environment you provide for growing girls is amazing ...

I'd first like to say thank you to you and all the teachers for the wonderful show put on last weekend. [My daughter], a shy 4 year-old, loved every moment of it and has not stopped doing 'ballet' around the house since. She turned up this morning with a pirate eye-patch and told me she was a ballet pirate. I'd also like to thank the mums backstage.

Thank you so much Miss Lorraine for another wonderful performance. Your amazing, creative mind produced another brilliant and enjoyable show. [My daughter] has had such a wonderful time and is now disappointed that she has to wait till term one to dance again. May you enjoy a well earned break and a wonderful Christmas. Please pass on special thanks to Miss Christina from [my daughter] also.

This email is just to acknowledge everything that you organised. [My daughter] (in the primary ballet...) really enjoyed the rehearsal. She was very much motivated by bigger girls and their dances when she watched rehearsal over the weekend. She can't stop mimicking their dance at home. She also made her friends at waiting time and she doesn't want to leave at all! Older girls look after them so well that she quite enjoyed being there. After we watch the "Nutcracker" this weekend at the canberra theatre, she get so excited about her performance on the same stage. I just feel that this is the perfect home for her ballet developing path. I just deeply fell in love this warm and thoughtful family little by little. No wonder people said to me "CBCC is the best school ever in Canberra". I will recommend to every family that I know. I can not wait to see the show...

The show was spectacular. All of it. Superburb. I can't wait to get the DVD to watch it again!

I would like to say a big thank you to you for such a beautiful, emotional and well put together performance my family, friends and I thoroughly enjoyed it.

[My daughter] has really enjoyed her year at CBCC and we ([parents]) can see so much improvement from year to year with her dancing ability and I thank you for your efforts and her other dance teachers Catherine and Christina.

I would like to say that my time as a dresser downstairs with the [ballet level] ... was done with such ease. The girls were amazing so well organised with doing their hair and makeup and loved helping each other they have such a lovely friendship with each other. They were so polite and so well behaved I really enjoyed getting to know the girls better.

Once again thank you so much for all your efforts and the time you put in to making it such a great school I thank you.

Enjoy your well deserved break and look forward to another successful year in 2017.

The show was amazing again! It's so nice to see it all come together. I must say the way the performance class conduct themselves backstage shows maturity beyond their years and is a real credit to you!

Hi Lorraine,

"Neverland" was fabulous...

Helping backstage I was amazed again at the attention to detail and how high the standards are. Yet all the students were having so much fun and the care and support the older students showed for each other was lovely to see.

As ever I loved seeing the progress the students have made and watching the older students-providing a taste for what can be achieved-amazing.

I was talking to someone here at work today, whose daughter is at another ballet school... .. I felt very fortunate that CBCC is so different and that the atmosphere you have created is so supportive and inclusive. Thank you!

Thank you once again for a wonderful concert. Our girls just love being part of it.

It's amazing the quality of show and performance you get out of so many children across such a wide age span - from the pre school 4-5 yos up to the late teen almost-adults. How you coordinate and lead them is a credit to you, your staff (Miss Christina etc) and the Ballet school as a whole. Have a wonderful summer break and we will see you next year. Only about 500 viewings of the concert DVD between now and then!!!! ;)

I just wanted to thank you for... .. last years Neverland production... It was truly spectacular and so beautifully choreographed. I can't believe how far all the students in [my daughter's] grade have come. They are turning into such exceptional dancers and such lovely caring young people! This has so much to do with the wonderful care and time you give to them.

Hi Lorraine,

I want to congratulate you on another amazing concert. It was such a high quality and the students all performed beautifully. We felt it was the best one yet out of [all that my daughter] has been a part of. I'm expecting that you would be nominated and win a number of CAT awards this year!!! You must be very proud. I hope you are starting to unwind and recover. It was once again a rewarding time working backstage with the students. Thank you and all the teachers for all your and their hard work.

Congratulations once again on a wonderful Show. Absolute magic !!! Massive thank you for another fantastic year of dance for [my children].

Congratulations on an excellent show. Our family really enjoyed it especially [my grand daughter].

Hi Lorraine. Thank you for another great show! We enjoyed being part of it. Every year we wonder how on earth you pull it off.

Lorraine

Congratulations on another fabulous performance. [My daughter] has a grand contingent of 15 family members attend the concert this year and they were all in awe at what you achieve with the children. Every year feels to us like it is a step up from the last year.

... a BIG thank you & congratulations for the wonderful show this year. The choreography was outstanding. A visual treat.

Dear Lorraine

Congratulations on a wonderful end of year production! We attended on Saturday and the dancers did such a wonderful job. [My daughter] danced as a star and I already started to tear up before she came on stage – had to try and clear my eyes so I could actually see her when she came on! The finale was also very moving. Must be in the family as [my daughter] burst into tears that night when she realised there would be no more theatre til next year! I really appreciated the care that was taken of [my daughter] in the theatre given her allergies. Thank you also for a great year of ballet – [my daughter] has loved her lessons with Miss Christina. I am so happy that we found your school when we moved to Canberra – it seems to be a great fit for us. Thank you for always answering my questions so promptly and for setting up such a great, respectful culture within the ballet school. Hope you have a restful time over the Christmas holidays and look forward to being back next year!

Thank-you for a beautiful show. [My daughters] loved every minute of it! It was so special to see them dancing together.

Our whole family really loved being a part of Neverland, thank you so much.

Thank you so much for such a fantastic show. [My daughter] is in preschool and I had never seen the show before. I have to admit that at the beginning I thought that all the preparation for the show was too much. But after being helping backstage and after seeing the show I understood everything.

[My daughter] has been so excited during the week. She enjoyed every minute so I did. And the show... I don't have words to describe how wonderful it was. I cried like a kid when the third act was finishing. Congratulations! The effort was worth it!

The show was wonderful, I thoroughly enjoyed watching it as well as being backstage. My daughter ... loved every minute of it! Thank you!

Thanks for everything. The show was wonderful as always and very moving.

I just wanted to thank you for such a wonderful year of ballet and outstanding concert. It is [My daughter's] third year of ballet and she had an absolute ball and is more in love with ballet than ever before. As an audience member I thought this was the best concert so far and I thoroughly enjoyed it. You do such a great job pulling everything together and it is a privilege for us parents to be able to help backstage and share some of the atmosphere and excitement with our kids.

[My daughter] is obsessed with Harry Potter so I can't wait to tell her about next year's concert when I pick her up this afternoon 😊

Congratulations on Neverland! It was a joy to watch and we are so looking forward to getting the DVD to be able to watch it again.

Firstly can I say a big thank you and congratulations for the amazing concert you have put together this year. My family and I were really impressed. It was really seamless and our visitors from QLD thought it could go on the road. Thank you for all your work and dedication to making it a success.

Congratulations on another fantastic show!! The backstage buzz was great and all the kids had so much fun. The older girls were again fantastic with helping the little ones. [My children] both had a wonderful time and are sad that it is over for another year.

Thanks for all your and the other teachers efforts over the past year, we have all enjoyed being part of the CBCC family:)

The concert was absolutely wonderful- costumes, stage, props, lighting, music and of course the performances. WHAT A SHOW!! Thank you for all your hard work and to all the amazing volunteers and students.

... thankyou for such a lovely Concert. It was just amazing the standard of your dancing school.

[My daughter] really enjoyed her first Concert and necklace gift!

Hello Ms Lorraine, Happy New Year. Could I add to many others in my congratulations for the wonderful performance of Neverland late last year. It was truly an inspirational performance by you and your charges. I was particularly impressed by the Senior girls and especially their performances prior to each intermission, just fantastic.

Wow. What a show! [My daughter] was, of course, such a joy to watch in a production that showed us all that she has learned this year and so clearly loving every moment of her dancing. Her friends who came along said to us that they knew she could dance but they had no idea she could DANCE!! They were ... so quiet because I don't think they either expected such a professional standard of production and quality of show, nor to see [my daughter] so capable. I guess school friends know she goes to ballet endlessly, and misses parties etc but have never seen her dance to understand what it is that she is so dedicated to. I think they get it now 😊😊

Second our compliments to you. Your music, choreography, production, logistics as well as impeccable casting made the show the best we have seen in

our journey with you (yes I know I say that every year but it's true!). I can't comment on [my daughter's] items - I often don't see those items in their fullness until I watch the DVD as I am so intent on watching her, so these items didn't have [my daughter] in them, but amidst a show that it's hard to identify favourites (and mermaids will always be a favourite for how creative and clever it is) these were just standouts for me:

- Lily - always such a strong dancer but the gentleness she was able to bring to the role was lovely;
- Nikki and Ellie together - a great sense of timing and humour - both so able in their roles;
- Andrew and Eliza together - what a pair of hams! They were fabulous and really brought that whole scene to life!
- I don't wanna grow up - brilliant!
- Your toy soldiers and wind up dolls. Watching on Saturday this one must've been my highlight - the most impeccable timing. I said to [my daughter] that a professional crew couldn't have done those same steps any better with the precise timing and sense of character brought to perfection at exactly the right time - absolutely nailed it!

It's a good sign when after the exhaustion of the last few weeks of hard work [my daughter] said to me "it's only been a day! I don't think I can last till end January!" and was dancing the most beautiful lyrical dancing in the lounge room yesterday at a moment when she thought no one was watching. That's thanks entirely to you and your team [...]

**Thank you everyone for your words of support. Your positive reflections on how your child felt, how you felt, is vital for us to know that what we strive for, every minute of every hour of every day, is working. So many put so much of themselves into this production, your acknowledgement of these efforts is sincerely appreciated.**

**Now onward and upward for Harry Potter!**