

THE DANCE STUDIO OF PARK SLOPE CELEBRATES 40 YEARS OF SERVICE TO PARK SLOPE COMMUNITY

On Saturday, June 11, 2016, from 1:00 p.m. till 4:00 p.m., The Dance Studio of Park Slope will mark 40 years of service to Park Slope with a celebration at Littlefield, including dancing to the music of a nine piece band. This will be a wonderful opportunity for current students to show their pride in their studio and its history, and for past students to reunite with old friends and revisit cherished memories.

In a day and age where Brooklyn's main streets are lined with national chain stores and franchise businesses, the independently owned Dance Studio of Park Slope continues to thrive and stay true to its artistic roots. The first dance studio to open on Seventh Avenue, The Dance Studio of Park Slope was founded in 1976 by Kathy Gargan, in a storefront between President and Carroll Streets. In 1978 the studio moved to the corner of Union Street where it remained for decades. Kathy partnered with Gail de Zon, and the studio garnered huge popularity in the neighborhood, offering a wide array of dance and fitness classes, open to students of all ages and all capabilities, from beginner to advanced. They went on to mount productions of the full length ballet *The Nutcracker*, performances at the Seventh Heaven festival and elsewhere, and their students participated in the world's largest chorus line of tap dancers, competing to break the Guinness World Record. The studio boasted an enrollment of over 400 children and adults.

Current owner and Artistic Director Jennifer Kliegel took over in 1985. She continues to oversee the dance education of hundreds of students, and has trained thousands throughout the studio's history. Now located on Sackett Street near Fourth Avenue, the studio remains a welcoming place with a beautiful sunny, airy atmosphere, where artistic expression, performance and friendship are valued above competition. Classes are staffed by professionals, many with long resumes of accomplishment on the stage, who bring their love of the arts to this Park Slope institution. Jennifer and her faculty are now teaching the children and grandchildren of their original students.

The Dance Studio of Park Slope is the community's original center for dance, musical theatre, tumbling and performance. The facility offers spacious studios with sprung floors, central air and a large reception area. Stroller parking is available. They are a non-competition school which takes great pride in meeting their students' individual needs, while keeping them challenged and excited. The studio also hosts performances and events to give back to the community.

Their annual recital is open to the public.

For further information please visit their web site, thedancestudiops.com or like them on www.facebook.com/thedancestudiops

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