

A Family's Appreciation For Dance

By Katie Day

It's 6 p.m. on a Thursday, and Nicole Funk is in between dance classes at MoCo Arts. She boasts an impressive

dance resume taking tap, ballet, jazz, and pointe this fall semester. "I've been dancing since I was three years old," says Nicole. "I've grown a lot as

a dancer since coming to MoCo."

Five years ago, Nicole and her family arrived in Keene from New Jersey. "Everywhere we went we asked, 'Is there a dance studio in town?'" explains Alice Funk, Nicole's mother. "Everyone said 'MoCo Arts is the one to go to.'"

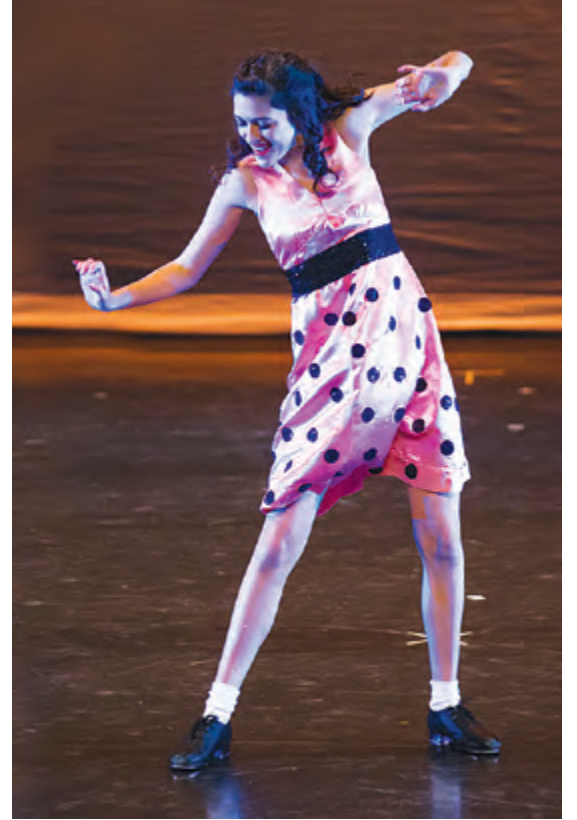
"Everyone was very welcoming the second we walked in; it was like they already knew us," says Nicole. "The teachers are friendly and compassionate and they really care about you. They are more than just our teachers, they are also our friends."

For the Funk family, MoCo Arts performances are a time to be together enjoying each other's company while admiring each other's talent. And with that many dance classes, Nicole gets a lot of time on stage during performances. That makes her family excited and proud.

"Nikki has an older brother who's autistic," says Alice Funk, Nicole's mother. "We make an outing of it to come to the shows. The storyline entertains him; he sits there and is excited about it."

"They get so excited over a dance show, which I never thought would happen!" says Nicole. "Not everyone dances, but everyone appreciates the art of it."

MoCo Arts is a 501(c)3 non-profit, multi-arts educational organization located in downtown Keene offering dance and theatre classes and multi-arts



NICOLE FUNK lights up on stage during a recent MoCo Arts performance.

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Town Employees' Exhibit At Peterborough Library

The Peterborough Town Library will round out the holiday season with its 17th Annual Town Employees' Exhibition in the Art Corner and Showcase. The exhibits will be on view during library hours throughout December.

New this season are handcrafted birdhouses and felt-crafted cardinals, and some Verse, as well as paintings, cross-stitch, textiles, photograph trips, and some portraiture.

Department exhibitors are Paula Amrich, Carolyn Carter, Martha Collins, Brian Hackert, Ann Harrison, Sarah Hurlley, Linda Kepner, and Michael Price, Library; Lydia Bean, Police; and Cliff Monkton and Marshall Torsey, Recycling.

vacation and summer camps for children ages eight months to 18+ years. As part of the educational process, MoCo Arts provides professional performance experience for students and family-friendly performances for audiences of all ages throughout the year. MoCo welcomes all students, beginners through advanced, and tuition assistance is available. MoCo Arts is sponsored in part by the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation-Monadnock Region.

For more details, visit MoCo Arts at 76 Railroad Street in Keene or www.moco.org.

Katie Day is MoCo Arts Communications and Marketing manager

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6:00 - 6:45 PM

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