

Dance Spotlight

Jordyn Joens

By Brooke Steigauf

Jordyn Joens, one of Concordia's many gifted students, began dancing at three years old and has not stopped since. She began participating in a competitive danceline studio at 10 years old. Throughout her career as a dancer, her love and skill gradually increased and she has continually been inspired by the television show, "So You Think You Can Dance." She remembers creating small, silly dance routines with her friends and putting on mini shows. Her first dance recital when she was three years old was a "disaster" due to a malfunction on stage. She remembers using a "clapper" (a bell type instrument,) but when she went on stage, her "clapper" was faulty and made no noise. Jordyn recalls spending the entire routine scrambling about the stage in search of a working piece. She uses that story as proof that anyone can become a better dancer with time and practice.

Now a senior at Concordia, Jordyn is a marketing major with a dance minor and has taken classes in modern, tap, jazz, musical theater, and ballet during her years here. She has been consistently inspired by her dance teacher Cynthia Prinzing from StudioOne Dance and Jan Puffer who is her current instructor at Concordia along with professional dancer Isadora Duncan and her flowy movement and style. She is also inspired by the movements of nature and many literary works such as the poems of Emily Dickinson.

Jordyn's favorite types of dance are jazz and musical theater. She practices ballet the most because it allows her to return to the basics of the art. Her favorite trick is pirouette turns of which she can do many.

Her ability to do turns has given her the nickname of "Tornado al."

Jordyn says that she enjoys dancing simply for the pure joy she gets out of it. She enjoys performing at any and every opportunity she is given and plans to continue dancing outside of college as well. She also would like to take adult dance classes and possibly work for a dance company to further improve and enhance her dancing technique. She credits her improved confidence, happiness, and sense of determination to dance. She enjoys the competition and its ability to drive her to improve. Jordyn also thanks the art of dancing for teaching her how to accept constructive criticism and work at routines to the point of perfection. She says that the ultimate goal of any dancer is to make it look as effortless as possible and she works towards achieving that in every one of the styles that she participates in, even the ones that she struggles with the most, like hip hop.



The talented dancer is very excited for Concordia's fourth annual Spring Into Dance event, happening April 21-24. She auditioned and was chosen to choreograph a ballet routine called "Au Printemps," which will be performed at the event. The dance is inspired by springtime, particularly the blooming of flowers! The audience will also have the opportunity to see Jordyn shining on stage through many dances she will perform in at the event as well!

By The Bog of Cats

A Student Produced and Directed One Act

By Jerry Freels

The weekend of April 28-May 1 Concordia students Marisa Tejada and Jessica Lakosky along with their cast will direct, produce, and perform in *By The Bog of Cats*. The play will be directed by Marisa Tejada. Jessica Lakosky, a senior at Concordia, will play the leading role. Both Tejada and Lakosky are ready to graduate this year on May 6, 2016 with degrees in Performing Arts.

Jessica seemed so eager to wrap up this year on a great note by leading the way in the last play of the year. She has been acting in plays since she was seven years old and always loved to entertain people. The way she described her passion for acting anyone would feel like they were in the presence of a great actress that knows what she wants in life. Being involved in every play at Concordia since she arrived at the school was her mission and goal. After graduation, Jessica wants to make a career as an



Photo of Jessica Lakosky

on-stage actress. Sticking with theatre is her main goal, but she has not ruled out being a T.V. or movie actress. Jessica previously experienced directing at Highview Middle School in creating *The Music Man* this year.

In *By the Bog of Cats*, the writer Marian Carr uses the structure of Greek Tragedy to stitch together her tale of abandonment, disloyalty and vengeance in her contemporary interpretation. It is an Ireland based play with some of the same outlines as the play *The Medea of Euripides*. Another resemblance between the two plays is their respective settings; the relationship of the inside domain (feminine) to the outside world (masculine) is essential to the plot of *Medea*.

By the Bog of Cats sounds like a great play to go see and would be very entertaining and have you on the edge of your seat the whole time! The last showing of the play is a matinee on May 1st. Come out to enjoy the last play of the 2016 school year and the work of soon to be Concordia St. Paul Theater graduates.