



December 13, 1994

Ms. Mary Johnson
On-Time Dance Studio
2125 Crompond Road
Peekskill, New York 10566

Dear Mary:

Everyone at the Paramount Center for the Arts would like to thank you and your dancers for participating in the Pataki Parade on December 3, 1994.

The colorful costumes and professionalism of your students and staff really made the Paramount float a hit. Please pass our thanks along to everyone who participated and let them know that certificates of appreciation will be sent to each of them shortly.

You can watch the parade on Continental Cablevision. Check the preview guide from time to time, I believe the parade is broadcast several times a week. Thanks again.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa A. Ruyack".

Lisa A. Ruyack
Marketing Director



North County News

Serving Yorktown, Somers, Putnam Valley and Cortlandt

February 22, 1995 - February 28, 1995

50¢

Enlivening Westchester Communities With Art and Artists



(Clockwise from above) Mary Johnson's On Time Dancers aboard float at Governor George Pataki's inaugural celebration in Peekskill; Mark Shepard makes music for young mothers and their babies; (Back row, L - R) Mariah Fee, Valerie Swan, Kleinmann, (Front) Eileen Braun, Ellen Haven, Westchester County Cultural Affairs Director Judy Matson and Francesca Samsel; Grant recipient Bram Levin of Port Chester-based educational organization for immigrants and WAC Marketing and Media Relations Manager Deborah Scates.



specify a modern-day carousel for Peekskill, and coordinate an exhibit performance by Peekskill youth documenting carousels.

A Mohegan Lake resident, Kleinmann teaches at a South Bronx high school. A firm conservationist and environmentalist, he recycles everything, and his students are convinced he's saving the world.

The Carousel Project is for Peekskill children interested in exploring the history of the carousel, and may include a visit to an existing merry-go-round.

Flamboyant and elegant, carousel or fairground art has long been neglected. The study of carousels is filled with exciting possibilities for art, dominated by the spectacular galloping horses, ornamented with rows of glass jewels cut like diamonds, or carved with patriotic emblems.

Fairground Art, by Geof Weedon and Richard Ward, published by Abbeville Press, is a photographic history of the decorative and commercial art form of the past. Kleinmann is using this photographic essay as a resource for his Carousel Project.

Peekskill dance teacher Mary Johnson received an Arts Alive grant in the amount of \$750, in partnership with the Zeta Interested in People Foundation (an offshoot of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Foundation), to present a performance of 16 dancers, ages 8 to adult, all students

of Johnson's On Time Dance Studio.

The ZIP Foundation will present "A Black History Performance," featuring Johnson's On Time Dance Studio, Friday, February 24, at 8 p.m. in the auditorium of Peekskill High School (1072 Elm Street).

This past week Johnson introduced dance to Peekskill elementary students with a program of tap and African-American dance. She also volunteers time to teach tap dancing to inmates at the Taconic Correctional Facility who call themselves "The Taconic Seven." The dance therapy program has had such a positive effect on the lives of the prisoners that other facilities are now interested in duplicating the program.

Last summer the choreographer was selected as a resident artist for the Westchester Arts Council Residency Program from a cadre of 60 candidates. These artists provide workshops and demonstrations for schools, community centers and cultural organizations throughout the county.

Arts Alive grants are made possible with public funds from the Decentralization Program of the New York State Council on the Arts. If the arts are the bread of the soul, as Heston maintains, government funding has been the butter. The question appears to be with the government going on a low-cal diet, will it continue to supply this spread?

