

## It's Bright! It's Bold! It's Now!

The Tryzub Ukrainian Dance Society is pleased to release our new website!

The past two years have been very exciting as the Society made the decision to move forward with redesigning our website. Many hours of planning and writing resulted in updated content and basic structure for the new site. Our design team was very fortunate to work with Frank Fowler of Sland Studios Inc. to come up with Tryzub's new and exciting look, which was launched on March 1, 2012.

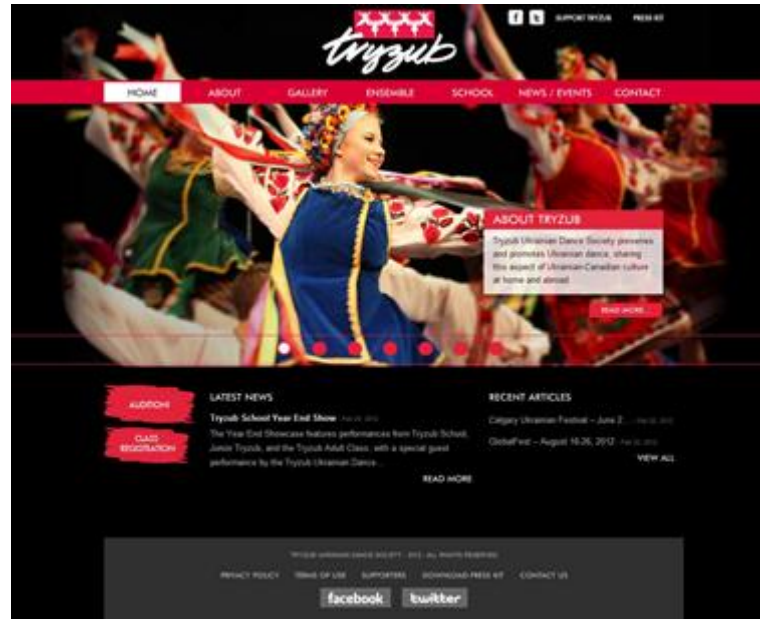
Announcements for the release were made on our Facebook group page as well as Twitter and we were thrilled to see many individuals re-posting and tweeting their excitement!

Thank you to everyone who assisted in providing information for the content from all facets of the organization. We extend our sincerest gratitude to all our photographers throughout the years who have captured the essence of what we do.

Visit the new site often for updated information on Tryzub events, performances, released Trubka's editions and other news from the entire Tryzub family. We hope you like our new look as much as we do!

Your website design team,

Charles Pullan and Maria Ochitwa ☺



Visit [www.tryzub.ca](http://www.tryzub.ca) to catch the excitement!

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## Tryzub School Releases Commissioned Artwork



**Pictured (R to L):** Larisa Sembaliuk-Cheladyn,  
Dean Mackedenski and Evelyn Goj

### ***THE WAIT IS OVER!***

*The anticipation... the anxiety... the excitement...  
it all comes down to the waiting!*

Tryzub is proud to announce their first-ever commissioned piece of artwork!

With the Tryzub School of Ukrainian Dance celebrating its 15<sup>th</sup> year of inspiring students to discover and pursue their passion of Ukrainian dance, an extraordinary tribute was called upon to commemorate this momentous occasion.

Unveiled as a surprise at the Tryzub School Zabava at the beginning of February, "Waiting Backstage..." is a collaboration, fundraiser, and vision between the Tryzub School of Ukrainian Dance and Edmonton artist, Larisa Sembaliuk-Cheladyn. "Waiting Backstage..." encompasses the pure enjoyment and love of Ukrainian dance, capturing the innocence of children and the emotions that go on behind the scenes, but not always displayed on the other side of the curtain.

The Official Release Party for "Waiting

Backstage..." was held at the Tryzub Dance Studios on Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> with the artist herself being in attendance. Our "Evening With Larisa" was attended by approximately 30 members of the Tryzub Family. The event started with a wine and cheese, followed by an extensive feature presentation by Larisa herself detailing her inspiration in creating this piece, being her first artwork focusing on children. Larisa showcased her preliminary sketches of the art and was also on hand to answer questions and personalize copies of "Waiting Backstage..." for those interested.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all who attended this very intimate, memorable evening, as well as those who have supported us by purchasing one of these limited edition prints. Live auctions were held at both events and we would like to thank and congratulate the Dohan Family and the Biss Family for their winning bids on the only unnumbered and numbered Artist Proofs, respectively, Larisa has graciously released prior to the series being sold out.

"Waiting Backstage..." features our very own Tryzub costumes. From the original Poltava flowered skirts worn by many adults when they were young, to the elaborate regional costumes being made in Ukraine specifically for our group, this artwork showcases the evolution of Ukrainian dance, not only in Tryzub, but with dance schools across Canada. We hope this painting will not only be a memory for past dancers, but also for current ones when they have dancers of their own. ☺

Uniquely Ukrainian, but distinctively Tryzub, "Waiting Backstage..." measures 5.5"H x 22.75"W and retails for \$150 per print, with the funds raised being primarily allocated towards costuming our dancers. You can secure your copy by e-mailing: [tryzubdanceart@gmail.com](mailto:tryzubdanceart@gmail.com) ☺

## Interview with an Ensemble Dancer - #1

In this edition, the Trubka editors interviewed two current ensemble dancers. First we would like to introduce you to Morgan DeMone!

**Tryzub Trubka:** Who are you, what do you do for a living/in school, how long have you lived in/around Calgary?

**Morgan DeMone:** My name is Morgan DeMone; I'm 20 years old and currently a student at Mount Royal University in the Social Work Diploma Program. I am going to be graduating in June 2012 and my plan is to transfer to the University of Calgary for my BSW in the fall. I have lived in the Town of Cochrane (situated NW of Calgary) since 2001 and yes, I drive in to the city in order to attend rehearsals in the deep SE.

**TT:** How long have you Ukrainian danced for?

**MD:** I have been dancing since I was three years old. When my family moved to Cochrane, I joined the Tryzub School of Ukrainian Dance.

**TT:** How long have you been a member of the Tryzub Ukrainian Dance Ensemble member?

**MD:** I remember the day I received a phone call from Charles Pullan, a current Ensemble member who was then the Human Resources Director. It was 2007 and I was in grade ten. After I received the news that day at my High School, I was jumping up and down!

**TT:** What do you enjoy about dancing with Tryzub?

**MD:** The sense of family within the group, of

course! Everyone here contributes something special to the dynamic in the studio. It is a true honor to be dancing in the Ensemble where current members and alumni have contributed to where the Ensemble is today. We are so fortunate to have a beautiful facility, qualified instructors, and travel opportunities in Tryzub.

**TT:** What is your favorite dance?

**MD:** I enjoy a great deal of the Tryzub Ensemble repertoire but my personal favorites to perform are Celebration and the Transcarpathian Suite.

**TT:** Do you have a memorable moment to share?

**MD:** Recently, I began my 2012 year with my 100th performance. My other memorable moment that I have was during the Razom tour when I was given the privilege to be a part of the Hopak trio female part in the Calgary Show. Both moments are very special to me.

**TT:** What are you looking forward to this year?

**MD:** I am very excited to be a part of the commemorative 10th Calgary GlobalFest this August! With all the bits of information I've learned about the big festival, it is making me very excited for what it will bring to the celebration! ☺

To read our second interview with a dancer, please go to page 7.



## Zabava 2012 Update

By: Roxanna Pullan

After last years Zabava was emceed graciously by George Chronik, the lingering buzz from the former Artist Director caught the attention of some alumni dancers. The stories and memories George shared inspired a group of former Tryzub Ensemble ladies to take over the annual fundraiser for 2012, as a way to give back to the ensemble that brought them together and provided fuel for many great memories.

In having the alumni take the reins planning the 2012 Zabava it will allow our dancers to focus on what they do best, dancing. The current Tryzub Ensemble is made up of a dedicated group of individuals who spend hours honing their craft along with many more hours volunteering for the organization. As an alumni myself, knowing we can ease some of the volunteer commitment for the dancers by organizing, planning and running the event is an extremely positive way for us to contribute to the current membership. Hopefully this will strengthen future partnerships between the current ensemble members and the Tryzub Alumni.

There are a few main reasons for getting involved in this year's Zabava. The first is to give back to an organization that has been an integral part of shaping who I am as a person. When I was in the studio, our dancing and volunteer hours took up a lot of personal time. My hope is to remove some of the current crunch for time commitments and enable the dancers to focus on their dancing. The second is to strengthen the connection with our Alumni and to hopefully inspire and encourage them to not only attend events but to also get involved. The six alumni currently planning the 2012 Zabava have all contributed to planning past events, yet there is always room for improvement and the opportunity for those

with unique talents to step forward and enrich our community.

With planning already underway, be sure to mark your calendars for Saturday November 3<sup>rd</sup> as this year's event is one that you won't want to miss! ☺

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### APRIL 2012

22 Tryzub School Year End Concert

#### JUNE 2011

2 & 3 Calgary Ukrainian Festival

10 Ensemble Auditions

#### AUGUST

16 – 26 GlobalFest 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

#### SEPTEMBER

11 Tryzub School Registration & Class Placement

#### NOVEMBER

3 Tryzub Zabava

For more information on any of the above events, please contact us:

Tryzub Ukrainian Dance Society

[www.tryzub.ca](http://www.tryzub.ca)

[info@tryzub.ca](mailto:info@tryzub.ca)

403-720-4840

The Tryzub Studios are located at  
#115, 3953 - 112 Avenue SE in Calgary, AB.

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**\*\* Please Note: Donations \$25 or greater will be issued a tax receipt \*\***

## Interview with an Ensemble Dancer - #2

The Trubka's second interview is with one of our newest members, Chris Sumka!

**Tryzub Trubka:** Who are you, what do you do for a living/in school, how long have you lived in/around Calgary?

**Chris Sumka:** My name is Christopher Sumka, I am 23 years old and I live for the moments that become lifelong memories. I graduated from the University of Alberta in May 2011 with a degree in Mining Engineering. I was born and raised in Edmonton and knowing that my career would likely take me away from home, I jumped at the opportunity to work in Calgary because it is close to Edmonton and is also a great city to live in. I moved to Calgary in May 2011 and even though I have been here for almost 10 months, I still only know a few main roads; Deerfoot Trail which takes me back to Edmonton almost every weekend, and Barlow Trail which takes me to the dance studio on Wednesdays and Sundays.

**TT:** How long have you Ukrainian danced for?

**CS:** It seems that boys are usually 'forced' to start Ukrainian dancing at a very young age because Baba and Dido or Mom and Dad like to see their children carry on the Ukrainian culture. When I first starting dancing I was quite young and to be honest I can't even remember my exact age but if I had to guess I was probably 8 years old. I have to admit though that when I danced and performed during my younger years, I did it only to put a smile on Baba and Dido's face.

At the age of 15 I was ready to give up on Ukrainian dancing but I gave it one last shot by

trying out for the semi-professional group Dunai of Edmonton. After I started performing with Dunai, my outlook on dancing totally changed and I began to realize how much I enjoyed the feeling of performing and the feeling of being part of a great group of people. I didn't want to give up that feeling when I moved to Calgary and since the Ukrainian Community is very tight knit, I began to meet and hear from people who dance in Tryzub. It was easy to see that Tryzub was a group that would welcome me into their family and quickly make me feel like I belong there.

**TT:** How long have you been a member of the Tryzub Ukrainian Dance Ensemble?

**CS:** I started coming to rehearsals in October 2011. Since I could not make the official Tryzub auditions in the fall, my first few rehearsals were recognized as my audition and my opportunity to show the group that I can take on challenges and that I am committed to learning and continually improving my dancing technique. I got my official letter of acceptance on November 6<sup>th</sup> 2011.

**TT:** What do you enjoy about dancing with Tryzub?

**CS:** I enjoy the challenge of the group. I can't remember the last time I have learned almost a full Hutzul Suite or Transcarpathian Suite in one or two rehearsals. Sometimes I feel a bit overwhelmed with the amount of choreography I have learned in the time that I have been here so far, but it's that feeling that keeps me motivated to ensure that I get it right so that when performance time comes, I can dance as confidently and flawlessly as my fellow dancers.

I enjoy the traditional choreography that our Artistic Director teaches us and the willingness of Vasyl and Anna to put in extra time for dancers who ask for it.

- Interview continued on page 8

- continued from page 7

Of course, I also enjoy my fellow ensemble dancers. Everyone has welcomed me and made me feel like I have been there as long as they have by inviting me to events or get-togethers outside of dance.

**TT:** What is your favorite dance?

**CS:** I always tell people that I Ukrainian dance for the Hopak. I still love performing other dances but the Hopak makes me feel the most satisfied. I think one of the main reasons is because it seems to be the audience's favorite dance as well. The more the crowd is enjoying a dance, the more the dancers can feed off of the crowd's energy and use it to take the dance to another level.

**TT:** Do you have a memorable moment to share?

**CS:** Being that I am still fairly new and have only gotten to experience a few performances, I cannot say I have a certain dance related memorable moment to share. Although as I have mentioned, the dancing family extends outside of the studio and performances and I have great memories of the Tryzub Christmas Party. It was a great gathering of fellow dancers and we had a lot of fun with our gift exchange, playing games, and eating great food! Can't wait until the next one!

**TT:** What are you looking forward to this year?

**CS:** This year I am looking forward to continuing to learn new choreography and continuing to grow my friendships with everyone. I am also looking forward to the upcoming touring opportunities that the ensemble has been invited to. Finally, I am looking forward to continuing to spread the Ukrainian culture with my new group, Tryzub. ☺

## Who's in the Tryzub Ensemble?



**Note:** Those members not in the picture above are denoted by the letters "N.P."

### Artistic Director:

Vasyl Kanevets (N.P.)

### Ensemble Members:

Stephanie Andrews (N.P.)

Breanna Barrington

Stephanie Bell

Tyler Bernakevitch

Jordan Biss

Emma Bolt (N.P.)

Kimberley Bushell (N.P.)

Christina Chumak

Anne Copeland (N.P.)

Morgan DeMone

Uliana Kanevets

Sophia Kushliak

Christine Ochitwa

Charles Pullan

Chris Sumka (N.P.)

Joren Tzitzoglakis

Nathan Woyarski



# Alumni Updates

Help to keep our alumni list current and ensure you continue to receive Tryzub updates. We would appreciate if you would provide us with the following information:

- Name
- Mailing Address
- Phone Number(s)
- E-mail
- Recent News
  - We'll include any news you would like to share in upcoming editions of the Trubka!

**Tryzub Alumni Association**

**Contact:**  
Debbie Horbachewski  
or  
Maria Ochitwa

**E-Mail:**  
alumni@tryzub.ca



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