

Inspiring excellence in dance and in life

The Ballet School of Stamford, based in historic Old Town Hall, is a regional cultural jewel that provides excellent dance training for 250 children ages 3 to 18 who study ballet, jazz and modern dance. The not-for-profit school enables its students to perform in a repertoire of new and classic productions at The Palace Theatre including: "The Sleeping Beauty," "Coppelia" and "La Boutique Fantasque." Beyond its unique performance opportunities, the school offers a vision for bringing out the best in its students. Advanced students attend four to five classes per week – demanding strong time and organizational management skills for their academics and other activities. Over the past four years, 100 percent of the school's seniors have gone on to college and 10 percent of seniors have gone on to Ivy League schools. The culture of the school encourages students to apply for scholarships and 65 percent of scholarship students have attended the school for seven years or more.

The Ballet School of Stamford's program attracted the attention of Community Partners, a group sponsored by the Harvard Business School Alumni Association of Connecticut, which is studying how Connecticut arts education programs, along with other not-for-profit agencies, may best demonstrate their contributions to better societal outcomes. The school's focus is to foster a fun and educational environment in a beautiful setting that benefits the school's students as they grow their artistic and life management skills in preparation for college and their future careers.

Visit www.balletschoolofstamford.org or call 203-358-8853 for more information.



Marti Etter
The Ballet School of Stamford
Member, Cultural Alliance of Fairfield County

The mission of the Cultural Alliance of Fairfield County is to support cultural organizations, artists and creative businesses by providing promotion, services and advocacy.

For more information, visit www.CulturalAllianceFC.org or email infoCulturalAllianceFC.org or call 256-2329.

For events lists, visit www.FCBuzz.org.



FCBUZZ

Arts & Culture of Fairfield County

TALE OF A 'LOST' DAUGHTER

Diana Abu-Jaber, the author of "Birds of Paradise," will be the featured speaker at Darien Library Tuesday, Oct. 11, at 7 p.m.

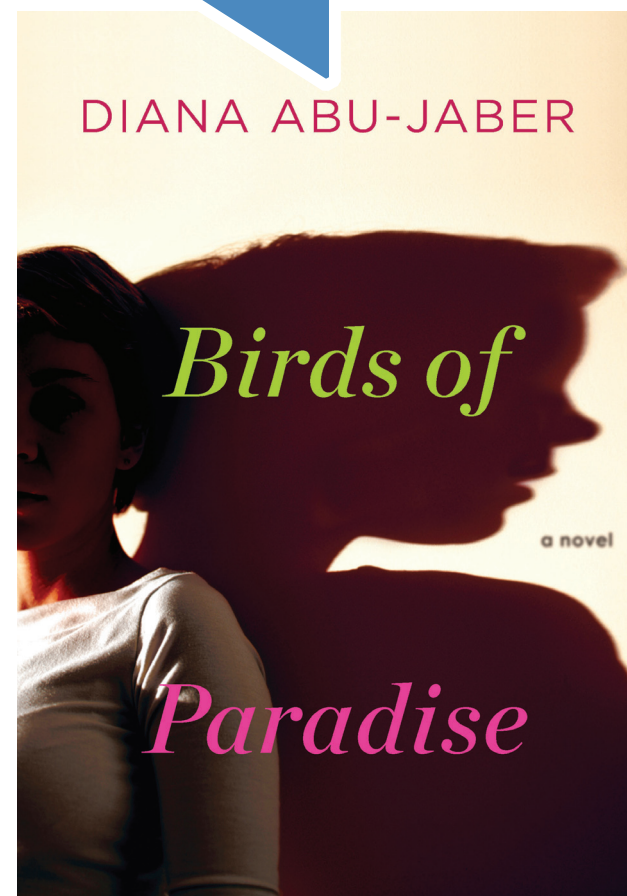
In the tropical paradise that is Miami, Avis and Brian Muir are still haunted by the disappearance of their ineffably beautiful daughter, Felice, who ran away when she was 13. Now, after five years of skateboarding, clubbing, and sleeping in a squat house or on the beach, Felice is about to turn 18. Her family – Avis, an exquisitely talented



ABU-JABER

pastry chef; Brian, a corporate real estate attorney; and her brother, Stanley, the proprietor of Freshly Grown, a trendy food market – will each be forced to confront their anguish, loss, and sense of betrayal. Meanwhile, Felice must reckon with the guilty secret that drove her away and must face her fear of losing her family and her sense of self forever. All Author Series programs will feature a book signing and refreshments. Books will be available for purchase at each event.

For more information, call 669-5232.



For more events and information, go to fcbuzz.org.

EVERY 'MUTT' HAS ITS DAY

This month, Stepping Stones Museum for Children will be the first museum to introduce programming based on the Mutt-i-grees Curriculum, a new program that builds on children's affinity for animals and highlights the unique characteristics and desirability of Mutt-i-grees, or shelter dogs. The program starts Oct. 8 and runs through Dec. 10.

The curriculum teaches social and emotional skills and is unique in its bridging of humane education and the emerging field of Social and Emotional Learning. Children learn critical skills that will help them in school, at home, and later on in the workplace and in their interactions with people and, of course, with animals. Integrated throughout the curriculum are feature lessons on dog behavior developed with Cesar Millan, world-renowned as the Dog Whisperer.

Teachers in Connecticut reviewed the Mutt-i-grees

lessons during the initial development stage. Pilot tests and guided implementation have been conducted in the Yale University School of the 21st Century as well as schools in Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Kentucky and Missouri.

The program was developed by The Pet Savers Foundation, the program development arm of the North Shore Animal League America, the world's largest no-kill animal rescue and adoption organization, in collaboration with the Yale University School of the 21st Century, and was funded by The Millan Foundation.

The program will be held Saturdays from 11:30 a.m. to noon. The program will be taught by Alan Louis, public programs manager, and his assistant, Dash, the lovable dog puppet. Live dogs will be making guest appearances during the course of the program.

For more information, visit steppingmuseum.org.

Visit FCBuzz.org for more information on events and how to get listed.



Presented by:
Cultural Alliance of Fairfield County