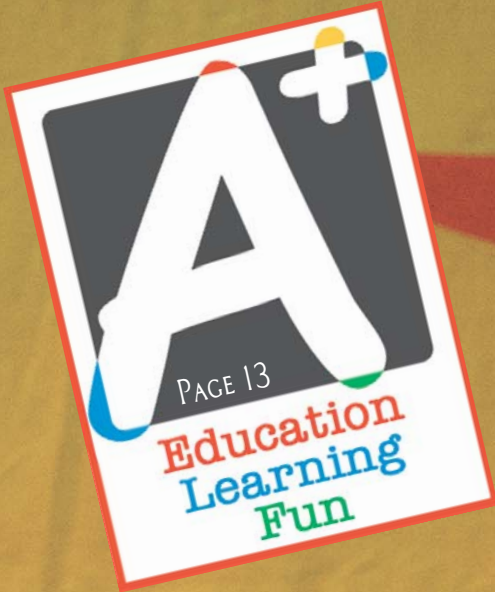


# Oak Hill ❖ Herndon CONNECTION



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Hannah Markowitz, 16, plays Aurora in the Classical Ballet Theatre's production of Sleeping Beauty in April. Markowitz recently finished a stint with the Suzanne Farrell Ballet at the Kennedy Center.

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## HOW TO GET YOUR ORGANIZATION'S SPECIAL EVENTS IN THE CONNECTION

### Calendar Listings

The Connection Newspapers contain a Calendar of Upcoming Events every week. While we cannot guarantee that every event we receive information about will be listed, here is the information we need for your upcoming event to be considered for the Calendar. We welcome photographs of similar events held previously, which sometimes appear with Calendar items.

*Name of Event:*

*Day of the Week, Date and Time:*

*Name of the Place Event will Be Held:*

*Address of the Place Event Will Be Held:*

*Name and Phone Number for More Information:*

*Three Sentences Describing the Event:*

Please submit your calendar information at least two weeks before your event. Clear photographs from similar previous events are always welcome. All events should be open to the public. We give first priority to free events. E-mail listings to:

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## HOLIDAY GIFT & ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

**Hannah Markowitz, 16, performs "The Dying Swan" at a Classical Ballet Theatre fundraiser last March. Markowitz, a junior at South Lakes, was recently selected to perform with the Suzanne Farrell Ballet at the Kennedy Center.**



PHOTO BY  
ALEX McVEIGH/  
THE CONNECTION

## At Home On the Dance Floor

**Hannah Markowitz completes performance with Farrell Ballet at Kennedy Center.**

BY ALEX McVEIGH  
THE CONNECTION

**L**isa Markowitz remembers watching her daughter Hannah when she started doing ballet at age 3.

"Most of the time she just kind of sat in the corner during class, and we almost pulled her out," she said. "She was very shy, but she began to come out and really learn to express herself."

Hannah Markowitz, now 16 and a junior at South Lakes High School, is hoping ballet becomes more than just a hobby. A student at the Classical Ballet Theatre in Herndon, she just completed performing with the Suzanne Farrell Ballet at the Kennedy Center.

"It was great dancing with professionals and getting a good idea of what it's like to dance for a living," she said. "It was a little bit scary, watching the professionals come in first thing in the morning and staying until late at night"

Renee Maxwell, a volunteer at the Classical Ballet Theatre says it's a "testament to Miss Markowitz's dedication, talent and excellent training."

Hannah Markowitz says she hopes to get an apprenticeship at a studio, which she hopes will lead into a full-time gig. She is hoping to try out for an apprenticeship at the Pacific Northwest Ballet in Seattle, Wash. next summer, and if she gets in, she has enough credits to get her high school diploma remotely.

"At first I didn't enjoy it, but after doing it every day, I really fell in love with it," Hannah



**Hannah Markowitz, a junior at South Lakes High School, recently finished a stint with the Suzanne Farrell Ballet at the Kennedy Center.**

PHOTO BY VIHAO PHAM

### CBT Performs "The Nutcracker"

The Classical Ballet Theatre will perform "The Nutcracker" Nov. 26 and 27 at the Ernst Theater, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale. The performance of a holiday classic features many dancers, brilliant costumes and scenery, and a special touch of magic to bring Clara's dream to life. Show times are Saturday at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., and Sunday at 2 p.m.

Markowitz said.

She credits teachers like Alisher Saburov and Jody Skye Schissler for inspiring her to work harder.

"It's nice to know I've had teachers who have been there and done that," Hannah Markowitz said. "A lot of studios are just about technique, and while CBT is strong on technique, they also take it to the next step by pushing the artistic side."

Lisa Markowitz credited the CBT staff with helping her daughter learn the truth about a future in ballet, saying "they've given her

very good advice about what her options would be."

Hannah Markowitz said one of the most challenging things about ballet is making all the hard work look easy.

"A lot of effort goes into making it look effortless," she said. "And while there are always more techniques to learn, you can't just be technically advanced, you have to fill roles within each performance."

Hannah says her dream role is to be in "Swan Lake," saying "it's a role that describes exactly who I am."

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