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## Celebrating 25 years of dance

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On 3 July the College Of Dance will be holding its annual dance performance entitled Dance Jubilee at the Mediterranean Conference Centre, Valletta. It will be under the artistic direction of Felix Busuttil and Justin Roy Barker, principals of the College Of Dance. As in previous years, this performance will also feature the participation of the Yada Dance Company, the College's in-house dance company. Dance Jubilee promises to be extra special as it will mark the 25th anniversary of the dance school, which opened its doors for the first time to around 40 students back in September 1989.

Today it boasts of some 500 students from all over Malta and Gozo at its current premises in San Gwann. The College has a team of experienced and highly qualified teachers who share the same philosophy and drive as the artistic directors. Particular emphasis is given to technique and discipline as well as the art of stage performance. The College has been a centre of dance diversity ever since its inception. It mainly specialises in Jazz Dance, Classical Ballet, Hip Hop & Commercial and Spanish Dance. Over the years the College has collaborated regularly in all major Yada Dance Company productions. This year was no exception.

In fact Dance Jubilee will bring to a close another successful and busy scholastic year. Immediately after the summer recess in 2013, the school embarked on rehearsals for Divas – Yada's 30th anniversary show held at the MFCC last March. During the same period students prepared themselves for the ISTD Classical Ballet Examinations and the Jazz Dance and Hip-Hop & Commercial Assessments. In May the college was invited to participate in the closing ceremony of the EUFA Under-17 championship. Throughout the year the students were treated to a couple of cultural theatre outings. Apart from rehearsals for this performance, currently some of the students are participating in the EU Youth In Action project which will culminate in a performance on 28 June at the Pjazza Teatru Rjal in Valletta.

In August the College will be holding an International Dance Course SW14 given by two experienced and qualified tutors from the United Kingdom. In September the College will reopen to what seems another exciting year.

Among the activities planned for next year there is the participation in MIDCE – Malta's First International Dance & Competition event.

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