

Darnz on lookout for more crew

Darnz Hip-Hop will be looking to recruit young people between the ages of 8 - 11 yrs in Term Three.

The youngsters will be considered to be part of a Junior Hip-Hop Crew which may be selected to travel to Hip-Hop competitions regionally and nationally during 2011.

"Darnz Hip-Hop Salsa (DHS) is a youth development programme first and a dance programme second," says crew boss Darney Takao.

"DHS is about mentoring youth to live a positive life of giving, respect, and support for one another. We work with youth between 5 - 17 yrs.

"We recognise that early intervention in a supported environment breeds positive attitudes in young people from all levels of society."

Darney and his wife 'Mrs T' (Edwina) co-founded of Darnz Hip-Hop Salsa Crew in 2005.

DHS teaches salsa, old school, rock 'n roll and hip-



Crew members Ben Cleary-Jennings, Olivia de Thierry, Darney Takao, Chanelle Ashby and Kelsey Laulau were winners of the recent Shakedown Hip-Hop Competition (Nelson), Small Groups section.

hop across the Nelson Tasman region. Six sites are running from Nelson to Golden Bay.

The try-outs for the team will be by way of selection auditions. Darney says it's important that those who try out can see the positive side of "giving it a go" rather than feeling that they have failed if they are not

selected.

There is a maximum of 20 places for this class over term three. Out of this 20, seven will eventually be selected into the crew, however the remaining 13 will continue to train alongside the selected team.

Romance writers compete

Many people enjoy reading a good 'Romance' novel but how about writing one?

If you have always wondered whether you could write a successful romantic novel now's your chance to find out.

The Nelson Romance Writers group are running a winter season writing competition entitled "A Winter Warmer".

The competition is open to anyone over 18 and entries must be a maximum length of 1000 words with a theme of *A Winter Warmer Romance*. The deadline is Monday September 6.

The entry fee is \$10 per story, with a further fee of \$20 if the writer wants a written assessment.

Entry forms are available from 26th July on Cherie Le Clare's web site www.cherieleclare.com/blog/

Successful Mills and Boon author Emily May is the final judge. The organisers, Romance Writers (RWNZ) group, have gathered some impressive prizes with the winner

receiving one year's RWNZ membership, a basket of Body Shop products plus 'Fate and Fortune' a double Regency novel by Emily May and Anne Herries.

Winners will be announced no later than Thursday September 30.

The Romance Writers group has been meeting monthly for about 10 years and, although they are a small group, they are enthusiastic and successful with a big percentage being or having just become published authors. The others are not far away either.

Sue McKay has had her first book published and now has a three-book contract with Mills and Boon and both LaVerne Clark and Cherie Le Clare have book contracts with The Wild Rose Press, an American E-book and Paperback publisher.

The group are very encouraging towards each other, helping with synopsis and with getting writers get on the road to publishing. They say new members are always welcome.

Tasman School start a family affair



It was a special family occasion at Tasman School last Friday when 5 year old Evelyn Rush became the first of the fourth generation of her family to attend the school.

Her father Hamish, pictured left, grandfather Colin (right) and Colin's mother all attended the school.

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