

Local dancer's fundraiser grows into charity gala

SickKids to benefit from event started by Jenny Bowser

By **LISA TALLYN**
Staff Writer

What started as a dance recital for cancer research back in 2008 at Christ the King Secondary School has evolved into a full-blown charity gala in Toronto set for Wednesday.

Jenny Bowser, 20, of Georgetown, founder of the Dancers for Cancer event, said she came up with the idea in her high school math class.

"At the time, I had just lost my aunt to cancer, and she was a huge advocate and fundraiser up until she passed away. She inspired me to do some-

thing about the cause, instead of just feel sorry for myself."

That event, put on by Bowser and friend and fellow dancer Melanie Chin in 2008, raised more than \$10,000, which went to the Canadian Cancer Society and Cancer Assistance Services of Halton Hills. The school continues to hold the event, and so far has raised \$45,000 in total.

The sold-out Dancers for Cancer Charity Gala will be held tomorrow (Wednesday) at The Grand Banking Hall at One King West and all proceeds support The Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids).

The event is being co-chaired by Bowser's friend Gloria Kim of Etobicoke.

Bowser's aunt, Jane Rogers, left behind two-and-a-half year-old twins when she died, so Bowser said she knows her aunt would want the money raised to go to SickKids.

They hope to raise \$50,000 at the gala. Sportscaster Rod Black will be emcee and Canadian hockey icon Paul Henderson, a family friend of Bowser's who is currently battling leukemia, is the keynote speaker.

The evening features a three-course meal, various dancers— including dancers from local schools Centre Stage School of the Arts (Bowser's dance studio) and McGinley Academy of Irish Dance— and a silent auction.

"Dancing is something every kid wants to do, and something that every child should have an opportunity to do," said co-chair Kim.

"It made all the sense in the world to donate to SickKids.



Former Christ the King student Jenny Bowser has seen her high school fundraiser turn into a charity gala for the Hospital for Sick Children in only four years. *File photo*

Our goal is to help kids in the hospital lead healthy, happy lives and go back to being

kids."
"It was important to us to connect to the cause and give back in a way that was meaningful to us. We are donating one third of the proceeds to the art therapy program, one-third to the Child Life program, and one-third to cancer research at SickKids. I know my aunt would be proud that we are giving the money back to kids," said Bowser.

Jessica Theocharides, SickKids patient ambassador and competitive dancer, will share her SickKids experience at the event. Jessica was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia (AML) in 2009 and is now in remission.

Bowser, currently studying Human Development at University of Guelph, with plans to be a lawyer, said she would love to host the event annually.

"I would love to be attached to Sick Kids every year," said Bowser, who added she's "blessed" to know the people and have the contacts she does.

"I have a million people to thank," said Bowser.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

FINANCIAL ANALYST AND PROJECT COORDINATOR

CONTRACT (APPROXIMATELY 12 MONTHS)
Posting No. 201210

Reporting to the Manager of Accounting, this contract position (approximately 12 months) provides a high degree of accounting, financial analysis and financial systems support. Working with a wide range of programs, services and capital projects, this position will be responsible for monitoring financial activity within the Corporation ensuring consistency and compliance to Corporate financial policies and procedures and undertake special projects.

Responsibilities:

- Recreation and Parks**
- Evaluate, develop and maintain departmental financial systems, policies and procedures
- Ensure consistency and system integration with Corporate financial policies and procedures
- Monitor and report on monthly variances by section and by account
- Conduct rate reviews, develop cost recovery strategies, budget assimilations and create revenue forecast for budget/business plan purposes
- Process and monitor purchase orders, progress payments and securities related to capital construction, operations and development approvals. Monitor eligible grant & funding opportunities, and assist with the preparation and administration of eligible grants

Corporate Services

- Special projects e.g. ad hoc financial analysis, reports, assist with implementation of financial software systems
- Assist Manager and other departments with the preparation of annual operating, capital and forecast budgets. Including budget assimilations and forecasts
- Assist in the preparation and completion of the annual audit, financial statements and Financial Information Return (FIR)
- Internal audit for compliance, with policies and value add
- Coordinate municipal performance measurement program and other performance measures
- Develop and maintain policies and procedures to the position

- Assist in managing and maintaining an automated corporate capital asset accounting management system

Other

- Perform other job related duties

Qualifications:

- Three year community college diploma in accounting/business administration or equivalent
- OMTRA MAFP diploma preferred
- Over four years experience in a municipal accounting environment
- Enrollment in a recognized accounting program preferred
- Proven technical skills and a high level of accuracy
- Accounting skills
- Computer proficiency at an advanced level in Excel and CLASS along with intermediate Word, Access, and AMANDA Asset Management skills.
- High level of communication and customer service skills
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- Strong initiative with the ability to work independently without direct supervision
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- Keep current by attending workshops and seminars
- Valid Class G drivers' license. Access to own vehicle required

Salary Range:

The salary range for this contract position is \$33.58 - \$39.98 per hour.

Qualified candidates may submit a detailed resume in confidence to the undersigned by 4:30 p.m., Tuesday May 15, 2012. Please quote Posting No. 201210 on your resume.

Ms. Jacqueline Kerr
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We thank all those who apply, but advise that only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted

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At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us.

~ Albert Schweitzer

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