

STUDIO NEWS... AND ALL THAT JAZZ

A Dancin' Plus Newsletter - Dance Production Issue 2020

The dance production is approaching! I know we all want this to be a magical performance weekend for our dancers. I know that for many families, production weekend is a new experience. I want everyone to have a smooth, stress-free weekend. After more than 30 years of producing dance productions, I know how it is done and I am providing you with every detail you need to know. I know that this is a lot of information. It is one of the reasons that our shows, involving so many performers and helpers, run so smoothly. ☺ Thank you for reading through this newsletter to acquaint yourself on rehearsal and performance details. You will be glad you did!

Shine!

*MANDATORY DRESS REHEARSAL FOR ALL PERFORMERS
WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2020
DOORS OPEN AT 5:30PM - BEGINS PROMPTLY AT 6:00PM*

*DANCE PRODUCTIONS - ALL DANCERS PERFORM IN ALL SHOWS
FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2020-DOORS OPEN AT 6:15PM-CURTAIN AT 7:00PM
SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2020-DOORS OPEN AT 6:15PM-CURTAIN AT 7:00PM
SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2020-DOORS OPEN AT 2:15PM-CURTAIN AT 3:00PM*

ALL EVENTS HELD AT THE BEAUTIFUL FAIRMONT OPERA HOUSE

JUST A REMINDER... If you do not attend rehearsal you will not be permitted to take part in the shows. Dancers taking part in recital weekend **MUST** attend rehearsal and perform in all their scheduled shows. Choreography is designed according to the number of performers in the group. Many numbers involve partner work, groups and formations. We need our entire cast! You would not want to attend a play, concert or performance where many of the performers were missing would you? Thank you for understanding this.

Parents Can Join The Backstage Fun...

Become a VIV ...A Very Important Volunteer!

We can't do it without you. Our backstage helpers do a terrific job keeping things running smoothly at rehearsal and during our productions. If you have taken part in production weekend before and have not been a helper-this year it is your turn!

- ✓ Helpers must arrive at rehearsal at 5:30pm.
- ✓ Helpers must arrive 45 minutes prior to the performance time on the show day they are helping with. That is when our cast begins arriving.

If you would like to volunteer as a class helper:

- ✓ Sign up on the list at the studio (on our front counter) under the day you want to help. If you child's class has enough helpers you are welcome to help with a different class. You will still be near your child and be able to participate in the back stage excitement.
- ✓ Helper packets are by the sign up list. Once you sign up, take the packet with the number that corresponds with the line you sign up on. Please be sure you take the packet with the number that matches the line you sign up on. Packets are personalized for each class. You will receive a backstage pass button to wear the day you are helping. It will identify you as a helper.
- ✓ Backstage helpers receive presale ticket purchasing opportunities and a complimentary ticket. There is more information in the TICKET section of this newsletter.

If you are a bit nervous about helping...never fear! After running through rehearsal it is a breeze and you will know just what to do. I do make sure the dancers are well prepared before show weekend so for the most part you are there to "guide" them through the performances. Just do what I do-tell yourself "I am a grown up. I know more than the children. I am brave!"

☺ The backstage energy and excitement really is fun.

P/S The backstage photo opportunities for scrap bookers are *ENDLESS!*

DANCE PRODUCTION TICKETS

It is so easy to purchase tickets for our dance productions...

- ☺ No waiting in lines on ticket sale day!
- ☺ No need to be sure you are in town on ticket sale day!
- ☺ Purchase your tickets, from home, in your pajamas while you eat your breakfast!!
- ☺ Need a ticket for a last minute family members the night before a show?
You can see exactly what is available and grab tickets!
- ☺ Our online ticket box office makes things simple for you AND for us!

Where will you find our online box office? www.dancin-plus.com ~ Facebook
RESERVED SEATING ~ ALL SEATS ~ \$12.00 plus service fee of \$1.55 per ticket
Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Discover accepted.

PLEASE NOTE: The following ticket sales dates are different from previous announcements on social media. As of 3/11/2020 Dance Recital Ticketing, our online ticket box office service, is urging dance studios to wait until closer to show time to begin ticket sales. In the event that we need to adjust our show dates due to our State's recommendation of no large gatherings, your ticket costs would be refunded but the service fee would not be. Allowing extra time to see where the Coronavirus situation is headed before ticket sales begin will eliminate this. At this time, as they say, the show must go on and our show dates are as originally announced. We will follow recommendations as they come. Thank you for understanding we are doing what is best for our wonderful dance families!

Tuesday, April 28 ~ 10:15am

**Pre-sale begins for our Very Important Volunteers (VIVs).*

Our backstage helpers will get early access to tickets and will get one complimentary ticket as a thank you for helping. Details will be included in your helper packet. Sign up to be a helper at the studio or email Tammy at: Tammy@dancin-plus.com

**Pre-sale begins for our graduating senior families.*

A pre-sale code will be provided in your recital packet.

Monday, May 4 ~ 10:15am

*Ticket sales open to everyone.

Tickets are non-refundable and can not be exchanged.

Tickets will not be sold at the door.

You will need to purchase tickets online and have your tickets ready to present when you arrive at the theater.

Due to fire codes, lap sitting is only permitted for children three and under.

They do not need a ticket unless they want their own seat.

Tickets sell fast! Quite often, our shows sell out. Need to wait on purchasing tickets until you hear back from family members? You will be able to monitor availability by visiting the online box office. If you want to be sure to get tickets, please don't wait.

Ticket sales from our productions help to cover the rental of the opera house for four days, the cost of audio and lighting folks, stage sets, props, music licensing, programs and some of the other dance studio operating expenses incurred throughout the year.

Thank you for your support of the dance program! Because of you, we are able to continue to make your child's dancing dreams come true!



DRESS REHEARSAL

WEDNESDAY MAY 13, 2020

- ✓ Doors open at 5:30pm. We begin promptly at 6:00pm. Dress rehearsal is for dancers, parent(s) and production helpers only. Dress rehearsal is a must. Please be on time. If you are not at rehearsal please do not expect to take part in the performances.
- ✓ Please be in full costume and make-up as there is not enough dressing room space for dancers to get ready at the theatre. Bright stage lights will fade out faces. Females dancers-be generous with blush, a touch of lip stick, eye shadow and mascara. Male dancers - blush on the cheeks and a bit of mascara will do. Long hair is to be worn pulled up and away from the face....French braid, pony or bun style.
- ✓ PLEASE no underpants under costumes. Tights serve as a dancers underpants. Older dancers substitute bras with clear strapped, flesh colored undergarments. Please, no straps peaking out!
- ✓ For rehearsal, audience seating will be divided into class sections. Find your class section and be seated. There can be no running around. Have your belongings marked with your name as things get misplaced. Parents of younger dancers are required to stay for rehearsal to help their child with things like shoe changes. If you have any questions, see your class helper. They have all the information on shoe changes, costume details and line ups.
- ✓ We will run through the entire production in the order it will be presented. Dancers must be clear on where they come out on stage, where they stand, where they go for their groups and where to exit. Even if you have been in a performance before, you must be there. Directions vary and positions change each year and it is important to be there. Rehearsal is studio wide. The auditorium will be very crowded. Please do not bring non-dancing siblings, friends, relatives wanting a sneak peek. That is considered poor etiquette AND we just do not have the space for all the extra people at rehearsal.
- ✓ During rehearsal, dancers are not allowed outside or on the balcony. Both places are dangerous.
- ✓ Please remember, we are all guests at the opera house. We want to continue to be welcome there. Treat the property with respect. Smoking, food and drink are not allowed in the building. Thank you for cleaning up after yourself.
- ✓ What time will rehearsal be over? We try hard to keep things moving at a quick pace but it is hard to say exactly how long rehearsal will last. It depends on how ready our dancers are for their turn on stage. My guess is 3 ½ hours. Dancers are free to leave AFTER their FINAL dance number if they do not wish to stay. This is for REHEARSAL ONLY. Show days dancers must stay through final bows.

SHOW DAYS

FRIDAY, MAY 15, 2020-DOORS OPEN AT 6:15PM-CURTAIN AT 7:00PM
SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2020-DOORS OPEN AT 6:15PM-CURTAIN AT 7:00PM
SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2020-DOORS OPEN AT 2:15PM-CURTAIN AT 3:00PM

- ✓ Doors open for helpers, dancers and audience members 45 MINUTES BEFORE CURTAIN TIME. As we are busy with many last minute preparations, doors will not open until then.
- ✓ Dancers must arrive no later than 15 minutes before curtain time. Be in full costume and make up as at rehearsal.
- ✓ The lower level of the opera house will be divided into class sections. You may want to bring a beach towel or small blanket to sit on. A book to look at or colors and a color book are great ideas to pass the time until we begin lining up. PLEASE NOT MARKERS OR PENS. They end up all over the front of someone's costume. Please do not leave lipstick with the younger dancers-same problem.
- ✓ DUE TO THE LARGE NUMBER OF EXPENSIVE ELECTRONIC DEVICES THAT BECOME LOST IN THE HUSTLE OF SHOWTIME, I SUGGEST THAT YOU LEAVE THEM HOME.
- ✓ No food or drink. Bottled water seems like a great idea. Do you know how many times a four year old can use the potty after drinking a 20oz bottle of water?! There is a drinking fountain for fast sips if dancers get thirsty. We have dancers with food allergies. I know there are well meaning moms that bring treats for their child's dance class to munch on at rehearsal/show time but due to special diet requirements and allergies we ask **THAT YOU PLEASE REFRAIN FROM BRINGING FOOD.** For some, allergic reactions happen just by coming in contact with the food item, not only from eating it. You will not want to be the person responsible for sending a child to the hospital rather than performing in their production. If you eat before rehearsal/show time, you should be able to go a couple hours without food items. Once the show begins things are pretty fast paced and there is no time for refreshments. Save snacks for after show time.
- ✓ Double check to see that headpieces are secure and that dancers have the correct shoes on for their first dance. A pre-show bathroom break is a must!
- ✓ Dancers are not allowed in the audience at any time before or during the show. I ask that backstage and lower level be limited to class helpers and dancers only as it becomes quite crowded. Dancers need to focus on show time. We have dancers who must make costume changes. Thank you for respecting our dancer's privacy. In the event of an emergency and we need a parent, we will not hesitate to stop the show and make an announcement to locate a parent.
- ✓ We do allow video taping and pictures during the performances. Please, no tripods. Be respectful of the people around you. Do not block their view. We want to continue to allow video taping. Help us do that by being courteous.

- ✓ Following performances, dancers will return to the lower level. Dancers will be released to a parent there following the show. Due to congestion, we ask that one parent per child meet them. Please do not take your entire group to the lower level.

HELPFUL HINTS

- ✓ A damp cloth works wonders on scuffed up dance shoes. Those nifty Mr. Clean erasers work terrific on hard to remove scuffs. We want to look our performing best!
- ✓ An inexpensive garment bag works wonderfully as a portable “closet” for dancers with several costume changes. It makes transporting and keeping your items together during fast changes a snap!
- ✓ Make time in the days before rehearsal to lay out all your “dance gear”. Check to see that you have all the shoes you will need, costume accessories and leg coverings. Don’t forget your headpiece if you have one. We do not have extras. After more than 30 years of dance productions, 14 of them also as a dancer’s mom, I have learned the hard way that it is much easier to look for a missing item the night before rehearsal than it is to look for something 15 minutes before you are to be at the theatre. Save yourself some stress ☺.
- ✓ Dancers -Early to bed on these busy days! Get plenty of sleep to perform your best. Eat a light meal before coming to the performances. Save the large meal for after show time. You will feel better AND dance better.

YOU MADE IT!

You read through the entire dance production issue of STUDIO NEWS. Thank you! I know that this is ALOT of information. I do not mean to overwhelm you. Rather, I want you to have all the information you need, at your fingertips, to help provide you with a smooth, organized, stress free production weekend. I want to assure you the best possible performance weekend. EVERYTHING you need is wrapped up in this handy newsletter. Just take deep breaths-all will be fine! If you have any questions, please know that your calls are welcome. However, I am on the run most of production weekend with the many, many preparations and details. If you have any questions about production time that have not been addressed in this information, be sure to get in touch with me before May13 ~ 507-235-6114.

Looking forward to a fun filled performance weekend and watching our dancers *Shine!*

~ Ms Tammy