



STUDIO NEWS...AND ALL THAT JAZZ

September-October 2021

**DANCE CLASSES BEGIN THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 20TH.
WE CAN'T WAIT TO DANCE WITH YOU!**

WELCOME to the 2021-2022 dance season!

We are so happy you will be joining us on the dance floor. We are looking forward to having the dance studio full of student hustle and bustle. Your support of our studio means the world and we can't thank you enough! With not much more than a strong dance background and some really big dreams, Dancin' Plus opened its doors in Fairmont in 1995. We put a lot of thought into what kind of studio we wanted to become. Dancin' Plus wasn't going to only be a place to learn fancy footwork. We wanted it to be a place to strengthen confidence, build self esteem, and develop friendships. We wanted to create a place where hard work, dedication, smiles and a lot of laughter came together to result in something you didn't just talk about but something you could feel. We wanted a place where our dancers could see the results of goal setting, working hard and team effort. We wanted a unique and fun atmosphere for our dancers to learn that they are the ones responsible for making their dreams come true on and off the dance floor. Year after year we have held true to those goals while we share our passion for dance. Because of wonderful dance families like yours, we have watched the studio grow into more than we ever imagined. Many thanks!

FIRST TUITION PAYMENT DUE DATE ADJUSTED: SEPTEMBER PAYMENTS ARE DUE THE FIRST WEEK OF CLASSES.

For your convenience, all payment totals and due dates are listed in your copy of the studio handbook. There are still three easy ways to make your payment.

1. When they come for class, dancers can deposit payments(cash or check) in our locked payment drop box on the wall near our front desk. Please be sure to place cash in an envelope marked with dancer's first and last name.
2. Mail it to our mailing address: Dancin' Plus 403 E 1st Street Fairmont MN 56031
3. Pay online at www.dancin-plus.com with debit/credit card or Paypal.

Please note....We DO NOT have an outdoor drop box to drop payments in after hours. People often ask if we do. When we did, our mail always disappeared. ☹ Think of our online payment system as the after hours drop box. :)

COVID PROTOCOL

Unless there is a new mask mandate, masks are optional but recommended. We expect our dance families to follow the protocols we have all become familiar with. If you are not feeling well or are running a fever, please stay home. Wash hands. Sanitizer is always available at the studio. Our lobby will be open this year but we ask that families pop in for drop off and pop in for pick up of dancers. Please avoid lingering and visiting so that we can keep traffic moving through the lobby. We will post any updates/changes in COVID protocol on our page designated for that at

www.dancin-plus.com

At this time, all dance classes will be in studio only. In the even of a mandated closure, we will continue classes online for that time. We will update you if that time comes.

OUR TEACHING TEAM

I take special care and consideration in choosing our class instructors and assistants. They care about your child and their progress. They love what they do and that shows and inspires.

Please join us in welcoming back: Instructors: Miss Laura and Miss Aurora
Assistant Instructor: Miss Hannah

Visit the Instructor Spotlight page at www.dancin-plus.com to learn more about our wonderful teaching team.

DID YOU HEAR?! WE HAVE NEW LOGO MERCH!

Did you miss out on the new logowear order offered at Back To Dance Dayz?

It's not too late! We will be placing another order in October.

Watch for more information being sent home and for try on sizing kits for each item in the studio lobby coming soon.

HALLOWEEN WEEK

We love a celebration! Feel free to dress up for class the week of Halloween, October 25-28.

We just ask that your costume allows for movement and does not drag on the floor. Dance safe!

STAYING UP TO DATE

We want our dancers and their families to feel welcome, comfortable and well informed. One of the ways we do that is by keeping you informed through our newsletters. Each time a new edition of our studio newsletter is available, a link to it will be emailed to you. It will cut down on your paper piles at home and will help us run things efficiently on the office duties end of our busy business.

Our newsletter, STUDIO NEWS AND ALL THAT JAZZ, will help you stay up to date on what is going on at Dancin' Plus. There are four regular issues posted each season: September/October, November/December, January/February, March, one dance production(April) issue just before show time and a season wrap up issue in June.

If you have not already, please take a moment to meet our two office assistants. "Miss Studio Handbook" and "Mr. Studio Website." They are a wealth of information that helps our dance studio run smoothly. They very rarely do not know the answers to your questions. They both know that lives are busy and you appreciate having information fast and at your finger tips. The studio handbook was mailed to you in the packet you received after you registered.

Visit us at www.dancin-plus.com

<p>Did you know we have a studio FACEBOOK page? We do. Like us and stay up to date. Be sure to check out all the great photo galleries! Be sure to join our Facebook group dedicated to just our families...Dancin' Plus Step By Step. See you there!</p>

READY...SET...DANCE!

The first few weeks of dance are busy ones for our dancers. Many are taking their first classes and can be a bit overwhelmed by it. For returning students, classes can be a challenge as we pass into the next level of learning. No matter the age of the dancer or the amount of experience, I remind them that I do not expect them to remember EVERYTHING that is taught each week. Just remind them to always do their best, be patient and have fun. Dancers learn through repetition. The results will begin to show in time. Because everyone likes immediate results I also like to spend some time in each of the first few classes working on what I call attainable dance skills. These are combinations that anyone can do without much practice but we ask each dancer to put their own "flare" into it.

Attainable dance builds confidence and allows each dancers to find their own style. This teaching style gets students comfortable and ready to get to work on the material that demands a bit more effort.

Especially for our ages eight and up dancers: Another really good point to remember is that dancers are in class for themselves. Don't compare yourself to others in class. Everyone works on their weaknesses and shines with their strengths and those things are different for each dancer. Just because someone in class has a little more dance experience doesn't mean you're a terrible dancer. It just means you have work to do to reach a higher level of training. That's the time to be determined and work hard. Wonderful things happen when you stop focusing on others and start focusing on yourself. You can do it!

JUST BE SUPPORTIVE

The first few weeks can be especially tough for our youngest dancers. For many, it can be difficult to separate from mom or dad. They may cling to you or be a little apprehensive about joining in class activities. There may be tears during your goodbye/see you in a bit hugs. It is all very natural behavior. Crying children usually do best if you make a quick exit. Lingering makes it even harder for them to separate and join class. We are used to working with young children and I can tell you that by the time you have reached the car (feeling badly for leaving your crying child) the tears are already dry and we are giggling and learning. After a class or two they understand the "routine" of coming to class, they know what to expect and the tears and apprehension disappear. They even feel proud of themselves for working through some tricky feelings.

A REMINDER....As classes change over, traffic congestion can get a little thick. We also share the area with other businesses and that creates even more traffic. I ask that you please do not double park and make a dash into the studio to pick up dancers and please no dropping off or picking up students at the stop sign intersection outside our building. For safety sake we ask that you please park your car legally for pick ups and drop offs. ~Thank you

HELPING YOU SAVE \$\$\$\$\$\$

We know that dance classes are not the only thing you have to pay for and we know that families appreciate that we work hard to keep dance studio costs down. It is one of our biggest challenges. Obviously we have expenses we can not overlook like rent/utilities, insurance, music copyright fees, cleaning and office supplies and more. Then there are the hundreds and hundreds of work hours spent organizing and planning classes and taking care of the recital details and then we throw in the hours spent on office and cleaning duties. It is endless. A dance studio owner keeps costs down by being everyone within the dance studio business. We are the director, the teacher, class planner, dance production organizer, the choreographer, the office manager, the accountant and the janitor. You name it, we do it! If we hire staff to fill those jobs that means an increase in your rates in order to pay those positions.

One of our goals is to always give our dance families the best possible dance season. So that we can bring our families the best dance season possible, dance studio owners are usually putting in much more than an eight hour work day. In fact, fourteen to sixteen hour work days during weekdays/weekends, days/nights are the average in this business. To make the long hours

manageable, outside of class time hours, we do much of our work from home. Because of this, you will usually not find me at the studio unless I am teaching classes or I am cleaning the studio. If you need me the best way to reach me is ~ 507-235-6114(home/business number) or email me at Tammy@dancin-plus.com I love to hear from you!

DATES TO REMEMBER

Week Of September 20 - Classes Begin
First Tuition Payment Is Due The First Week Of Classes

October Tuition Is Due No Later Than October 10th

Halloween Dress Up Week – Week Of October 25th

The next FOOTNOTES skips your way the last week of October.

Thank you much! We are looking forward to a fantastic dance season!

