

The Dance Factory ~November/December 2009 Newsletter

~~THIS LETTER CONTAINS IMPORTANT INFORMATION - KEEP IT IN A SAFE PLACE~~

E-mail us any time! dancefactory1@gmail.com

609-252-0711

The beginning of the year at The Dance Factory is off to a great start and we are so glad to have you as part of The Dance Factory Family this year! It has been a thrill to see faces both new and old and to watch the classes develop.

Please be sure to read and hold on to this packet as we have many exciting events coming up. This newsletter contains important information that will keep you well informed for the rest of the year.

Dance Factory Calendar 2009-2010

<u>STUDIO CLOSED:</u>	November 26 TH - 39 th Happy Thanksgiving!
Holiday Observation 2009:	Dec. 14 th - 19 th (During regular class time)
<u>STUDIO CLOSED:</u>	Dec. 21 st - Jan. 3 rd Happy Holidays!!
Showstopper Auditions*	January 17 th *Grades 3 and up only
Tour Team Auditions*	January 17 th *Grades 2 and up
Syllabus Test*	February 28 th (Garnet-Diamond Levels only)
<u>Studio closed:</u>	March 29 th -April 4 th Happy Spring!
Picture Day:	Sunday May 16 th
<u>STUDIO CLOSED:</u>	May 29 th - 31 st for Memorial Day
Dress Rehearsal Dates:	June 9 th , 10 th , or 11 th , Specific DAY AND TIME TBA.
Recital:	Sat. June 12 th Patriots Theater (Trenton War Memorial)
Last day of class:	Sat. June 19 th

Registration for 2010-2011 Mon. June 21st 8am-11am and 5-7pm for Returning Students Only!

-Any missed classes can be made up at your convenience in any comparable class-

~~Waiting Room Etiquette Reminder~~

Please -- No food or drink in our Waiting Room! Help us keep our waiting room safe for those children with food allergies!

Please - No running or tumbling in our Waiting Room at any time. *Thank You!*

~~Holiday Observation~~

Holiday observation will be held December 14th-19th. Parents are invited into the classroom to view their dancer's progress. The dancers work very hard to prepare for this day, please be generous with your applause and don't forget your camera! This will be a fun day for everyone so please try to attend. Please bring canned goods for the Montgomery Township Food Pantry to your Observation: *Canned tuna, chicken, hearty soups and stews; canned fruits. Thank you.*

NO MAKE-UP CLASSES ARE ALLOWED DURING OBSERVATION WEEK!!!

~~Inclement Weather~~

In case of inclement weather call the studio at 609-252-0711 one hour before your class to see if class will be held. Any classes missed due to inclement weather may be made up at your convenience in any comparable class.

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~~Class Attire~~

~Pre-school & Kindergarten: Solid light pink leotard, pink tights, and pink leather ballet shoes, hair in a high ponytail or bun. (Solid light pink skirt or tutu is permitted.)

~Jazz/Hip Hop/Funk 1st grade and up): Solid black leotard, unitard or bike unitard; tan tights; tan split-sole jazz shoes; hair in a high ponytail or bun. (Black leggings or jazz pants are permitted.)

~Tap (1st grade and up): Solid black leotard, unitard or bike unitard; tan tights; Dolly Character tan tap shoes; hair in a high ponytail or bun. (Black leggings or jazz pants are permitted.)

~Ballet (1st grade and up): Solid black leotard, pink tights, pink leather ballet shoes, hair in a bun. (Short sheer ballet skirts are permitted.)

~Modern dance: Solid black leotard, unitard or bike unitard; tan or pink tights; bare feet; hair in a high ponytail or bun. (Black leggings or jazz pants are permitted.)

~Boys Classes: Solid Black sweatpants/shorts and solid black or solid white t-shirt.

Shoes: Funk- black sneaker-style jazz shoe. Tap- black tap shoe. Ballet- black leather ballet shoe

~~Syllabus Test~~

In celebration of National Dance Week, we offer a testing program to evaluate each dancer's progress. At the Dance Factory, each class is based on an age and level appropriate syllabus. The evaluation will be based on the mastery of the skills on your dancer's. We find that preparing for and taking the test reinforces the material learned throughout the year, however the test is completely optional. This year's syllabus test will be on February 28, 2010. In January each dancer will receive a copy of their syllabus and a registration form for the test. This test is for Garnet-Diamond levels only. Pre-School and Kindergarten Classes are not tested.

~~Dedication Awards~~

Congratulations to all of our dancers that have been dancing with us for three or more years! Dancers who have been with us for 5 years receive a five year trophy! Dancers who have been with us for three years will receive a three year medal this year! Keep on dancing! Additionally, when you have been dancing with us for 8 and 10 years you receive a trophy!

~~RECITAL~~

The finale for our dance season will culminate with our end of the year recital. This year the Dance Factory will proudly present "In the News". Our performance date is confirmed for Saturday June 12th at the Trenton War Memorial Patriots Theater. This is a rewarding experience for all of the dancers.

Dance is a performing art and the recital gives the dancer the opportunity to show off their year of hard work. Preparations are already underway and the upcoming schedule of events for our recital is detailed on the next page.

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~~Costume/Recital Fee~~

We want to keep the costs of this program as straight forward as possible. The costume/recital fee is \$120 per dance class. The costume/recital fee includes a costume with accessories, five(5) recital tickets and the show programs. It also covers your portion of the stage rental, insurance, sound and light effects, scenery, backstage help, props and music. *HALF OF THIS PAYMENT IS DUE BY DEC. 1st*. This is non-refundable; costume companies will not allow us to cancel orders after they have been placed and processed. If you will not be participating in the recital, you must let us know by Dec. 1st. All accounts are automatically charged 1 recital fee per class unless you notify us in writing prior to December 1st. Other than appropriate recital tights, you should not have any other expenses. Each class will perform one dance and need only one costume. For Pre-school and Kindergarten classes the teacher will decide which subject is performed based on class ability. All accounts must be paid through the end of the year to receive your costume.

~~Tickets~~

Each student will receive 5 tickets per dance class. Tickets are handed out in May. All seating is general admission. Additional tickets may be purchased for \$ 10 each. All accounts must be paid through the end of the year to receive tickets. *Remember, June tuition was paid when you registered.*

~~Recital -- Important Dates~~

November: Teachers take measurements of students. We are very generous with measurements to allow for growth in the spring.

December: Partial (\$60) or full (\$120) recital payment per class is due by Dec. 1st 2009. Our costume order must be placed by December 15th to ensure an on-time delivery; therefore we greatly appreciate your cooperation. Please write a separate check from tuition, and mark your payment clearly as "Recital."

January: Teachers spend a small portion of class time beginning choreography with students.

February: Remaining balance of recital fee (\$60) is due.

March: Students are continuing with their technique work, but are spending a greater portion of class on choreography.

April: Costumes and accessories are handed out. Please do not damage or lose any piece of your costume. We are unable to replace it! ~Notes are handed out with rehearsal and performance details.

May: Classes continue and by now the dancers know all of the choreography and are working on performance quality.

June: Final preparations are made in class for performance. Each class will have one dress rehearsal at the stage.

~~Backstage Helpers~~

Two moms from each class are needed to assist backstage at Dress Rehearsal and the Recital. This is a very important job and a great way to share in the children's excitement. As a Group Mom, your tickets are stamped so your guests can be admitted to the Auditorium 15 minutes prior to the General Admission. Signup sheets will be posted in March or April.

~~Dancing Dads~~

Each year we choreograph a special Dads-only dance. It is a great experience and we hope you will consider signing up this year. Watch for more details after the new year.

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