

the Dance Factory

November 2011 Newsletter

~~ Please keep this newsletter in a safe place. It contains important information. ~~

Dear Dance Factory Dancers,

We are thrilled to have you as part of The Dance Factory family this year and are so excited to share our love of dance and performing for our 10th year in Montgomery Township! Our students are doing a great job and it is great to see so many smiling faces in our classes and our studios.

This newsletter contains important information about upcoming events this year. Please be sure to read and hold on to this packet as we have many exciting events coming up.

New Classes at the Dance Factory

A **Contemporary Class** was added to our schedule on Fridays at 3:45pm for dancers in 5th grade and up. Contemporary dance emerged as an outgrowth of modern dance and involves balance, floor work, fall and recovery, and improvisation. Dancers are encouraged to explore their emotions through movement. Stop by the office if you would like to give it a try.

A **Cardio Groove Program** was added for our adult dancers on Friday mornings. Cardio Groove boosts the METABOLISM, burns CALORIES, and helps you lose WEIGHT. It also will help reduce STRESS, increase ENERGY and promote restful SLEEP, and let's not forget about having FUN learning MOVES while getting your SWEAT on!! The class is HIGH ENERGY with a warm down at the end. Stop by the office if you would like to give it a try.

Dance Factory Calendar 2011-2012

STUDIO CLOSED:	November 24 TH – 27 th Happy Thanksgiving!
Holiday Observation:	Dec. 12 th – 18 th (During regular class time)
STUDIO CLOSED:	Dec. 19 th – Jan. 2 nd Happy Holidays!! (Classes resume January 3 rd)
Showstopper Auditions	January 15 th (Details will be available in December)
Tour Team Auditions	January 15 th (Details will be available in class in December)
Syllabus Test	Week of March 5 th (Details will be available in February)
Studio closed:	April 2 nd – April 8 th Happy Spring!! (Classes resume April 9 th)
Picture Day:	Sunday May 20 th
STUDIO CLOSED:	May 26 th - 28 th for Memorial Day
Dress Rehearsal Dates:	June 5 th , 6 th , 7 th , 8 th (Rehearsal Schedule available in April)
Recital:	Sat. June 9 th Patriots Theater (Trenton War Memorial)
Last day of class:	Sat. June 16 th
Registration for 2012-2013	Mon. June 18 th 8am-11am and 5-7pm for Returning Students Only!

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

~~Holiday Observation~~

Holiday observation will be held December 12th-18th. 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**

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Pantry to your Observation: Canned tuna, chicken, hearty soups and stews; canned fruits. Thank you. NO MAKE-UP CLASSES ARE ALLOWED DURING OBSERVATION WEEK!!!

~~Waiting Room Etiquette Reminder~~

- Please – No running, climbing or tumbling in our Waiting Room at any time. Thank You!
- Please help us keep our waiting room safe for those children with food allergies! No drinks, food, gum or candy allowed in the studios or waiting rooms. Water bottles are permitted.
- All dancers should neatly store their belongings and respect the belongings of others.
- Parents—please do not try to talk to our teachers during class time. If you need to talk with an instructor, please call the studio to set up a time, send an email, or have your dancer give the teacher a written note with the best time to contact you. Thank you.

~~Class Attire~~

All dancers are expected to adhere to the dress code (found in Welcome packet and on the website).

This includes hair and attire.

Young Dancer Program (up to Kindergarten):

Hair: Hair must be worn in a ponytail or bun and off the face.

Girls Attire: Solid light pink leotard and tights, pink leather ballet shoes for ballet, jazz and tumbling, black patent tap shoes for tap. Solid light pink skirt or tutu is permitted.

Boys Attire: Black shorts, sweatpants, bike shorts, solid white T-shirt or turtleneck, black leather ballet shoes, black tap shoes or black jazz shoes.

Beginner Dancer and Up (1st Grade & up):

Hair (Ballet): Hair must be worn in a bun and off the face

Ballet: Solid black leotard, pink tights, pink leather ballet shoes. Short sheer ballet skirts are optional.

Hair (non Ballet): Hair should be worn in a ponytail and off the face.

Jazz: Solid black leotard, unitard, or bike unitard, tan, black or pink tights, tan split-sole jazz shoes. Black leggings or jazz pants are permitted.

Tap: Same as jazz attire, Dolly Character tan tap shoe.

Funk: Comfortable dance clothes, sweatpants, T-shirts, shorts, sneakers or jazz shoes.

Modern: Same as jazz attire, bare feet.

Lyrical: Same as jazz attire, bare feet.

Boys Only Classes

Comfortable pants, sweatpants, shorts, T-shirts, sneakers or jazz shoes.

~~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 progress. 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 performed the week of March 5th. Details for the Syllabus Testing Program will be available in February.

Note: *Pre-School and Kindergarten Classes are not tested.*

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~~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 trophy! Dancers who have been with us for three years will receive a medal this year! Keep on dancing! Additionally, when you have been dancing with us for 8, 10 and 12 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 "**Celebrate**". Our performance date is confirmed for Saturday June 9th 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.

~~Costume/Recital Fee~~

We want to keep the costs of this program as straight forward as possible. The costume/recital fee is \$125 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 \$12 each. All accounts must be paid through the end of the year to receive tickets. *Remember, June tuition was paid when you registered.*

~~Backstage Helpers~~

Two moms from each class are needed to assist backstage at Dress Rehearsal and on Recital Day. This is a very important job and a great way to share in the child'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 on the bulletin board in Studio A in April.

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~~Recital -- Important Dates~~

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

December: Recital Payment(per class): partial(\$62.50) or full (\$125) is due by Dec. 1st.

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 (\$62.50 per class) 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.

~~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 for more details in January.

Please remember to sign up for Dance Factory Eblasts on our website:
www.DanceFactory1.com

If you have any questions or need additional information, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Keep Dancing!

Love,

Miss Kelly