

DANCEGALLERY

February 14, 2010

For all you dancing Viking fans out there... this picture is for you! Dancers in the newsletter photographs... Angelia Washburn, Jacobi Calloway, and Kate Simko



It's Recital Time! Recital Fees and Recital Times

By Jackie Pederson-Kriens

This may seem early to prepare for a spring recital, but we need to begin planning. The shows will be at the Orpheum Theater, 315 N. Main, SF, SD.

First, you need to know that we were originally planning on having four recitals. That has now changed to three shows, and they will all be on Saturday, June 5th, 2010: 11 AM, 2 PM, and 7 PM. Students in classes that are listed in the "Lower School" brochure will be divided into two shows.

Lower School students in any **Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday** classes will be in the **11 AM recital**. This is **SHOW #1**.

Lower School students in any **Thursday, Saturday & Home School** classes will be in the **2 PM recital**. This is **SHOW #2**.

All other dancers are in the **Upper School (older than 10 yrs)** and will be in our **7 PM recital**. This is **SHOW #3**.

It is really important that you notify your teacher and the office staff if you will not be participating in the spring recital, because we do a lot of planning for each class. PLEASE let your child's teacher AND the office staff know as soon as you read this if you will be gone for the recital.

Inserted in this newsletter is a bill for the remainder of your child's tuition through May, including your recital fee. To explain how we come up with the recital fee, we charge \$25 for the first recital dance your child is in, and \$10 for each additional dance. EXAMPLE: 4 dance classes = \$55 recital fee. Each child in your family is calculated separately. If you have more than one child enrolled, each child will have a \$25 fee, and then \$10 for each additional recital dance.

Your recital fee will cover rental of your child's costume (property of Dance Gallery), rental of the theater, and other expenses for the recitals. Once you have paid for tuition and

recital fees, the office staff will give you your recital packet with important information, and your special online code for your 2 FREE tickets.

Again, you will receive 2 FREE tickets to your child's show. If you need to purchase additional tickets, the cost is \$7 online or \$8 at the door on the day of the recital. There will no longer be any ticket sales from our studio office, but you can purchase tickets at the theater on the day of the show. (See the article below about purchasing tickets).

I have found in the past that there are many different ways to charge people for recitals. We could have you purchase your costumes, but those charges could EASILY run as high as \$200-\$300... especially for those dancers involved in several dances. I feel our method is the most inexpensive way for parents to have their children involved in a dance recital. You should compare our recital costs with other studios. It's a GREAT deal for you!

Purchasing Tickets Online! All Tickets Can Be Purchased Beginning April 5th, 2010

By Arthur Kriens & Martha Archer

For the spring recital, all advanced ticket sales will be on-line only! It will be very easy to do. No worries! The cost is \$7 for tickets purchased in advance online. When you purchase the tickets, there will be no addition fees tacked onto the price. It will be \$7...that's it! Tickets will cost \$8 at the door on the day of the show. Remember, each family will receive TWO free tickets to the recital(s) that your child is performing. Students in

the combined Broadway or Hip Hop production numbers are performing at all shows, but you will only receive free tickets to ONE of the recitals. You can purchase tickets to other recitals if you wish.

To purchase or to claim your TWO free tickets, you will need to go to our website (dancegallerysd.net). At the top of the web page, there is a button to click on that says "On-Line Tickets." When you click there, it will automatically take you to the

ticketing purchase page. Follow the website directions to purchase tickets. You will need to enter a special code that you will receive when you pay for your final trimester and recital fees. That code will allow you to claim your free recital tickets. Just so you know, that code is good for only TWO free tickets. You won't be able to claim more than two free tickets for each code. NOTE: Make sure that you purchase tickets to the correct show!!

Recital Rehearsals

All rehearsals will be held at the Orpheum

By Jackie Pederson-Kriens

NOTE: We are referring to the recitals as SHOW #1, SHOW #2, & SHOW #3. The front page article specifies which show you are in.

Each class involved in the spring recital will be given the opportunity to rehearse on the theater stage with lights, curtains, costumes, an audience, and NO MIRRORS!!! These rehearsals are terribly important to the process of preparing children to perform on stage. Everything in terms of the children's "setting" is completely different from rehearsing in a studio. Therefore, your commitment to attending the scheduled dress rehearsal is mandatory. Having one student miss these rehearsals is not only a hassle for the dance teacher, but to every student that participates in that dance piece. To you, as an observer in the audience, this will seem like an unnecessary obligation, but to every single dancer that takes the stage, it is completely necessary to calm

nerves and acclimate to a new environment. Make every single effort to arrange your schedule in order to attend your scheduled rehearsal time.

So that we can begin the theater rehearsals on time, it is extremely helpful for you to arrive at the theater 30 minutes before the start of the rehearsal. During the rehearsals for SHOW #1 AND #2, I will have a short informational parent meeting covering details about the show, and answer your questions. As I am running the parent meeting, teachers will take your children backstage to work on the final bow. NOTE: A responsible adult needs to stay at the theater for the entire rehearsal time, so that children are cared for during the time they are not on stage.

Show #1 dress rehearsal will be at the Orpheum Theater on **Wednesday, June 2nd from 3:30 - 6:00 PM.**



Keep in mind that planning our your rehearsal and performance days at the theater are very important. Do not show up "ON TIME!" Dancers should arrive EARLY!!! Thank you! Jackie

Show #2 dress rehearsal will be at the Orpheum Theater on **Thurs, June 3rd from 3:30 - 6:00 PM.**

Show #3 dress rehearsal will be at the Orpheum Theater on **Thursday, June 3rd from 6:00-10:00 PM.**

Students involved in the Broadway or the Hip Hop production pieces will need to rehearse separately at the Orpheum Theater.

Hip Hop Production Number will rehearse on **Wed, June 2nd from 6:45-7:45 PM.**

Broadway Production Number ("Jacob & Sons") will rehearse on **Wed, June 2nd from 7:45-8:45 PM.**

Please ask in the office if you have questions about the rehearsals.

Special Recital Production Numbers Broadway & Hip Hop

By Jessica Rooney & Robyn Holcomb

Both Jessica Rooney and Robyn Holcomb will be developing production numbers for the Broadway ("Joseph's Coat") & Hip Hop students. These production numbers will be performed at all three recitals on June 5th (11AM, 2PM, and 7PM). Classes involved in the Broadway piece "Jacob & Sons" are; Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced Broadway. The "Hip Hopera" will be performed by the following classes;

Hip Hop I, II, Intermediate, and Advanced.

Even though these students are performing at all three shows, parents will receive tickets to the one show that is for their child's primary class level. For instance, Beginner Broadway is probably assigned to one of the afternoon shows. You will receive tickets to that show...not all three shows. We need to be careful that we have enough seating for parents of the small children in the

lower school shows, as those shows tend to fill very quickly.

We are in the process of figuring out the recital order, students in Broadway or Hip Hop will be allowed to leave right after their dance. We are going to have them exit backstage through the courtyard. Dancers will be escorted to the new main lobby, where children can be picked up at the front door after they perform, or the kids can stay and help!

Performance Flowers Order Now, Ready at the Orpheum Theater!

By Jessica Rooney

Performance days can be hectic, running around trying to make sure all of your child's dance supplies are ready to go as well getting ready for the performance. In the rush of accomplishing tasks, don't forget to get your dancer flowers to congratulate them!

Dance Gallery Productions will be delivering carnations and roses to the Orpheum Theater during the performances. Let us get your flowers for

you! We will wrap the flowers and put a ribbon around them. The cost for flowers is \$3.50 per rose and \$2.50 per carnation.

Make sure you fill out the order form that you will find in your packet. Include a payment, and return them both to the office by May 16th. Please make checks payable to Dance Gallery Productions. If you have any questions please contact Jessica Rooney; the director of Dance Gallery Productions (this is the competitive dance division of Dance Gallery Studios).



Final Trimester Due Last Payment for the Year

By Martha Archer & Jackie Kriens

Dance Gallery's final tuition payment is due at the start of March. As a reminder of your payment, we have included a final bill. This bill summarizes your charges and payments for the year to date. The final charges listed on your bill are for March, April, and May tuition. The one additional charge listed is for your child's recital fee. For those of you on the trimester billing system, we ask that you submit your final payment in March (preferably before March 15th). For the families that are paying month to month, this bill will show what is left to pay on your bill from now until the recital.

All accounts need to be paid in full by May 8th. After that date, you will be contacted by phone to finalize your account. If you have ANY questions, please give us a call. Office staff will be happy to talk with you.

Help With Recital Makeup & Hair? Students Fundraise

By Grace Wehrspann & Abbie Wilke

All of the rehearsals on June 2nd and 3rd are dress rehearsals including full COSTUMING, HAIR, AND MAKE-UP. We all know recital time is busy for both dancers and their parents. Dance Gallery is offering an option to have your child's hair and makeup done for you! All of us taking care of hair and makeup duties this year are experienced dancers at Dance Gallery and understand how to do stage hair and makeup. The funds raised from this duty will benefit our travel, tuition, room and board for the Cecchetti International Ballet Intensive in Holland, Michigan.

We will have all hair and makeup supplies ready. We only request that you apply black mascara at home. We can take care of everything else at the theater, while keeping everything sanitary (when applying the lipstick, we will use Q-tips to keep from spreading germs).

If you wish to have your child's hair and makeup done, a sign up sheet will be on the office door to schedule an appointment (just like at a hair salon). It will take roughly 15 minutes to do both hair and makeup. The students will start working on the young dancers 90 minutes prior to the dress rehearsals and shows. So, on June 2nd and 3rd, the "salon" will be open from 2:00-3:30 PM. On the day of the show, the "salon" will be open at 9:30 AM for show #1, and 12:30 PM for show #2. You will have the choice to sign up for the rehearsal day and/or the show day.

The cost for your child's hair and makeup to be done will be only \$6 per "sitting" (\$3 for hair, \$3 for makeup). We can accept either cash or checks. Checks should be made out to Dance Gallery. In the memo, please put "Recital Hair/Makeup." Reserve your spot before the last week of classes. FYI - the "salon" will be set up at the theater.

Do You have Your Recital Tights & Shoes?

By Martha Archer & Jackie Kriens

Nearly every year, there is a last minute panic trying to find or purchase tights and shoes for the annual recital. As many of you have found out, our studio sells shoes, tights and leotards from the office at a reasonable price.

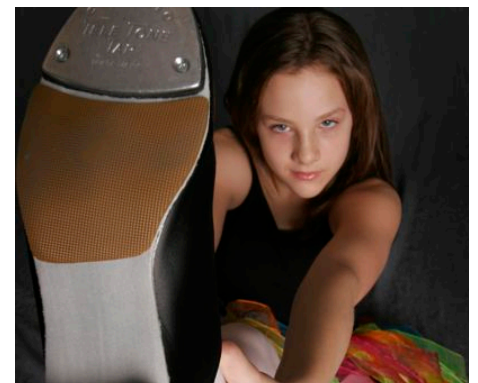
If you can take a quick inventory of your tights, shoes, and leotards, we can easily place an order for you. To accommodate the shipping time, we will not be able to place orders after May 13th. If you miss the deadline, there are stores in town where you can purchase your items. We ask that you to plan ahead and DOUBLE CHECK with your child's teacher on any specific clothing items needed for your child's costume (tight colors, a leotard under a costume, etc). Sometimes, to complete the look of a costume, a teacher may request that students wear a certain color of tights, or a leotard.

Photo Week & DVD's April 30-May 8th

By Janelle- Sport Photo & Jackie Kriens

Sport Photo will be taking photos of Dance Gallery students during our regularly scheduled class times the week of Mon, May 3rd to May 8th. Sport Photo will set up a photography studio in one of our dance studios during the course of that week. Teachers will be at Dance Gallery with all of the children's costumes photo ready! All you need to do is have your child's hair in a bun. Make sure that you have tights, proper shoes, and any other necessary items needed to complete your costume. Dance Gallery will not have gear on hand if you should forget, so plan ahead.

There will be a Sport Photo envelope (order form) in your recital packet that you will pick up at the studio. Because Sport Photo requires that you have one envelope for each costume that you want photographed for purchase, we will have additional envelopes at the studio for you to pick up. To avoid photo errors, please fill out the photo forms as completely as you possibly can. Students should walk in with photo envelopes and have payment in hand at the photo session. We respectfully ask parents to remain outside of the studio as we photograph. (Professional Video Inc. will be selling DVD's for \$25 each. See form in Recital Envelope).



Check your tights and shoes!

All students in the spring recital should have the appropriate shoes for their dance class, and clean tights with no holes. FYI - we can order items for you in the office, but the last order will be sent May 13th to assure an on-time delivery.

Theater Etiquette Review these guidelines

By Jackie Pederson-Kriens

Dance (specifically ballet) has deep, traditional, conservative roots that need to be honored. Dance Gallery prides itself on creating beautiful and exciting dancers that know how to properly behave on and off the stage! This is not something they know. It is something they are taught over time. There is also theater etiquette for audience members. The following are some guidelines for dancers and their families when spending time at the theater during rehearsals and performances.

- Show up to all rehearsals and performances early. On time is considered late in the dance world!
- Dance Gallery requests that no food is brought into the seating area of the theater during rehearsals or shows. It's fine to watch a movie and eat popcorn, but it would be considered out of place to watch a beautiful ballet while eating food. If dancers must eat during rehearsal, they cannot eat or drink in their costume, unless it's water!
- The theater is NOT a gymnasium or a playground. There should be no running through the theater at anytime. This applies to dancers, as well as their siblings. For safety reasons, only dancers and teachers are allowed on the stage.
- If you are a parent, dancer, or sibling, you must remain quiet during the shows and all rehearsals.
- Proper etiquette for showing your appreciation for a dance piece that you enjoyed is loud applause. Screaming and calling out names is not considered a proper way of showing your appreciation of the performance. Standing ovations are ALWAYS welcome at the end of the show.
- No flash photography is allowed during the show and dress rehearsals. It is blinding to the dancers and the audience, not to mention how it can ruin the professional video taping during the show. If you would like to take photography without flash, or videotape your child's dance, we request you do that during the dress rehearsals only.
- During performance and rehearsals, turn cell phones to vibrate in the theater area. If you must take a call, go to the lobby for your conversation.
- An unspoken tradition is to give your dancer a flower for a great performance. This is generally done after the show in the lobby.
- It is expected that all dancers will remain at the theater for the entire show. All of the shows are 1-2 hours in length. For safety reasons, we cannot allow students to leave the building until after the show is finished.

• For obvious reasons, we would request that a female member of the family enters the female dressing area. We need to be careful that we don't have fathers in dressing areas where young girls are changing.

• Make sure small children are fed, well rested, and have gone to the bathroom prior to putting on their costume.

• For our young dancers (ages 3-4 years old), it would be advisable to begin pulling yourself away from the studio windows in the next few months. One year, we had a child that cried for 20 minutes at the top of her lungs because she was afraid of being away from Mom and Dad in the backstage area.

Please be patient. We have over 400 dancers. You can't imagine how much we appreciate those people who take time to read our information, listen to directions, follow through on instructions, and demonstrate patience as we do our best to present three great shows.

These etiquette guidelines can seem fairly rigid, but they are there so that we all enjoy the performance experience. It is a long week, but we only offer this opportunity to all of our students once a year, as opposed to other sporting events which occupy weekend after weekend! Your patience is truly appreciated.

Looking To Forward To Summer Dance!! Summer Camps & Schedule

By Jackie Kriens

It's time...it's time!!! I can't believe how early people plan for summer activities, but it is clearly on the minds of Dance Gallery parents and dancers! Briefly, here is a listing of our summer intensives. I am starting to talk with the teachers about summer availability to teach. Once that is in order, I can begin putting schedules together, and making up brochures!

• June 14-17 - Cecchetti/Ballet Intensive

This intensive is established for students that are interested in pressing forward and covering as much of the Cecchetti syllabus as possible in four days.

• June 21-24 - Children's Dance Camps

This is a very popular camp for dancers ages 3-8 years old. We will be offering classes in ballet, jazz, and tap. The camp meets for four mornings during the week.

• June 20 - 24 & June 27 - July 1 Dance Gallery's Summer Musical Theater Performance Intensive of ANNIE JR.

Open to dancers that have finished 2nd grade and up to students that have completed their senior year. The finale of this camp will be a performances of Annie Jr. at the Orpheum Theater.

The studio will be closed during July for vacation, but will re-open in August for Fall

Registration. Individual teachers may be teaching a few private classes, but we will be primarily closed during July. We will also be checking the phones and email during this month. In the meantime, enjoy your summer off with your families.

Fall Registration

By Arthur Kriens & Jackie Kriens

We are in the process of preparing to have ONLINE REGISTRATION!! We are currently looking at various programs to help us with this. Even though we'll offer this, we will also have some registration times at the studio in August. Please keep an eye on the front page of the website for information concerning registration dates for open house and August registration. You will be able to register earlier in the summer, but our open house & registration will be held only in August due to out of state commitments with dance students.

Professional Program & Competition Groups

By Jessica Rooney & Jackie Kriens

Students that are applying for the PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM and/or COMPETITION GROUPS should pick up an application for each program in the office starting MARCH 1st. Applications are due back in the office no later than MARCH 20TH (no exceptions). You will be notified of placement by early April. Students accepted into the Professional Program will be required to come to the studio and register in June before online registration begins. Students in the professional program cannot register online as we have particular requirements that must be met to participate. Watch for information.

Calendar Reminders for Spring 2010

By Jackie Kriens & Martha Archer

- March 26-28th - Cecchetti Exams (SF)
- March 31-April 4th- Spring Break (closed)
- April 30-May 7th - Recital Pictures at the Studio during students' regular classes.
- May 27th - Last Day of Dance Classes
- June 2-3rd - Dress Rehearsals at Theater
- June 5th - 11AM, 2PM, 7PM Recitals
- June 6-13th - Studio Closed

Lastly, I was to send out a big, huge

THANK YOU, THANK YOU

to all of the families, dancers, staff, and volunteers this year. You have been overwhelmingly AMAZING during a busy year! I really appreciate your support, and I look forward to seeing you for the remainder of this year, and NEXT FALL!!

Jackie Pederson-Kriens