

GSD – RECITAL INFORMATION PACKET

2017-2018 JUNE SHOW

Recital week is always one of the most rewarding and exciting events in our annual calendar! We are thrilled to offer our students the opportunity of a performance weekend in a positive and professional environment. Still, we understand that you may not be interested in participating – if this is the case for you, please let the studio and your child's teacher know right away that you will continue to take classes but will not be a part of the show. If you are planning to participate, please read all of the information in this packet, so you are aware of the necessary expectations.

GENERAL INFORMATION

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

SHOW WEEK IS - 6/5-6/9!!

Dress Rehearsals will be held on Tuesday, June 5th (CHILDREN'S SHOW - 1st grade and under), and Wednesday, June 6th (UPPER LEVEL SHOW - 2nd grade and older). Specialty Group dancers will have rehearsals both days. The rehearsal schedule will be available online after Spring Break.

CHILDREN'S SHOWS: Thursday, June 7th...7:00 pm and Saturday, June 9th...2:00 pm
UPPER LEVEL SHOWS: Friday, June 8th...7:00 pm and Saturday, June 9th...7:00 pm

DRESS REHEARSAL PROCEDURES

Each class will have an assigned time to rehearse their number on stage at the auditorium (again, the schedule will be available online after Spring Break). This is a mandatory rehearsal for all performers. These rehearsals are to acclimate your dancer to the performance setting in full costume, hair & makeup, and to set the lights, sound, entrance, exit, and spacing for each number. We ask that you be warmed up, dressed in costume with hair and makeup, 30 minutes ahead of schedule as we often run ahead – there is always plenty to keep them entertained!

***All shows and rehearsals take place at the Howell High School Auditorium**

BETWEEN NOW AND THEN

Costume Payments: have been added to your account and can be paid at any time before the due date, in any increments that work for you – WITH A FINAL, OFFICIAL DUE DATE OF JANUARY 20TH.

- High School dancers, Competition dancers, PADT Dancers - \$60 per costume
- 5th-8th grade dancers, Apprentice dancers - \$55 per costume
- Continuing Level dancers (2nd-4th grade) - \$50 per costume
- Children's Show dancers (1st grade and under) - \$45 per costume

For some classes, your teacher has made the decision for you to get an outfit independently and will give you further instruction as to what you will need – you will not receive a costume charge for that class.

Costumes will be ordered for those whose tuition payments are up-to-date, and whose costume balances are paid in full by the 20th of January. Costumes will be handed out during "Costume Week" in April/May (date will be made available online after Spring Break). Costumes not collected by the end of this school year will be donated to charity.

Costume Measuring & Reveals:

We will begin the measuring process in December. If you would like to provide input on sizing, please call or email the studio. All measurements are compared to the corresponding size chart for each costume company, and any "borderline" measurement will be rounded up to the next size. Any necessary alterations are the responsibility of the dancer. Each teacher will be showing a picture of each costume when we return from the holiday break. These pictures will be available for viewing in class, January 3rd-9th. You are encouraged to view these and upon viewing, if you have any concerns about your child's costume(s), please either address those with the teacher or email the studio to share your concerns. They are ordered with a no refund/no return policy after January 20th.

Performance Preparation:

Each teacher will begin setting the pieces for each class when we return from the holiday break in January. These pieces will be finished by the end of April so that May & June can be spent polishing and working on technique and style. If a student is not ready for the performance due to excessive absences, the teacher will need to pull that dancer from the piece. If that is the case, you will receive all costumes for which you have paid. As educators, we do what we can to avoid excluding any dancer, although we would never jeopardize a dancer by putting them on a performance stage unprepared. You will know by May if this is an issue for you.

Practicing at Home:

Following our Winter Break in February, recital music will be available to practice with at home. If interested in a copy of your music, you will need to turn the following in to the front desk: a **blank** CD in a case, **labeled with the TEACHER, DAY & TIME of each class**. If you have multiple children, we can put the music for your entire family on one CD. *Please note, if it is labeled "DVD-R", it is NOT a CD, and will not record – it must be BLANK and labeled "CD-R" in order for us to be able to record your music for you

SHOW PREPARATION/ARRIVAL AT THE THEATER

Recital Volunteers: Volunteer parents are needed to help run the show. As a volunteer, you will be eligible to participate in our "VIP Advanced Ticket Sales" which take place before tickets go on sale to the rest of the public & you will receive one free ticket for any of the shows, for each shift for which you volunteer. We encourage you to participate - zealous, supportive people are necessary to make this an amazing weekend for the children. Sign up sheets for these posts will be available at the desk after Spring Break, and will remain available until all posts are filled. More detailed information regarding your specific duties will be given to you as the show approaches.

Ticket Sales: Ticket Sales begin Saturday, May 5th (2:00pm VIP Advanced Sales for recital volunteers, 3:00-4:00 to the public) at the studio. Main floor reserved tickets are \$15 & General Admission Lecture area seats are \$13. After May 5th, tickets will be available at the studio while we are holding classes and then made available at the Auditorium during the dress rehearsals and one hour prior to each show. Out of respect for the work that all of our dancers and faculty have put into producing a versatile and entertaining show, we ask that all audience members arrive with the plan to view the show in its entirety. All dancers will be cared for and occupied backstage for the duration of the show, to give you the freedom to sit back and enjoy the entire production. Please understand that audience entrances and exits will be carefully controlled with the sole intent of allowing our entire cast of dancers to feel respected and appreciated and so that fellow audience members may enjoy the show with less interruption. Infant children who do not require a seat will not require a ticket.

Outstanding Tuition/Costume Balances: Dancers will not receive costumes unless their tuition payments and costume payments are paid in full. Dancers with outstanding balances as of the show will not be permitted to participate.

ALL DANCERS IN THE CHILDREN'S SHOW will remain in the Drama Room throughout the show – an assistant stage manager will escort each class to the stage prior to their number, and return them to the Drama Room after their number is finished – all classes will be supervised by volunteers who will remain with them, with quiet activities to keep them occupied and will help them change their shoes/costumes for additional numbers. The show will be aired in the Drama Room for them to view. Parents, we ask that you drop off your dancer, ready for their first number no less than 15 minutes ahead of show time, and pick them up immediately following the show – please note that **NO MEN ARE ALLOWED IN THE DRAMA ROOM**. The older dancers will have assigned dressing rooms, and need to stay true to those assignments.

ALL DANCERS IN THE UPPER LEVEL SHOW should be dropped off at the Drama Room, ready for their first number, no less than 15 minutes ahead of show time. From there, dancers should proceed to their assigned dressing rooms (your teacher will let you know where that is) and the assistant stage manager will

find you there to escort you backstage. Volunteers will supervise each dressing area. Parents should pick up their dancer in the drama room or their dressing room (females only please) following the show.

RECITAL DO'S AND DON'T'S:

DANCERS

- No eating or drinking in costume
- No nail polish (fingers or toes)
- No jewelry or gum
- No valuables brought to the theater
- Stay backstage until the show is over
- Be respectful & supportive of all dancers
- Only bottled water is allowed backstage

AUDIENCE MEMBERS

- No videotaping during the shows
- No flash photography – DANGER TO DANCERS
- No shouting of performers' names
- No entering/exiting during a number
- Silence all electronic devices
- Be respectful & supportive of all dancers
- Only bottled water is allowed in the theater

Appearance and Costumes: Please make a checklist of all necessary tights, shoes, undergarments, & accessories for all of your dances. Your dancer should already be wearing in class the shoe that is required for the performance. Every costume part/shoes should be labeled with your first and last name so they may be returned to you if misplaced. Once you receive your costume, you should immediately hang it in a safe place and leave it to wear only for the dress rehearsals and shows. Hair and Makeup: when your child receives his/her costume, he/she will also receive an instructional sheet that will be gone over with the parents & students regarding the proper hairstyle and makeup application.

Authorized Auditorium Areas: Our rental agreement allows us the use of the stage & backstage, the audience area (the house), the dressing rooms, the scene shop, the auditorium lobby, the Drama Room and the hallways that connect these areas. When you arrive at the school for the rehearsals and the shows, please limit yourself to these areas only. Because of the size of our cast, we ask that you stay true to your assigned dressing area (again, your teacher will go over this with each class prior to show week). We ask you NOT to leave anything overnight, and when you leave, your area should look exactly as you found it. This will allow us all to share the space respectfully with one another and the school. In the interest of respecting one another's space, we will allow only performers and volunteers in the backstage dressing areas. Please let your fans know that you will be available after the show to meet them in the lobby, or make other arrangements to connect with them outside of the backstage area. *Parents of dancers in elementary school or younger should come to their child's dressing room after the show to collect the dancer and his/her belongings.

Final Thoughts:

Again, we are always so excited to share this weekend with our students, their parents, and their fans. This truly is the end result of a year's worth of growth, development & dedication, and we are always so proud to see them shine on stage. All of the above policies have been put into place after 40+ years of learning what needs to happen to create a positive experience for the dancers. Nothing is more important than to prepare them to delight their audience and to create a magical weekend for them. That is the underlying purpose behind everything that goes into organizing this weekend. If you have any questions about this packet,

please seek answers from your child's teacher, our desk staff, or by emailing the studio. Thank you so much for sharing your dancer with us, and we look forward to sharing this special weekend with you.