

Hello All!! Some upcoming info for the year. Backstage would also like to take this opportunity to wish the best of the upcoming season to each and every one of you! Have a great Christmas and a Merry New Year!

Important dates....Please write in your calendar!!

CHRISTMAS PARTY – Sat. December 16th – Decorating Party – 1:30 – 3:00 (D level & lower)

Decorating Gingerbread/Christmas Cookies....Bring some snack snacks you'd like to share.

Drop your child and get some Christmas shopping done!!!

*****Please Sign up on Sheet in Waiting Room for both or email Miss Renee. We need to know numbers of people attending !! Also E, F & G's, we will need help for the Decorating party*****

CHRISTMAS PARTY BANQUET – Sat. December 16th - Potluck ~ 7:00 (E level & up)

We need to know what you are bringing to the Potluck. Sign up!

MONDAY, DEC. 18TH – TAP & JAZZ EXAMS WITH MISS HORN (Miss Shaelynn is playing music)

Also – Exam fees are due – Gr. 1 (\$110) – Gr. 2 (\$120) – Inter (\$160) – Adv (\$170)

*****CHRISTMAS BREAK - FRI. DECEMBER 22nd – SUN. JANUARY 7th*****

(We will be choreographing, especially solos, during break so let us know your availability during this time)

Friday March 8th – This is our date for Ballet Exams – Gr. 4 (E's), Gr. 6 (F's), Gr. 8 (G's) in the morning.

Friday March 8th – Classes for Ballet Jorgen (email was sent earlier, SUCH a great opportunity.)

Saturday March 9th – Ballet Jorgen presents “Anne of Green Gables”.

There are a couple more Competitions that are available to attend...

Dance Nation – Assiniboia - Mar. 11-14 Levels Determined by age and #of hours/week entrant dances

Solos (\$40.00) Duos/Trios (\$35.00/entrant) Groups (\$30.00/entrant) No groups required for Solos.

Dance Invasion – Medicine Hat – Mar. 11-14 Levels Determined by age and # of years entrant danced

Solos (\$65.00) Duos/Trios (\$45.00/entrant) Groups (\$40.00/entrant) Studio must have groups or duos entered for any Solo entries, limit of 3 solos eligible to be entered for every Duo or Group...limit of 5 solos/person.

*****We need to know right away which of these competitions you would like to attend, if at all, maybe just solos/duos?*****

Competitions

MAR. 19-23 - SPRING STARS COMPETITION in Saskatoon (B, C, D, E & F CLASSES)

Solos (\$65.00) Duos/Trios (\$55.00/entrant) Groups (\$42.00/entrant)

APR. 26-28 – Festival of Friends Swift Current Competition (ALL CLASSES EXCEPT TINY TOT)

Solos (\$35.00) Duos/Trios (\$30.00/entrant) Groups (\$25.00/entrant)

MAY 1-5 – Moose Jaw Festival of Dance – Dance Inspirations Competition (D's, E's & F's & G's?!)

Solos (\$50.00) Duos/Trios (\$35.00/entrant) Groups (\$30.00/entrant)

*******Fees are due now for the competitions*******

Please let us know if you are unable to attend any Competition so we may choreograph accordingly!

MAY 20/23 – Tentative date for Recital

New York City Studio Trip, DEC. 2023

****The New York Trip was AMAZING!!** Besides dancing in Times Square and dancing in the “Aladdin” theatre, they also saw the Radio City Christmas Spectacular, (some went to a class with the Rockettes or at Broadway Dance Center), saw Rockefeller square with the Rockefeller Square Christmas tree, saw some Broadway shows, went to Central Park and so much more. It was a Special experience in every way!!

There are a few things we would like everyone to be aware of at the studio, as well as some specific info for the students in the exam/competition/dance-even-more category

1. ATTIRE – ****In all classes, the teachers expect the students to participate with proper attire. Proper tights, bodysuit, shoes, hair in a bun....these are the expectations in class. Be sure the students' dance bag has what the student needs to meet this requirement; there are Dance Kits for sale for \$10.00 that have elastics, pins, hairnets, barrettes, hairbands, safety pins, band aids, hand sanitizer as well as needle and thread. Students 6 years and under, hair in a ponytail or pig tails are acceptable but from 7 years and up, hair up is required in ballet classes and 9 years up in the other disciplines as well. When we are working on turns, hair up is a necessity for proper form. Also, please put the students' name in their shoes...it helps us to return misplaced shoes!**

2. WASHROOM – Please encourage the students to visit the washroom before class...the staff can all relay tales of the “bathroom parade” they witness once one student starts out the door!!

3. ATTENDANCE – Please be on time for classes, 5 minutes ahead is great. Let us know by email or phone if your child is going to be late or missing...it keeps us from worrying about them.

4. FOOD – When the young students have more than 1 class in a row, the teachers will take 2 minutes for the students to have a quick, healthy snack or drink of water to keep them going. **Please do not send sugary snacks or drinks to avoid the blood sugar spike and crash; and be sensitive to food allergies especially nuts.** If students have a break and eat, use the table in the waiting room and not in the dressing room where spills could end up accidentally soiling possessions of others. Everyone cleans up after themselves...pour out excess liquids in the sink, put refuse in the garbage and be sure to use the recycling can for cans and bottles (not garbage!) **PLEASE RECYCLE!!**

5. PROBLEMS – Please, please...if you are experiencing any problems, let us know. We can't help to create a solution to a problem if we don't know it exists. Most problems are easily rectified, but we need to know! ☺

6. EXAMS – There are going to be ballet exams that we would like to participate in after Christmas. Those fees are now due for Gr. 4, Gr. 6 and Gr. 8 Ballet.

7. ACCOUNTS – Please get any and all payments in as soon as possible. We still have many outstanding accounts from last year as well. If you need to make special arrangements, just give Miss Renee a call at the studio...we are fairly understanding and would much rather work with you than to have to call collections!

9. ATTITUDE – At Backstage, we would like to promote a healthy, positive attitude, from everyone involved – students, parents and teachers. We as teachers have high expectations but recognize students' limitations. A love of dance is promoted...and we do things the way we do them because after 30 + years of teaching, it's what we really believe is best for the students. We also respect there are different viewpoints in the dance world, based on different experiences. Let's all be encouraging and positive to all involved in dance, in whatever capacity that entails.... **HURRAH FOR DANCE!!!**

Dance like no one is watching! – Unknown

What exactly is your child doing for competitions? Hopefully this will answer your questions. ☺

Competition Groups

A Group – Ballet Group and Tap group only in Festival of Friends

B Group – Ballet Group and B/C Tap group in Spring Stars. Ballet Group, B/C Tap, B/C Jazz in Festival of Friends

C Group – See above and below

D Group – C/D Ballet Group, D Tap group, D Jazz Group in Spring Stars, Festival of Friends, and Moose Jaw.

E Group – Ballet Group, Jazz Group, Tap Group, Lyrical Group and Large Lyrical Group in all 3 Competitions.

F Group – F/G Ballet Group, FG Jazz Group, FG Tap Group, EFG Lyrical Group, F Small Lyrical Group in all 3 Competitions.

G Group - F/G Ballet Group, FG Jazz Group, FG Tap Group, EFG Lyrical Group, G Small Lyrical Group, G Small Jazz (+Nika{Nasty}), G Small Tap (Drummin') in all 3 Competitions.

Hip Hop Group – only in Festival of Friends

Acro Group – only in Festival of Friends