



IT'S YOUR FIRST RECITAL.....WHAT TO EXPECT **(and friendly reminders for our return dancers)**

Your first recital is so exciting! Even if your 3 or 13, a new experience of performing on stage for something you have worked so hard on can bring so many emotions. Rehearsals are very important and a great way to work out the kinks. You will slowly see the improvement of confidence as you watch your dancer perform and practice. Things are a bit crazy, and we like to call this “organized chaos”, but somehow it always works out beautifully! Hopefully these tips can make things a little smoother for you on the big day!

- * It would be helpful for our younger dancers if you can ask your dancer if they know their sticker shape and color for each dance. As long as they know which one they go to first, this could make things run much smoother for them as well as give them more confidence (and avoid sticker fights on stage).
- * Video tape your dancer and help them practice as time gets closer to recital. Make it fun and put on a show of your own at home. You could even sell pretend tickets to the family.
- * On your dress rehearsal day, please come dressed in your first costume (note show order when posted up at studio) and hair and make-up done. It is extremely important to come dressed for your first dance so we can start on time. We start right away, so please be on time. If your dancer is in more than one dance, follow the arrows back to the cafeteria and hang your second costume on the rack labeled with your dancer's song and class name. We have assigned helpers for each class and they are ready and prepared to help your dancers. Dancers with quick changes will have a helper assigned to them and will be notified with more details as we get closer.
- * If your dancer is young, please remember that stage fright is normal and our teachers are great at calming little nerves. Once you drop your dancer off in the cafeteria for recital day, know that they will be well taken care of and very busy. We have coloring, crafts and movies to keep them occupied until it's their time to dance. We also have several helpers to play with them and assist in all costume changes, hair changes and make-up touch ups if needed. Please note the check-in system and what to bring list for recital day as well.
- * For our older dancers- some of you are in several shows or may have quick changes. We know you love to be here all day and help which we greatly appreciate but remember to eat and drink as much water as possible to keep you healthy. You may want to bring water bottles for the dressing rooms or ask a parent to pick up some subs for a group of you to share. Please remember no food in the auditorium. Continue to stretch throughout the day to keep your muscles warm. Rest well at night between rehearsal days so you can perform your best!
- * Don't forget your camera! Take as many pictures of your dancer before and after the show with their friends and teachers too! Most teachers make it to the cafeteria for pictures between the shows if you can catch them. Friend pictures are great as well to look back at.

* Please know we do our best to keep rehearsals running as smoothly and on time as possible, so please make sure you are on time and arrive at least 20 minutes before your rehearsal days and 20-30 minutes early on show day. As long as things run smoothly, we will start on time! If you need help getting your dancer to rehearsals and need to car pool, please let us know and we will get a phone list of class mates that may be able to help.

* Yay!!! No lines again this year as you will be able to purchase tickets for assigned seats online. Tickets will go on sale through www.recitalticketing.com/26019 on **Saturday March 21st** and will be slightly tiered by time to help those families in multiple shows. If your family was split, you will be notified a week prior to ticket sales of your code number to enter for your complimentary ticket(s). Please remember, we decide the numbers of tickets given by looking at each individual family and their splits. Here is the schedule for ticket sale times. There is also a form in your black folder with further details:

Thursday 6pm show will go on sale at 10:00am

Friday 6pm show will go on sale at 10:30am

Saturday 10am show will go on sale at 11:00am

Saturday 2pm show will go on sale at 11:30am

Saturday 6pm show will go on sale at 12:00pm

Doors open 20 minutes prior to Showtime (unless the lobby becomes too full, we will then open a little earlier). If you need handicap seating, they are assigned and limited to our most in need families, so please let Ms. Karly know asap at the front desk, as a code will be issued to you for one handicap seat plus a companion.

* Flowers, balloons and fun Excel gear will be available for sale for your dancers on show day. This typically becomes a tradition for our dancers. Flowers are available pre-sale if you would like to order early.

*Ms. Katie can be very hard to catch during recital days so please grab a helper in a **yellow** shirt if you need anything. We should be able to help promptly or contact Ms. Katie if needed. She tries to be available as much as possible, but as I am sure you understand, she gets pulled in several directions.

* If there are any other questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to ask your teacher or Ms. Katie. We want to make this the best recital experience for you and your dancer!

FALL PLACEMENT FOR NEXT YEAR - The teachers take a lot of time in the Spring to evaluate and place each child in the class that they feel best fit for them. You will receive your placements right after recital. If you have any questions, please call right away due to the fact that spots fill very quickly. Thank you!