

# **movement & sound** **DANCE**

## **CELEBRATING OUR 9TH RECITAL SEASON!**

### **THE RECITAL EXPERIENCE -- WHY WE DO IT**

We're happy to say that this year marks our ninth opportunity to provide our Movement & Sound Dance students with an exciting performance experience through the Spring Showcase Recital. This year's show theme is Time To Shine -- and we cannot wait for our dancers to have the chance to shine in front of family & friends! The recital offers our students a professionally directed performance that allows them to present the results of a school year's hard work, dedication and progress.

A big part of the dance training process includes learning through performance. The experience helps build self-esteem, self-assurance, and contributes to self-confidence. Participating in the rehearsal & recital process helps dancers develop retention skills and learn the positive aspects of working as a team to create the best end result (the dance!).

### **RECITAL SHOW TIMES, REHEARSAL DAYS + UPDATES**

The recital is Saturday June 1st, 2024 at Barrington High School (616 W Main St, Barrington). You will receive a separate email this week with the recital and dress rehearsal assignments for your student's classes. We will also be updating the Recital Page on our website with all of the dances that are in each of the shows.

Please look for future additional recital emails, and print or flag them for your reference.

**PLEASE READ ON, FOR THE ALL OF THE IMPORTANT RECITAL INFO YOU NEED TO KNOW.**

**When you have completed reading through the handbook, please click this link -- <https://forms.gle/YDvNggcyPt5PHKrt7> -- to confirm that you agree and understand the recital procedures.**

## **Should my dancer practice their dances at home?**

Yes! We want our dancers to feel confident on stage, and the key is practicing and reviewing at home. A copy of your child's recital music will be posted to the portal this spring, as well as a practice video. For our young dancers, the teachers will be on stage with them, in the corner, to help them remember their routine.

Use the Dance Bingo Board we have attached to this email to track your dancer's progress! Get 5-in-a-row and bring it in to choose a prize! After that, continue to fill your board completely to earn an additional prize.

## **When will we get our costumes? What comes with them? What else should I pack?**

The costumes will be distributed as soon as we have all of the sizes for each class. Your dancer will receive each costume in a garment bag, with any necessary tights included and accessories included. A costume checklist is in each bag and is also posted on our website on the recital page; please use it to double check that everything is packed appropriately before the show. Remember to pack their dance shoes, as well as extra bobby pins, hair ties, safety pins, and baby wipes or make-up wipes.

Please do not wear the costumes in advance of picture day or rehearsal, and do not wash them. Although rare, if alterations are needed after the costumes have been distributed, they will be the responsibility of the student's parent or guardian.

*If your dancer has received light suntan tights for any of their dances, and you would like a darker shade to match your dancer's skin tone better, please come see the front desk to exchange your tights.*

**Please consider purchasing a skin-tone leotard for your dancer to wear under their costumes, if they have multiple costumes. Our changing areas are communal, so this will help preserve your dancer's privacy.** Both mothers or fathers could be the guardian dropping off or picking up their dancer from the dressing room.

## **How should my dancer wear their hair for the recital? How about makeup?**

The costume checklist in the garment bag will list specific hairstyle instructions. (A ponytail or bun, depending on the class). In terms of makeup, we encourage our dancers of all ages to wear some makeup on stage. It is at your discretion. Makeup helps the audience to see our dancers' expressions and faces while on stage. We recommend earth tones for the eyes, dark mascara, and rosy blush. Lipstick in a dark pink or red helps to highlight your dancer's smile.

## **Why do we need to attend dress rehearsal?**

The dress rehearsal allows the students to feel comfortable with their performance, feel comfortable in their costume(s), and practice remembering their routine in a new space. It also helps us to practice spacing, so that all of the dancers can be seen well from the audience. ***Dress rehearsal is a required event***, unless you have already given us prior notice.

## **Besides my dancer, who else can come to dress rehearsal?**

One parent or guardian should accompany each student to the dress rehearsal. Siblings should only come if absolutely necessary. If your dancer is age 10 or older and you would like to drop them off and then come back to pick them up, you may. For the best environment at dress rehearsal, we need to have a handle on any extra individuals who will be in attendance. **If you have an additional person, besides a parent or sibling, who needs to attend the dress rehearsal, they will need a Dress Rehearsal Guest Ticket.** Dress Rehearsal guest tickets are \$15, and we will give you the ticket the week before recital. If you need to purchase dress rehearsal tickets for additional guests, please fill out this form: <https://forms.gle/zfrsYgRixza36XiN6>

## **Do we have to stay for the entire dress rehearsal?**

The dress rehearsals will most likely be practiced in show order, but there may be exceptions. The dancers will be dismissed once they have completed rehearsing all of their routines. The show order has not yet been released, but you will have a copy prior to dress rehearsal.

## **Can I take photos and videos at dress rehearsal and recital?**

Parents or guardians may video or take non-flash photography during their dancer's **dress rehearsal only**. NO video or photography will be allowed during the recital performance, as this disrupts our professional videographer, as well as the other audience members.

## **How do I get a copy of recital performance video?**

Our recital is PROFESSIONALLY recorded on video, and every family will receive a link to view and download the digital copy of the performance, at no additional cost, a few weeks after the show!

## **About how long is the recital?**

Our goal is to always give our students and our audience the most enjoyable experience possible! This means that our shows have a variety of ages and dance styles in each performance. Each show is generally between 1.5 - 2 hours in length, depending on how quickly our groups are able to move on and off stage, and how quickly the audience is seated before the show begins.

## **Will my child's dances perform in one show, or more?**

It depends! The majority of the classes will only perform in ONE show. A handful of our classes will perform in TWO shows. If your child's class falls into this category, it is most likely because the students in the class are in a variety of classes, and by performing the dance in more than one show, it helps each dancer to have a main show. *So that the integrity of the dance can be intact, your dancer will be required to perform in both shows.* We cannot guarantee that siblings will be in the same shows. Company dancers: your company dances could be performed throughout multiple shows.

## **Why do I need to purchase tickets for the recital?**

The rental of the theatre where we hold our recital, as well as the required theatre staff, come at a cost. Our recital ticket sales offset this cost, and allow us to present a beautiful performance that highlights your dancer's amazing achievements!

## **How much do the tickets cost?**

Recital tickets are a base cost of \$15 each. A ticket is required for every audience member over age 2, so that we can maintain the correct numbers allowed in the theatre. Children under age 2 without a ticket must sit on an adult's lap.

If you have multiple children who take dance at our studio, and their recital dances are in more than one show, we offer a special discount when you purchase tickets for more than one show. There is an automatic discount for 3 free tickets to your second show, **when purchased at the same time as the first show**, as a way to thank you and offset the costs of attending multiple shows.

If your dancer is in one of the classes that performs the same dance in more than one show, we will give one parent a special seat for the duplicate show.

## **How do I purchase tickets?**

Tickets will be purchased through DanceRecitalTicketing.com. Ticket sales will open on April 28th at 9am. YOU WILL RECEIVE EMAIL INSTRUCTIONS on how to order, well in advance of this recital ticket sale day, as well as a reminder email that day.

## **How do I know which seats to choose?**

The theatre at Barrington High School has approximately 700 seats, with a good view of the stage from every seat! Our recital seating is reserved seating, which means that you will choose your assigned seating when you purchase. Please know that for our On My Own and Fundamentals age classes, we often do not choose where the students stand on stage in advance. This age group usually needs a “play-it-by-ear” approach in terms of where to stand on stage that day, based on who needs to be closest to the teacher. Our older dancers will have assigned spacing but their spot on stage will vary from class to class.

## **Will there be gifts and flowers for purchase at the recital? How do I get a commemorative recital t-shirt?**

Yes -- there will be gift items and baked goods, but there will not be flowers this year. Rather than using the flower & gift company that we have used in the past, we will instead have the following fun items for sale (in limited quantities): ballet teddy bears, M&S jibbitz for Crocs, logo and dance headbands, design-your-own-keychains, and baked goods from To Di For bakery. Our recital t-shirts this year are being done by SNFLR Swag and they will be sold via an online store in advance of the recital, beginning in April. You will receive an email when this online store is open!

## Can I be backstage with my dancer during the recital show?

Family members and friends may **not** be backstage or in the dressing room during the rehearsal, the recital show, or in between shows, *with the exception of parent volunteers*. There is a lot of activity in the dressing room and backstage, and these are private areas. Please remind your family to meet and congratulate your dancer in the lobby or outdoor pick-up area, after the show. *If your dancer has a special situation that requires you to supervise them individually backstage, please email us to let us know.*

## How can I become a parent volunteer?

If you are interested in volunteering backstage, that would be great! Please fill out the Parent Volunteer Form at this link, <https://forms.gle/iNpe73L9wMC7mywn8>, no later than Friday May 10, 2024. There will be a video orientation for volunteers, and all must abide by the policies set forth by Movement & Sound.

Class volunteers are needed for each class, to supervise the dancers. They do not need a recital ticket for the show they are volunteering for and they will be able to watch their children perform from the audience. Class volunteers must assure that each child in their group is safe and accounted for. They are responsible for making sure that each child is wearing the proper costume, accessories, shoes, and is backstage at the appropriate time. They are responsible for making sure that each child in their group returns to their appointed dressing room after performance. The number of volunteers needed for each class will be determined by the number of students in the class. If there are too many volunteers for one class, they will be asked to supervise children from another class. During their child's performance, class volunteers will leave the students at the stage door with their teacher, and then watch the dance from an assigned seating section at the back of the auditorium. Volunteers may *not* enter the backstage area. ***We appreciate all of our volunteers, and we depend on their kindness and generosity to help our show run like clockwork!***

## **Does my student need to stay for the whole recital show, or can they leave when their dance is done?**

Dancers must stay for the entirety of the show. (The only exceptions will be the classes that are performing the same dance in more than one show, and those families will receive specific details about dismissal, via email.) For their safety and security, all dancers must remain in the dressing rooms for the entirety of the show, both before and after they perform. Additionally, all dancers will be a part of our finale “curtain call”, when they get a chance to do a big bow with the other dancers and be celebrated by the audience!

No parents may enter the dressing rooms during the show. We will give dismissal instructions at the end of each show, and at that time ONE parent only may go to the dressing room to pick up and check out their dancer.

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***MORE INFORMATION ABOUT RECITAL CHECK-IN AND ARRIVAL  
WILL BE SHARED A COUPLE OF WEEKS BEFORE THE SHOW!***

***THANK YOU!***