

# January 24' Newsletter



Welcome 2024 and Welcome Back AOD students and families! We cannot believe it is January already. We hope you had a restful Winter break and took some time to reconnect with your families and friends and to recharge. January is probably one of the most exciting times at AOD for our students and our teachers. Our classes are going to jump feet first into recital choreography, and our students are always excited to find out what their recital costumes will be! January also signals the final month before our Dance and Thespian competition teams start their competition season. Check out our important dates section and our website for competition dates and come out to support our AOD competition teams!

There will be a lot of important information shared over the coming months regarding pictures, recital tickets, costumes, etc. **Please make sure you are following our social media accounts and please make sure you add our email address to your contacts list, so you do not miss important reminders or class information.**

## TUITION POLICY

Tuition is due on the 1st of each month. A \$25 late fee will be added after the 10th. No exceptions.

Tuition can be paid via our website at:  
Tuition Info/Pay ([academyofdancejax.com](http://academyofdancejax.com))

As a reminder, AOD does not send out monthly tuition statements. It is each family's responsibility to pay tuition on time. If you make quarterly payments, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO KNOW WHEN YOUR QUARTERLY PAYMENT IS DUE. We send out a tuition reminder email before the 10th of the month and a tuition due notice is posted on the studio lobby desk.

AOD ONLY SENDS STATEMENTS OUT IF THERE IS A PAST OR OUTSTANDING BALANCE. Please see the studio policies on our website or stop in the lobby if you have any questions.

## ILLNESS POLICY

Many of our families noticed how hard hit the studio was the past few months with illness. We had the flu spread quickly through many of our classes. It is imperative that our families adhere to our illness policy, especially as we move into January. Our classes hit the ground running with end of year recital choreography and our Dance and Thespian teams start their competition season. We want to keep our teachers and students healthy, so class absences are kept to a minimum.

As a reminder, here is our illness policy:

Dancers should not be in class if they are exhibiting ANY TYPE OF SYMPTOM at all. If your dancer has a fever within 24 hours of class, vomiting, diarrhea, cough, malaise, sore throat, etc. PLEASE KEEP THEM HOME. Our teachers will catch them up if they miss anything and we will work with you to find a make-up class. If you have any questions at all about whether your dancer should be in class, please call us.

## IMPORTANT DATES

- 1/2/24 ~ Hurricane make up classes for Tuesday 8/29/23. [See page 2 for details.](#)
- 1/3/24 ~ Classes resume with our normal schedule
- 1/10-1/13/24 ~ Dance and Thespian team pictures. [See page 3 for details](#)
- 1/15/24 ~ MLK Day. Studio Closed
- 1/15/24 ~ Mandatory Dance & Thespian rehearsal at Sea Side. [See page 3 for details](#)
- 1/18/24 ~ Dress Rehearsal for Thespian Team. Mandatory
- 1/20/24 ~ Dress Rehearsal for ALL DANCE COMPETITION TEAMS. Mandatory.
- 2/3/24-2/5/24 ~ Access Broadway Competition in Orlando, FL for Dance and Thespian Teams

## LOBBY HOURS

Monday: 3:30-7:00p  
Tuesday: Desk Closed  
Wednesday: 3:30-6:30p  
Thursday: 3:30-6:30p  
Friday: 3:30-7:00p



## STAY CONNECTED! LIKE AND FOLLOW OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES

 Academy of Dance Jax  @AODJAX  @AODDANCETEAM  @AODTHESPIANS  @AODJAX  
 904-880-2275  [www.academyofdancejax.com](http://www.academyofdancejax.com)  [academyofdancejax@gmail.com](mailto:academyofdancejax@gmail.com)



## SPRING SHOW INFORMATION ~ WE WILL UPDATE THIS SECTION MONTHLY AS WE MOVE TOWARDS THE SHOW

- PLEASE SAVE THE DATE ~ our annual Spring Show will be held on **Sunday June 9, 2024 @ 2:30pm at the Thrasher Home Center.**
- Please let the studio know ASAP if your dancer is not participating in the Spring Show. Our teachers are starting to plan out choreography and need to know which students will not be in the dance.
- Students that take more than 1 technique class (i.e. 2 ballet or 2 jazz classes, etc.) SHOULD NOT double up for recital performances. They will be placed in the highest-level class piece. Any questions, please ask.
- Not all classes will perform in the Spring Show. A list of classes performing in the Spring Show is posted in the lobby. Students in multiple levels of any style, will perform with their highest-level class for the show.
- **It is imperative that student absences are kept to a minimum when we return to classes in January.** This allows teachers ample time to set choreography and clean it before the Spring Show.
- **Ticket Sales: Date and Time TBA SOON!** We will send out a detailed email later this Spring. Please do not worry if you cannot make the sale date. There is not a bad seat in the house at Thrasher Home!
- **Recital Fee:** There is a per family recital fee due at the time of ticket purchase. We will announce that fee at the same time as the ticket sale. This is a PER FAMILY fee!
- **There will be a MANDATORY Dress Rehearsal on Wednesday June 5. The start time is TBD. Generally, we start around 3:30pm.** We will be sending out more detailed information as we get closer. **PLEASE MARK THIS DATE IN YOUR CALENDARS NOW!**
- Costumes are being ordered now. Families will be billed costume balances due.
  - **If you have not paid any costume deposits, you will be billed the full amount.**
  - **If you paid costume deposits, you will be billed the remaining balances due.**
  - **Costumes will not go home with the student until all balances are paid in full. This includes tuition or other fees due to the studio.**
  - **If you have questions about your costume balance due, please email us or stop by the front desk to request a statement and we will be happy to go over it with you.**

Recital costume deposits are a credit that sits in your account so that costumes can be ordered in January. Once costumes are ordered you will be billed for the full amount and a statement with your remaining balance will be sent out. It is important to know that your account must remain current to maintain this credit. This means tuition being paid on time each month, no late fees, payments made timely for other items ordered for your student by the studio, other deposits or payments due (i.e. team fees, competition fees, etc.). Any outstanding balances due or past due are paid using any credit on your account.

- Once costumes are sent home, please do not let your student wear the costume(s) until it is time for dress rehearsal. This prevents damage and lost accessories.
- We strongly encourage you to have a dedicated costume bag to hold all costumes and their accessories together and reduce the risk of damage and lost pieces.
- Now is the time to start making a list of items needed for recital. Your student's teacher will let each class know what type/color of tights and shoes are needed for the recital dance as well as how hair will be worn.

**It is imperative that student absences are kept to a minimum when we return to classes in January. This allows teachers ample time to set choreography and clean it before the Spring Show.**

### HURRICANE IDALIA MAKE UP DAY 1/2/24

This will be our last set of make up classes for Hurricane Idalia. Tuesday classes for Ms. Jill that were cancelled on 8/29/23 will be made up on 1/2/24. Class times are being shifted as noted here:

Teen Ballet - 3:00 - 3:45  
Teen PrePointe/Pointe - 3:45 - 4:15  
Teen Jazz - 4:15 - 5:00  
Advanced Tap - 5:00 - 5:30  
Advanced Character Jazz - 5:30 - 6:15  
Advanced Lyrical - 6:15 - 7:00

### AOD MERCH STORE

We are excited to launch our online AOD merch store for our families!

We have partnered with Big Frog Jacksonville to bring you our merch. If you order online and select store pickup, Big Frog will deliver to the studio, and we will have your items ready for you in the lobby. Check out our store. We have shirts, hoodies and sweatshirts for dance and thespian programs. We will be adding items to the store over the next few months.

<https://aoddance.itemorder.com/shop/home/>





### DANCE TEAM INFORMATION

- **MANDATORY TEAM REHEARSAL** at Seaside Elementary on 1/15/24. See email sent out by Ms. Haley for schedule and fees per dancer.
- **MANDATORY DRESS REHEARSAL** for all Dance competition teams is 1/20/24. At AOD. This is treated like you are taking the stage at competition.
- **Warm up will start at 11:15am SHARP**. All dancers should be at the studio and ready to warm up by 11:15. This means in tights, leggings, shirt, hair and makeup.
- The lineup will be sent out before rehearsal date and a copy will be posted in the studio lobby.
- Full stage makeup and hair is required for dress rehearsal. All costume accessories and earrings are required. Check your supplies and get your costume bags organized now!
- All costumes will be to students by rehearsal. Please make sure all balances are paid so they can be sent home before dress rehearsals!

### THESPIAN TEAM INFORMATION

- Dress Rehearsal for all Thespian team members is on 1/18/24. Rehearsal will start at 6:30pm. **It is Mandatory!**
- More information will be sent out this month.
- Full stage makeup and hair is required. All costume accessories are required.
- Check your supplies and get your costume bags organized now!
- Please make sure all balances are paid so costumes can be sent home before dress rehearsal!

### MUSICAL THEATER

#### **Musical Theater Parents:**

If you have not paid your MTH fees, the second half is due now! Email the studio with any questions.

The Musical Theater group is working hard on this years show



More information on show dates, times and location will be posted soon!

### TEAM PICTURES FOR DANCE AND THESPIANS

**We will be taking team pictures the week of 1/10/24 for our Dance and Thespian teams.** This will be the only time we will be taking these pictures. If your dancer or thespian is absent, they will not be included in the picture. These pictures will be used on social media, the AOD website and hung in the studio lobby. **Please pay careful attention to your dancer or thespians team picture date and dress code.**

**1/10/24** ~ Junior/Intermediate Dance Team Picture @ the start of team rehearsal.

**1/11/24** ~ Thespian Team Pictures @ the start of rehearsal.

**1/12/24** ~ Petite Dance Team Picture @ the start of rehearsal.

**1/13/24** ~ Advanced Team Picture @ 11:15 am during the first 15 mins of the Stretch Tech class

#### DRESS CODE FOR EACH TEAM PICTURE:

**Advanced Team** - Black leotard, black tights, hair in neat, slicked-back bun

**Junior/Intermediate Team** - Black leotard, tan tights, hair in neat, slicked-back bun

**Petite Team** ~ Black leotard, tan tights, hair in neat slicked-back bun

**Thespian Team** - Black leotard, black tights or leggings, hair in a neat slicked-back bun.

### COMPETITION HAIR AND MAKEUP

These picture days are perfect to practice competition ready hair. Hair should be slicked back, secure and with no wispies or fly aways. It is a good idea to invest in a good hair gel, hairspray and brush, along with good hair pins and bobby pins that will secure your child's hair in place for long periods of time.

Dancers and Thespians are expected to show up at their call times in stage ready hair and makeup on competition days and dress rehearsal day. Unless instructed otherwise by your team director/choreographer, hair should be in a low secured bun with the part on the left. Thespians will discuss hair changes once comp schedules are out.

#### **HERE ARE EXAMPLES OF COMPETITION HAIR AND MAKEUP**





# It's Competition Season!

Our 2024 Competition Season kicks off February 2-4th in Orlando, FL at Access Broadway!  
Both our Dance and Thespian teams will be competing all of their group pieces, productions and specialty pieces.

Good luck to all of our teams this season.

This is going to be our BEST YEAR YET!

Access Broadway - Orlando, FL  
February 2-4, 2024  
All Dance and Thespian Teams

Inspire National Dance - Jacksonville, FL FREE TO THE PUBLIC  
April 12-14, 2024  
All Dance and Thespian Teams

Revolution Talent - Jacksonville, FL (FREE TO THE PUBLIC)  
April 26-28, 2024  
All Dance and Thespian Teams

Be sure to like and follow all of our social media pages on competition weekends. We will post behind the scenes fun and all results for you! See the bottom of page 1 for all of our social media handles!

# Thespian Showcase

Our Thespian team will be holding its annual showcase for family and friends on

January 27th at 6:30pm  
Mandarin Presbyterian Church

11844 Mandarin Road Jacksonville, FL 32223

**Concessions and Raffle Baskets!!**

**\$5 per person Entry Fee**

This showcase lets our amazing and talented Thespians perform their competition pieces and show off their hard work for family and friends as they get ready to compete at Access Broadway next month! There will be raffle baskets and concessions available to help the team fundraise to help offset the costs of church rental fees, trailer rental fees for competition travel, etc..

Come out and support our Amazing Thespian students and staff!