



2026 Recital Information Guide - Parent Meeting

Important Dates

- **Wednesday, May 27th, 12:00pm:** Tickets on Sale!
- **June 15 - June 20:** Last week of regular classes
- **June 22 - June 28:** RECITAL WEEK! (no regular classes)
- **Wednesday, June 24th 5:30pm:** MANDATORY Rehearsal **#1** at VPAT (regular dance clothes)
- **Thursday, June 25th, 5:30pm:** MANDATORY Rehearsal **#2:** FULL DRESS REHEARSAL at VPAT (costumes, makeup, etc.)
- **Saturday, June 27th, 10:00am:** PERFORMANCE **#1** (call time 9:15am)
- **Saturday, June 27th, 6:00pm:** PERFORMANCE **#2** (call time 5:15pm)
- **Sunday, June 28th, 2:00pm:** PERFORMANCE **#3** (call time 1:15pm)
- **June 29 - July 19th:** Recital Rest (3 week break!)
- **Monday, July 20th:** Beginning of Fall 2026 Season
- **July 20th - July 31st:** Summer Camps at DDS (ages 4-10)

Hello Dixon Dance Studio families! The recital is almost here, and we could not be more excited. Please keep this packet handy to help you with any questions you may have about recital. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the studio at dixondance@sbcglobal.net, or by emailing Miss Morgan directly at morgan@dixondancestudio.com.

A note about recital week:

Our annual recital is the culminating event of our year at Dixon Dance Studio. Your dancer has been working extremely hard in their classes all year long, gaining the tools that will help them as they prepare to perform onstage in front of an audience.

The performance process is such an integral part of your dancer's education, and something we value deeply. It is important to us that your dancer experiences a professional show in a professional venue.

Recital week is more than just a series of rehearsals and performances — it's a powerful experience that helps dancers build **confidence and self-esteem**. Learning to face pre-show jitters or stage fright and rise to the occasion teaches our students how to persevere under pressure and believe in themselves.

There are so many valuable lessons and skills your dancer will gain: managing nerves, supporting one another backstage, learning how theater productions work, and embracing the joy and adrenaline that comes from performing live. It's our job — as teachers and as their extended dance family — to support and guide them through this very special process.

Recital week can feel long and a bit like controlled chaos at times, but we promise it's all worth it. The memories, the growth, and the celebration of your dancer's hard work will last a lifetime. We can't wait for another amazing recital with our incredible dance family!

Recital Location

Vacaville Performing Arts Theatre
1010 Ulatis Dr, Vacaville, CA 95687

Recital Week

What is expected the week of the recital?

There will be no classes at the studio during recital week (June 22 - June 28). All dancers are required to attend rehearsals on Wednesday and Thursday. (This year, a few of our Wednesday classes have additional makeup classes scheduled during recital week. They are: Tap B2, Tap/Jazz Combo, Pre Ballet, Jazz D & E, Ballet B1, Ballet B2, and Mod/Cont B2.)

Getting to the theater:

Where is VPAT? All rehearsals and performances will take place at the Vacaville Performing Arts Theater which is conveniently located in the Vacaville Cultural Center: 1010 Ulatis Drive, Vacaville, CA 95687

Where do I park? Parking is free and ample in front of the Vacaville Cultural Center.

Planning for traffic: Please plan ahead for traffic ESPECIALLY on Sunday. There is always a heavy amount of traffic Sunday afternoons and dancers are frequently running behind. Please plan ahead.

Drop Off Procedure (photo attached)

- **Wednesday:** Drop off at the front entrance of the theater. Enter through the lobby and find a seat in the theater quickly.
- **Thursday:** Drop off in the lobby, then turn right, then left down the hallway to access backstage. You will be directed to a dressing room area (if needed). Once dressed, dancers will wait in the theater for their dance to be called.
- **Saturday/Sunday:** Dancers will check in with a DDS staff member at the double doors on the right side of the theater. They will then be directed to their dressing room.



Recital Week Communication:

Recital week is exciting, but it can also be a bit hectic behind the scenes. To help everything run as smoothly as possible, we kindly ask that any questions, concerns, or schedule issues be brought to our attention before recital week begins. This helps us support your dancer without last-minute stress.

Please make sure we have the following up-to-date in your account:

- A **correct cell phone number** for at least one parent/guardian
- An **emergency contact** (someone other than the primary parent, if possible).

We send text updates throughout the week, along with important reminders and any last-minute changes. Please also:

- Check your email regularly
- Stay up to date with BAND app notifications

Rehearsals and Dress Rehearsal

- Call time for both days will be 5:30 pm PLEASE be on time.
- ***Dancers are allowed one parent only to attend with them. Please do not bring additional relatives or siblings.***
- **Wednesday, June 24th, 5:30pm | Staging/Tech Rehearsal**
 - Wednesday rehearsal is for dancers to practice getting on and off the stage, and practice finding their formations. We also practice lighting/sound cues.
 - Dancers can wear regular dance clothes, and should bring all the shoes they need.
 - We will run all of the preschool dances first, followed by all other classes, then Dance Company at the end.
 - ***Dancers can leave once their dance is complete. Some dances may be asked to stay to run their dance again. Please keep an ear out for any important notifications during rehearsal.***
- **Thursday, June 25th, 5:30pm | FULL DRESS REHEARSAL**
 - This means all dancers must arrive in full hair and make-up, with their tights and first (or only) costume. You will receive an order of the show the week prior to rehearsal.
 - We will start by rehearsing our Finale/Curtain call, so please be on time.
 - We will run dress rehearsal in the order of the show so that dancers can get used to the transitions and any quick changes they may have.
 - ***Once the dancers practice their dances, they are free to leave.***
- **How do we get dancers from the theater to backstage?**
 - **Rehearsals**
 - For rehearsals only, we will announce dances 3 at a time, and have them line up on the side of the house of the theater. They will come onto the stage when it is their turn (with the help of teachers, if needed).
 - Older/seasoned dancers will have dressing rooms backstage and can change without parental supervision.

- **Performances**

- Dancers will be given a dressing room area.
- The main dressing room backstage will be designated for older dancers, and dancers with a large amount of dances or quick changes.
- All other dancers will be in our dressing room in the community center. Parent volunteers will help run the dancers from the community center to the theater (similar to the Winter Showcase process at DHS).

PERFORMANCES

- **Saturday, June 27th, 10:00am: PERFORMANCE #1** (call time 9:15am)
- **Saturday, June 27th, 6:00pm: PERFORMANCE #2** (call time 5:15pm)
- **Sunday, June 28th, 2:00pm: PERFORMANCE #3** (call time 1:15pm)
 - *Please stay for the entire show on Sunday.*
 - *This show will be filmed, including curtain call.*
 - *Sunday is also our awards show. (Scholarships and teacher awards will be presented).*
- Call time for dancers is 45 minutes before showtime.
- Dancers should arrive in full hair and makeup and be in their first (or only) costume.
- Dancers should be escorted by their parent or guardian to the side of the theater to check in, and then escorted to their dressing area.
- Dancers may leave after they are finished performing and will be checked out by a staff member. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU CHECKOUT BEFORE TAKING YOUR DANCER HOME. Dancer safety is our top priority and we need to know where dancers are at all times.
- Dancers that stay through the finale/curtain call will also need to be picked up/checked out backstage.

Backstage Etiquette for ALL

- Absolutely ***NO PHOTOS OR VIDEOS BACKSTAGE***
- There should be no loud voices.
- Dry snacks and spill-proof water only. No juice, coffee, or sodas are permitted.

Dancer Etiquette

- No running or screaming in theater
- No horseplay (cartwheels, tumbling, climbing on each other, etc.)
- Be kind to one another
- Respect other, teachers, parents, and theater staff

Parent Etiquette

- Please be respectful to all of the DDS Faculty and Staff
- Please be respectful of each other and each other's children.
- Please listen to announcements and be aware of what's happening to help us run the rehearsals/shows smoothly.
- No alcohol permitted
- No pictures or videos backstage at any time.

- ***During performances: ABSOLUTELY NO PHOTOS OR VIDEOS DURING THE PERFORMANCE. It is distracting to your fellow audience members and the dancers. Audience members who are recording will be asked to stop and may be removed from the theater.***

Keeping Dancers Occupied Backstage

While waiting to perform, dancers will be backstage for extended periods of time. We do our best to make this a fun, memorable experience for them!

- Monitors will be set up so dancers can watch their fellow performers onstage.
- Simple activities like coloring books, drawing pads, sticker books, or games like Telephone are great options.
- Please avoid anything messy that could stain costumes — no markers, glitter, slime, or food crafts.
- Tablets or handheld devices are allowed, but must be used respectfully and at your own risk. The studio is not responsible for any lost, broken, or misplaced items.

The dressing room and backstage area are full of excitement and energy — it's the perfect place for dancers to bond with their friends, play appropriate games, and create recital memories that last a lifetime. We encourage dancers to soak it all in and enjoy this special time together!

Tickets

- Tickets will go on sale Wednesday, May 27th at 12:00pm
 - Regular Admission: \$27.25 (includes preservation fee)
 - Children 2 & under are FREE but require a reserved ticket
 - Every audience member must have a ticket
 - Dancers joining the audience after performing must have a ticket
- Purchase options:
 - Online: VPAT.net (includes a \$5 internet fee)
 - By phone (707-469-4013),
 - In person at the VPAT Box Office (hours: Tues - Fri 12p - 5p)
- If your dancer would like to watch the show with you after they have finished performing, they will need a ticket.
- EVERYONE WHO ENTERS THE THEATER IS REQUIRED TO HAVE A TICKET. Babies, lap children, etc. will be charged \$0, but still must have a ticket. (Theater policy).

Costumes

- **Please label ALL TIGHTS, SHOES, AND COSTUMES**
- Please view our **Recital Costume Guide** on the website or by scanning the QR code on the last page
- Tights and Shoes:
 - Purchased by the dancer
 - Available at the following locations:
 - DDS Online Store via Nimbly/Revolution Dancewear
 - Capezio Sacramento - 3839 H Street, Sacramento, CA 95816
 - Online at capezio.com

- Online at discountdance.com
 - Amazon sometimes, sizing and availability varies
- Make sure to label your dancer's shoes
- Having an extra pair of tights as a backup is always wise.
- Hair
 - Please refer to the **Recital Costume Guide** for the required hair for each dance.
 - All hair must be up and out of the dancer's face.
- Makeup
 - All performers will need to wear makeup on stage
 - The bright stage lights will wash out their faces
 - Parents of younger dancers are free to decide what/how much makeup you would like your dancer to wear.
 - Minimally: Foundation, Blush, Mascara, Lipstick or gloss
- Undergarments
 - Bras should not be visible. Dancers can wear skin colored bras with clear straps.
 - Tights and dance clothing are designed so that dancers do not need to wear underwear.
 - If your dancer is uncomfortable with no underwear, it should be skin colored and unable to be seen underneath their costume.
- Organization:
 - For dancers with multiple costumes, it may be helpful to use a laundry basket/hamper to keep all of their items in. Again, please make sure to label EVERYTHING.

Parent Volunteers

Our recitals would be literally impossible without our parent volunteers. We hope that each family will volunteer for at least one show, so that the backstage process will go smoothly for all. Sara Blanton will be responsible for all parent volunteers. Once you have signed up for your volunteer day, Sara will assign you a specific area backstage, and you will be given directions on how to run that area..

Helpful QR Codes:

Costume Guide:



Recital Handbook:



Recital website:

DDS Summer Camps:

