

“Lights, Camera, Dance”

Recital 2021

Dear Parents,

The information in this packet is **VERY** important. It contains important information regarding the class rehearsals, costumes, the recital, etc. Please read through the information carefully and mark your calendar with important dates and times. If you have any questions after reading through this information, please feel free to contact us via email at danceexpress@fuse.net or call at 859-581-4062.

As we approach the recital, we would like to thank each of you for your efforts, patience and support throughout this unprecedented year. We are so grateful for your dedication to your children and Dance Express during this time. While it isn't a typical year or recital, we are excited to present recital on stage with a live audience. Thanks for a wonderful year!

Thank You,
Ms. Sonja

Lights, Camera, Dance—Recital 2021 Highlands High School Performing Arts Center 2400 Memorial Pkwy, Ft. Thomas, KY

Last Week of Classes: April 26th-29th

April is the last month for tuition payments. This dance year, we changed to an 8-payment system. A payment is **NOT** due in May. **SINCE OUR DANCE YEAR WAS CUT SHORT DUE TO THE RECITAL BEING MOVED UP, DANCE EXPRESS IS PROVIDING THE RECITAL VIDEOS AND RECITAL PHOTOGRAPHS FREE OF CHARGE!!!** (See Recital Video and Picture information below.

Dress Rehearsal: We will not have a typical stage dress rehearsal this year. Instead, all dancers should wear their costumes to the studio during regular class the week of April 26-29

- Students report to class during regular time
- Please wear full costume, accessories, tights, hair as directed on the attached recital wear instructions.
- When you arrive, proceed to the back patio and wait for teachers to retrieve dancers.
- We will rehearse dances in costumes. Specific hair and make-up are not needed.

Recitals: Sunday, May 2—1:00 pm, 3:30pm, and 6:00pm

- Each class will only perform in ONE recital. (except Dance Teams)

Recitals—Sunday, May 2nd at 1:00, 3:30 and 6:00

1:00 Show

Tuesday 4:30
Tuesday 5:45
Wednesday 7:00
Wednesday 7:45
Blue Team
Silver Team

3:30 Show

Monday 4:30
Monday 6:15
Monday 6:30
Wednesday 6:15
Pink Team
Silver Team

6:00 Show

Blue Team
Pink Team
Silver Team

- **Students must arrive 20 minutes before show time READY for their first dance.**
- **Auditorium doors will open to the public 20 minutes before the show, NO EARLIER.**
- Upon arrival, **ONE** female guardian should escort their dancer to the backstage dressing areas by following the hall to the right of the lobby area. Once you're backstage, directions to dressing areas will be clearly marked. There will be an assigned area for each class and volunteers backstage for the entire performance.
- All students are expected to stay in their assigned dressing rooms (unless they are performing on stage). At no time should students leave to sit with their family/friends in the audience or visit in the lobby area.

Drop-Off and Pick-Up Procedures for Recital—For the safety of all our dancers, every dancer will need to be signed in and out before and after the show.

- Upon arrival at the theater follow the hallway to the LEFT of the lobby to the backstage area and proceed to the sign-in table. After signing your child in, escort them to their dressing area. **ONLY ONE FEMALE GUARDIAN PER DANCER WILL BE ALLOWED BACK-STAGE.**
- After the finale dancers will be dismissed from the stage. Class by class we will ask **ONE** female guardian to use the steps on the left of the stage to meet their dancer. From there, they will proceed to the dressing area to collect their belongings before exiting. It is our job to keep the children safe and we expect everyone's cooperation with the dismissal process. **PLEASE DO NOT BRING ADDITIONAL FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS BACKSTAGE—IT CAN BECOME CAOTIC AND CROWDED WITH TOO MANY PEOPLE BACKSTAGE AND IN THE DRESSING AREAS. PLEASE HAVE ADDITIONAL "FANS" WAIT OUTSIDE TO CONGRATULATE DANCERS ON A JOB WELL DONE.**

Please be patient with this process.

While it may take some time, it is for the safety of our dancers.

Costume Information—An information sheet with what to wear for each costume will be emailed later this week. Please ask if you have any questions regarding costumes.

- **A COVER-UP** (a bathing suit cover up, a robe or one of dad's button up shirts work well) **MUST** be worn over costumes until the dancer gets to their assigned dressing area.
 - **DO NOT EXPOSE YOUR COSTUME OUTSIDE! TIGHTS AND COSTUMES CAN SNAG EASILY!**
- **SHOES**—All ballet shoes should be pink and must have the strings tucked in or cut off—**NO BOWS**. All tap shoes should be black. Younger classes have patent leather. If your class has shoes bows, replace ties with them. If your class does not have shoe bows, replace ties with a loop of black elastic. If your class needs jazz shoes, they should be black.
- **MAKEUP**—All dancers will need to wear STAGE makeup for the recital. This means it needs to be darker than usual, with a red lipstick. It is expected to look too dark and gaudy off stage, but on stage it will look natural due to the stage lights.
- **NO UNDERWEAR UNDER COSTUMES**—Panties sticking out from costumes doesn't look nice on stage.
- **HAIR MUST BE PULLED BACK AWAY FROM FACE**—Each class has a specific hairstyle listed on their costume information page.
- **COSTUME STRAPS**—most straps are already attached. However, they may be too loose. If so, they will need to be adjusted. Also, adjust them if the front of the leotard sits too low on the chest. You can adjust them by sewing or safety pinning them.
- **TUTUS, SKIRTS, AND PANTS** must be pinned onto the leotard at the two sides (and may need to be pinned in the front and back as well). Tutus, skirts and pants need to sit across the belly.
 - To fluff tutus, hang them upside down for several days before the show, steam them, or hang in them in the bathroom with a hot shower running.

General Information

- Please make sure your child uses the restroom before they arrive.
- Students should arrive with makeup applied and hair fixed.
- Every dancer should have a package of bobby pins, and safety pins in their bag.
- **Label all costume pieces, shoes, hair bows, etc. with your dancer's name.**
- No jewelry should be worn except small stud earrings.
- No nail polish or temporary tattoos.
- Absolutely no food, drinks or smoking is permitted anywhere in the building. Water bottles only.
- No gum.
- Small children should have coloring books, cards, and small games to keep them occupied. A large towel or blanket would be helpful for them to sit on.
- No audience members are allowed in the dressing rooms at any time. Recital volunteers will watch over dancers during their performance.
- **Absolutely no men are allowed in the dressing area at any time.**
- **Dancers are not allowed to be seen in the lobby or theater in costume during performances (unless they are entering or exiting the building). Costumed dancers must stay backstage and treat their recital as a professional performance. There will be no viewing of the show by dancers from the audience.**

Parent Volunteers Needed—Volunteers are very important part of our recital. The recital is a large production with many children involved and requires the help of many volunteers. We will need female volunteers to sit with each class backstage during the recital. They will assist with bathroom visits, costume changes, and keeping the class together between dances. They will escort the dancers to the stage and will be able to watch their performance from the wings of the stage. I know this year is a little different with the dancers only performing in one show, but this may be a good way to allow an extra person to be in attendance. Also, this could be a good job for any middle or high schooler looking to earn service hours. Or you may watch your child's show and volunteer for a different show. **All volunteers will need to report to the theater 30 minutes prior to show time.** Please let me know if you or someone you know is interested in helping out backstage.

Tights and Shoes—Please make sure your child has the correct tights and shoes for their class. If your child's class will not wear shoe bows in their tap shoes, you will need to use a loop of black elastic to fasten their tap shoes.

Flowers—Performers love being recognized for a job well done. Congratulatory bouquets will be available for purchase on a first come, first served basis at all performances.

Single Roses: 1 for \$3 or 2 for \$5.

Bouquet of 6 roses: \$15

Recital Video/Photos taken at Recital—A video of the recital will be available for download within a couple weeks of the recital. Additionally, a photographer will be taking live shots during each recital. A link will be emailed out and all dancers will have access to the video and photographs. **SINCE OUR DANCE YEAR WAS CUT SHORT DUE TO THE RECITAL BEING MOVED UP, DANCE EXPRESS IS PROVIDING THE VIDEOS AND RECITAL PHOTOGRAPHS FREE OF CHARGE!!!**

Pictures—A photographer will be at the studio on Wednesday, May 5th from 5:00-8:00 to take individual pictures of students in costume. Please use the sign-up link to reserve a time. Each dancer will receive an email with digital photos to print at their own discretion. Photos are \$15 per dancer.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0E4FA8AE29AAF94-recital4>

Recital Q & A—If you have any questions regarding the recital, we will be answering questions during the last 15 minutes of class (on the back patio) during the week of April 26-29.

Recital Shirts 2021—Pre-ordered recital t-shirts will be distributed in class during the last week of classes. If you haven't ordered a shirt, we will have a limited number of extras available for purchase for \$20.

Registration for 2021-2022—Don't forget to pre-register for the 2021-2022 dance year. Registration will begin May 1st. Last year some of our classes filled up rather quickly, be sure to register early. Registration received before **July 31st is \$20 per family after this date, registration will be \$30 per family.** Towards the end of July, you will receive a registration packet via email, with your class day and time on it if you pre-registered and the walk-in registration dates on it if you have not.

Summer Classes—Our summer schedule is now available and is listed on our new website. We look forward to a great summer session!

Bellevue/Dayton Memorial Day Parade—We will participate in the Bellevue/Dayton Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 31st. Information regarding the parade (Including meeting locations) will be e-mailed approximately one week before the parade. All dancers wishing to participate in either parade, will need to wear the 2021 recital t-shirt.

Questions, comments, and concerns—If you have any questions, or there is something that you do not understand, PLEASE ASK! We are here to help you!

**Share your Recital 2021 photos on Social Media using
#LightsCameraDanceExpress**