

# OCTOBER 23<sup>rd</sup> NEWSLETTER

We have been in classes for a full month now and WOW! It is so wonderful seeing all the excitement on our student's faces every day in class. Everyone is adjusting to the new routines and their new classes beautifully. Thank you for continuing to get your students to class on time and with a good attitude.

We are so proud of all of our Dance and Thespian team members for working so hard EVERY DAY and EVERY WEEKEND to learn and clean all of their choreography. Their first competition is in February, and we are so excited to see all of their hard work on stage.

We are looking forward to a Spooky month with our AOD family! There is a lot of information in this newsletter. Be sure to read it carefully!

## IMPORTANT DATES

- October 6th – Seussical Jr. Auditions
- October 7th – Inspire Convention for Dance Team
- October 14th – Competition Team merchandise order forms due (please note these are for team members only)
- October 31st – Halloween, Studio Closed
- November 6th – Access Broadway registration forms due.
- November 20th – 25th, 2023 – Thanksgiving Break. Studio CLOSED.

## IN THIS ISSUE

Here is a snapshot of what is in this month's newsletter!

- Important Dates
- Tuition Policy
- Studio Reminders– specifically related to dress code!
- Illness Policy
- Recital Costume Deposits
- Dance Team and Thespian Team Info
- 2023–2024 Dance and Thespian Team Competitions and community performances
- Musical Theater Audition info

## DON'T MISS OUT!

AOD sends out monthly newsletters and important reminder emails throughout the year. PLEASE make sure that you have a valid email address on file with us and that it is one you check frequently. PLEASE add [academyofdancejax@gmail.com](mailto:academyofdancejax@gmail.com) to your contact list. If you need to verify the email address we have on file, please stop by the front desk or email us.

## LOBBY HOURS

Stop in and see us during the below lobby hours.

**Monday: 4:00–7:00p**

**Tuesday: Desk Closed**

**Wednesday: 3:30–6:30p**

**Thursday: 3:30–6:30p**

**Friday: 4:00–7:00p**

## TUITION POLICY

- TUITION IS DUE ON THE 1ST OF EVERY MONTH. A \$25 late fee will be applied to your dancer's account if tuition is paid after the 10th of the month. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- AOD DOES NOT send out a monthly tuition statement. Each family is responsible for knowing their monthly or quarterly tuition commitments.
- Tuition can be paid online at: [TuitionInfo/Pay\(academyofdancejax.com\)](https://www.academyofdancejax.com/TuitionInfo/Pay)
- AOD sends out monthly "tuition due reminder emails"
- Tuition due information is located on our website, at our lobby desk, in monthly newsletters and in our AOD studio policies.
- There should be no confusion as to when tuition is due.
- If there are extenuating circumstances, please call and speak with us BEFORE tuition is late.
- AOD will only send out a statement if there is/are outstanding balances dues for your student's account

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## **STUDIO REMINDERS - IMPORTANT!!**

### **DRESS CODE:**

We have been in classes for over a full month now. We are continuing to have issue with **DRESS CODE** and **TIMELINESS TO CLASS!!**

- **Students MUST be in proper dress code for every class.** This means students must be in the proper clothing & shoes AND have their hair pulled back into a neat secure bun (or ponytail if the class allows). Teachers will start enforcing these rules and will be speaking with parents if students are arriving out of dress code.
- **AOD is not responsible for providing proper hair accessories for students** (for example hairspray, hair ties, pins and hair nets).
- **Students should not be arriving at the start time of class and then doing their hair.**
- **Students MUST ARRIVE TO CLASS ready to go in proper clothes, shoes and hair.**
- **If students cannot get to the studio in proper attire and hair, they should be arriving EARLY to get themselves ready.**
- **Arriving late to class is a safety issue.** Teachers must ensure every student is properly warmed up so they can participate in class safely.
- **Students arriving after the class warm up may be instructed to sit out of the class and observe.**
- **Please reach out to us to discuss any concerns you have about dress code, hair, class attendance.** We would be happy to discuss and work with you if needed.
- **We continue to see students arrive to and leave class in their dance shoes.** PLEASE talk to your students about this. Damages to the studio floor are a safety issue for **EVERYONE**. AOD may inspect shoes if we see your student walking around outside, to determine if they are safe to wear in the studio.

**AFTERNOON & EVENING PICKUPS:** Please pick your students up on time!! We do not want any student waiting outside alone after class. Especially in the evening. Teachers are either holding class and cannot monitor students outside, and our lobby desk is not always staffed in the evenings.

Students not picked up on time after the last class of the evening will incur a late fee for each minute the teacher or staff member must wait for their ride to arrive.

**NO FOOD OR DRINK ALLOWED IN THE LOBBY!** We understand many students come right from school or are at the studio late into the evening and need to eat, however they should sit outside on one of the benches to eat and then come back inside. Trash should be disposed of properly. We do not want ants and bugs in the studio! Water bottles are allowed.

**Our lobby is small!** Students should wait outside prior to class starting. Because our lobby is small, we ask that unless you have a young dancer (5/6 year old classes and below), **PARENTS PLEASE WAIT OUTSIDE THE STUDIO during class.** Having a lot of people in the lobby can be distracting for teachers, staff and students. There are benches available for you to sit and socialize while your child is in class. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

## **ILLNESS POLICY**

It's that time of year again. Illness is spreading like wildfire in schools and in the community. We ask that you adhere to our studio illness policy outlined below. Having a teacher out sick is a hardship on our classes, fellow teachers and our staff. If there is every any question about whether your student should stay home, err on the side of caution or call us to discuss. Our teachers can get students caught up if they need to miss a class.

As a reminder, students should not be in class if they are exhibiting **ANY TYPE OF SYMPTOM** at all. We want to keep our teachers and students healthy, so class absences are kept to a minimum. 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. We do not want to risk spreading illness through the studio.



## DANCE TEAM & THESPIAN TEAM NEWS

Dance and Thespians Teams – **IMPORTANT!!**

**Access Broadway registration forms are due NOVEMBER 6th!**

**Late fee of \$50 will be added after this date.**

**Forms will be emailed out on October 6th and can be obtained at the front desk if you cannot print it out at home.**

**Inspire Convention:** for those that signed up, reminder that it is being held on October 7th at UNF. More information will be sent out via email to those who are going.

## 2023-2024 DANCE SEASON COMPETITIONS

We are excited to announce our 2023–2024 Competition Dates for our Dance and Thespians Teams:

**February 2–4th, 2024**

Access Broadway in Orlando, FL  
Dance & Thespians Teams

**April 12–14th, 2024**

Inspire National Dance – Jacksonville, FL  
**FREE TO THE PUBLIC**  
Dance and Thespians Teams

**April 26–28th, 2024**

Revolution Talent – Jacksonville, FL  
**FREE TO THE PUBLIC**  
All Dance and Thespians Teams

## RECITAL COSTUME DEPOSITS

October is Recital Costume Deposit Month!

We know it seems very early to be talking about recital costumes, however we start this process early for a reason. Students are measured & costumes are ordered in January, as soon as we are back from Christmas break. We must collect deposits so we can order and receive costumes timely.

**All classes that perform in the Spring Recital require a \$40 costume deposit with your October tuition payment.**

This deposit is 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, no late fees, payments made timely for other items ordered for your student by the studio, other deposits, etc. Any outstanding balances are paid using any credit on your account.

Not all classes will perform in the Spring Show. A list will be posted in the lobby starting October 1st. Students in multiple levels of any style, will perform with their highest-level class for the show.

If you have any questions, please email or stop into the lobby to discuss.

## MUSICAL THEATER AUDITIONS

Get **EXCITED!!** We will be holding our Musical Theater Auditions for



**on October 6th!**

If you have any questions, please reach out to Mr. Dylan, Ms. Elissa or send us an email.

## DANCE TEAM COMMUNITY PERFORMANCES

We are excited to announce our Dance Team Community performances. Come out and see cheer our dancers on!

**Deck the Chairs Holiday Show**

1st Ave North and, 1st St N, Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250  
December 16th 2023 @ 5:00pm

**Riverside Arts Market**

715 Riverside Ave, Jacksonville, FL 32204  
March 9th 2024 @ 10:30am

## AOD DANCE AND THESPIAN TEAM MERCHANDISE

**DANCE & THESPIAN TEAM MEMBERS ONLY!** Merchandise for your respective team is available for order now. Order forms are at the desk. **Orders and Payments must be made at the same time. ALL ORDERS ARE DUE BY OCTOBER 14!** All Dance and Thespians team members are required to have a team jacket to wear to competitions and performances. We also require dance and thespian team members to have one AOD shirt or top to wear to competitions and performances.

**We will have STUDIO WIDE merchandise available for all other AOD students available at a later date.**