**2023 Recital Frequently Asked Questions!**

**What are the dates and times of the 2023 recitals?**There are four total shows!

Saturday, May 27 from 1:00-3:00pm

Saturday, May 27 from 6:00-8:00pm

Sunday, May 28 from 12:00-2:00pm

Sunday, May 28 from 5:00-7:00pm

 **PICTURE DAYS – Saturday, May 20 & Sunday, May 21**

You can view/download the picture schedule [HERE](https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/9e9eb818-d2d0-4b0d-b4ed-77a362401aeb/downloads/RDC%202023%20Picture%20Day%20Schedule%20Combined.pdf?ver=1682629355995) or at the bottom of the [PERFORMANCES](https://rainierdancecenter.com/performances) page of our website.

Each class has their own specific time slot for their pictures. Every dancer will take an individual photo and do a class group photo for each class. You’re under no obligation to buy them until you’ve seen them. They will be posted online for you to view, and you can order them there.

All dancers should arrive to pictures with the costumes/tights/shoes already on and their hair and make-up (optional) already done. Please arrive ready to take photos! Each dancer must have an adult with them to supervise. We won’t wait for anyone so DO NOT BE LATE! If you’re late or you miss your time slot, you’ll miss your pictures!

* **When and Where are Pictures Days?**
	+ Saturday, May 20, between 9am-8pm
	+ Sunday, May 21, between 9am-8:30pm
	+ Location: Rainier Beach Community Club – 6038 S. Pilgrim St. 98118
* **Do dancers where their costumes to picture days?**
Yes! Dancers should come in full costume, tights and shoes.
* **Does my dancer need to wear their hair for picture day the way they are supposed to wear it for the recital?**
No. You can wear your hair and make-up any way you’d like for pictures.
* **When are my dancer’s pictures?**
Make sure to check the detailed picture schedules on the performance tab on RDC website or posted at the main studio. Find your class day/time/name and confirm your picture time. Plan to show up 15 minutes early in case we’re running ahead. We don’t wait for anyone so if you miss your time, you won’t have pictures. You only need to be there on the day/time your dancers class(es) are listed.
* **Does my dancer have to come to pictures?**
No, pictures aren’t mandatory, but they do take a class picture that’s in our recital books in the lobby. If you don’t plan to be at pictures, please let the studio or your teacher know ahead of time so we can plan ahead for the group picture pose.
* **Do I have to buy pictures?**
Nope! Your dancer will take a group photo and an individual photo but you are under no obligation to buy them. They will be uploaded to a website and you can view them and choose whether you want to buy or not.
* **When will the pictures be available for purchase?**
Within 3-4 weeks of our picture days. You’ll be emailed a link to access!
* **What if I have a balance due on picture days on May 20 & 21?**
You will not be able to participate in picture day until your June tuition is paid and your account is at a $0 balance.

 **AGES 3-7 ONLY: IN-STUDIO DRESS REHEARSALS – Tuesday, May 23 & Wednesday, May 24**

The In-Studio dress rehearsals are for Pre-Ballet, Ballet/Tap and Hip Hop/Acro combo classes ONLY.

**DRESS REHEARSALS ARE MANDATORY FOR DANCERS WHO WANT TO PERFORM IN THE RECITAL.**

You can view/download the in-studio dress rehearsal schedule [HERE](https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/9e9eb818-d2d0-4b0d-b4ed-77a362401aeb/downloads/RDC%202023%20In-Studio%20Dress%20Rehearsal%20Schedule%203-.pdf?ver=1682092476425) or at the bottom of the [PERFORMANCES](https://rainierdancecenter.com/performances) page of our website.

* **What are in-studio dress rehearsals and why are they important for our youngest dancers?**In-studio dress rehearsals are rehearsals for our youngest dancers where we group classes together and dancers get to practice for each other, and their adults, in their costumes, in preparation for the recital. It’s a fun chance to see other classes dance and a way to bridge the gap for your dancer between regular class and being on the big stage, especially if they are feeling nervous. Parents also get to watch. ☺
* **When are in-studio dress rehearsals?**They are on Tuesday, May 23 and Wednesday, May 24, between 4pm and 7:45pm
* **Where do the in-**studio rehearsals happen?
They will take place at the Rainier Beach Community Club at 6038 S. Pilgrim St, about 6 blocks south of RDC!
* **How do I know when my dancer’s in-studio dress rehearsal is?**
Search for your dancer’s class(es) on the [schedule HERE.](https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/9e9eb818-d2d0-4b0d-b4ed-77a362401aeb/downloads/RDC%202023%20In-Studio%20Dress%20Rehearsal%20Schedule%203-.pdf?ver=1682092476425) Find your class day/time/name and confirm your rehearsal date and time. You ONLY need to be there on the days/times when your class(es) are listed.
* **Should my dancer wear their costume to these rehearsals?**YES! Your dancer should wear their costumes, tights, shoes and accessories to their rehearsal time!
* **Should we wear make-up to dress rehearsal?**You can if you’d like to, but it’s not required.
* **Do I need to stay with my dancer during this rehearsal?**
Yes. Every dancer MUST have an adult (only one) present with them during this whole rehearsal.

**AGES 7 AND UP/LEVEL 1-5 DRESS REHEARSALS – Monday, May 22 & Friday, May 26**

These dress rehearsals are for dancers in level 1-5 classes ONLY.

**DRESS REHEARSALS ARE MANDATORY FOR DANCERS WHO WANT TO PERFORM IN THE RECITAL.**

You can view/download the level 1-5 dancer dress rehearsal schedules [HERE](https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/9e9eb818-d2d0-4b0d-b4ed-77a362401aeb/downloads/RDC%202023%20Dress%20Rehearsal%20Schedule%20-%20Level%201-5.pdf?ver=1682092476425) or at the bottom of the [PERFORMANCES](https://rainierdancecenter.com/performances) page of our website.

* **What are the Level 1-5 dress rehearsals and why are they important?**Dress rehearsals for our older dancers happen on the stage, in the theater, where they get to practice in their costumes, in preparation for the recital. Dress rehearsal is important for all dancers for a number of reasons. First, adding costumes and doing a dance in a new space with a large audience can be scary and disorienting. Dancers do much better when they have a chance to practice and know what to expect before they do it for a full audience. Second, all dancers have specific spots and formations they have to be in during their dance and this feels different in a new space, so it’s good to get to know the stage first. Finally, dancers get to know the backstage area and how they get to and from the stage. Overall, having a practice helps dancers know what to expect and feel more calm and confident. Parents get to watch from the audience.
* **When are level 1-5 dress rehearsals?**They are on Monday, May 22 and Friday, May 26, between 4pm and 9pm.
* **Where do the level 1-5 dress** rehearsals happen?
They will take place at the IKEA Performing Arts Center at Renton High - 400 S. 2nd St. Renton, WA 98057
* **How do I know when my dancer’s level 1-5 dress rehearsal is?**
Search for your dancer’s class(es) on the [schedule HERE](https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/9e9eb818-d2d0-4b0d-b4ed-77a362401aeb/downloads/RDC%202023%20Dress%20Rehearsal%20Schedule%20-%20Level%201-5.pdf?ver=1682092476425). Find your class day/time/name and confirm your rehearsal date and time. You ONLY need to be there on the days/times when your class(es) are listed.
* Is dress rehearsal MANDATORY?
Yes! If dancers aren’t in dress rehearsal, they will likely not be able to perform in the show.
* **Should my dancer wear their costume to dress rehearsals?**YES! Your dancer should wear their costumes, tights, shoes and accessories to their rehearsal time!
* **Should we wear make-up to dress rehearsal?**You can if you’d like to, but it’s not required.
* **Do I need to stay with my dancer during dress rehearsal?**
Yes. Every dancer MUST have an adult (only one) present with them during this whole rehearsal. There will not be supervision for your dancer during this time.
* What do we do when we arrive at dress rehearsal?
Find a seat in the audience (your dancer should be in their costume when they arrive) and wait for your class to be called up to the stage.
* What if I have a balance due on dress rehearsal days on May 22 or 26?
You will not be able to participate in dress rehearsals until your May tuition is paid and your account is at a $0 balance.

**COSTUMES & TIGHTS**

* **What is costume week?**
It’s a designated week where all dancers receive their costume during their class time. Costume week is also PARENT WATCH WEEK this year!
* **When is costume week?**
Costume week (and Parent Watch Week) will be the week of May 1-6.
* **Can parents watch during costume week?**
Yes! Costume week is combined with parent watch week, so parents need to attend. In fact, if your dancer is 7 or under, we require parents be in class this week, as we’ll give out important recital reminders and we must give costumes to an adult (not a dancer). It’s a very exciting week!
* **When do we take home our costumes?**
During costume week from May 1-6. As long as you don’t have a balance on your account, and there’s an adult to receive it, you can take them home! May tuition must be paid and your account must be at a $0 balance to take them home. We suggest when you take them home, you put them in a safe place where your dancer won’t be tempted to try them on. It takes 3-4 months for costumes to be shipped to us and if something happens to your costume, we won’t have time to replace it before the shows!
* **Can I take my costume home if I have a balance on my account?**
No. Your May tuition must be paid and your account balance must be at $0 to take your costumes home.
* **What if my dancer’s costume doesn’t fit correctly? Am I responsible for costume alterations?**Yes, you will be responsible for fitting and altering your own costume before dress rehearsals the week of May 22nd. It is too late to order a different size for your dancer, so you’ll need to make do with what you have.
* **Are tights included with my dancer’s costume?**Yes. If your class requires tights with their costume, you’ll be given tights for your dancer with your costume, or before your dress rehearsal! You can confirm on the [Costume, Hair & Make-up document](https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/9e9eb818-d2d0-4b0d-b4ed-77a362401aeb/downloads/RDC%202023%20Recital%20Costume%2C%20Hair%20and%20Make-up%20Det.pdf?ver=1682092476425) on the [Performance Info](http://www.rainierdancecenter.com/performance-info.html) page of our website. Please do NOT wear your recital tights except for during pictures, dress rehearsal and the recitals!
* **When should my dancer wear their costume?**Picture days, dress rehearsal and the recital ONLY!
* **When should my dancer NOT wear their costume?**Please DO NOT wear your costumes at any time besides picture days, dress rehearsal and the shows. After the recital, dancers can wear them whenever they want to, but if something happens to your costume, we won’t have time to order you another one before the recitals.

**HAIR & MAKE-UP**

* **How should my dancer wear their hair for the recital?**That depends on your class! You can find guidelines on the [Costume, Hair & Make-up document](https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/9e9eb818-d2d0-4b0d-b4ed-77a362401aeb/downloads/RDC%202023%20Recital%20Costume%2C%20Hair%20and%20Make-up%20Det.pdf?ver=1682092476425) on the [Performance Info](http://www.rainierdancecenter.com/performance-info.html) page of our website. We always want dancer’s hair off their face and secure, so it’s not a distraction on stage.
* **Should my dancer wear make-up for the recital?**This is up to each family. If your dancer chooses to wear make-up, you can find guidelines for each class on the [Costume, Hair & Make-up document](https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/9e9eb818-d2d0-4b0d-b4ed-77a362401aeb/downloads/RDC%202023%20Recital%20Costume%2C%20Hair%20and%20Make-up%20Det.pdf?ver=1682092476425) on the [Performance Info](http://www.rainierdancecenter.com/performance-info.html) page of our website.
* **Jewelry & Nail Polish**

Dancers should not wear any jewelry or nail polish during the recitals.

**GENERAL RECITAL INFO & TICKETS**

* **What are the dates and times of the 2023 recitals?**There are four shows
	+ Saturday, May 27: 1:00-3:00pm
	+ Saturday, May 27: 6:00pm-8:00pm
	+ Sunday, May 28: 12:00pm-2:00pm
	+ Sunday, May 28: 4:00pm-7:00pm
* **How do I know when my dancer is performing?**

Check the [Recital Class Assignments](https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/9e9eb818-d2d0-4b0d-b4ed-77a362401aeb/downloads/RDC%202023%20Class%20Recital%20Assignments.pdf?ver=1682092476425) schedule! Look for your dancer’s class day, time and name!

* **Where are the recitals?**Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center (Renton High School) - 400 S. 2nd St. Renton, WA 98057
* **How do I buy recital tickets?**
Tickets will be sold online. You will receive an email with the link and instructions on May 5.
* **When do recital tickets go on sale?**
May 3rd for backstage volunteers and May 5th for everyone else.
* **Are there assigned seats?**
Yes. You will have the option to choose your seats when you purchase them online.
* **Is there any reason I wouldn’t be able to buy recital tickets starting on May 5, 2023?** If you have a balance due on your account (May or past owed tuition, costume balances, etc.), you will not be able to purchase tickets until your balance is $0. Once your account is brought current, we will send you the link and instructions!
* **How much do recital tickets cost?**
$20 each (this amount includes the processing fees)
* **How many tickets can I buy?**
Each show will have an initial ticket purchase limit (between 4-6 tickets) for the first 2 weeks to ensure everyone has a chance to purchase tickets to see their dancer. In the last week before the show, any remaining tickets will be released for additional purchase!
* **Does my dancer need a ticket?**
No. All dancers stay backstage for the entire show, so they will not sit in the audience at all and won’t need a seat or ticket.
* **Does my infant or toddler need a ticket?**
Not if you plan to have them on your lap. If a child needs their own seat, they will need a ticket.
* **Will there be wheelchair seats available?**
Yes! There are 8 wheelchair seats available for each show. If you need one, make sure to find them when you purchase online.
* **What else can I purchase with recital tickets?**
When you are online purchasing tickets, you will also have the option to purchase 2023 Recital t-shirts and sweatshirts.
* **Can my dancer/family leave when our dance(s) are done?**
No. We are aware that some families, especially families of younger dancers, may feel like they don’t want to stay the whole show, but our dancers and teachers work really hard all year long. We ask that everyone support other dancers and stay for the whole show. It’s a huge bummer for classes whose dances are at the end of the show and they look out and there aren’t any people there. Your dancer will be backstage the whole time anyway! Please make sure to pass this on to extended family and friends.
* **Will the recitals start on time?**
YES. We like to make sure we start on time, so please be sure to be on time and remind your guests to arrive early.
* **What if someone is late?**
We allow a 5-10 minute grace period, but after that you will not be permitted into the theater and held in the lobby until designated program break times. That may mean you or your guest’s miss your dancers dance, so plan ahead and be on time! We will also not permit late people to enter while dances are happening, you must enter between dances, so as not to distract the dancers.
* **How long do the recitals go?**
Please allow two full hours for each show.
* **What is the parking situation?**
There’s a parking lot next to the theater, but it fills up very fast and early so most people are not able to park there. There is other parking within the school parking lots, but they fill quickly as well. Please plan ahead, arrive early and plan to park in the Renton City Municipal Garage that’s adjacent to the theater at 655S S 2nd St, Renton, WA 98057.
	+ IMPORTANT NOTE: Many people arrive and drive throughout the school parking lot first looking for places and when there aren’t any (and there won’t be if you show up 15-20 minutes before the show start time), then have to drive back to the lot outside the school. There is a 5-10 minute walk to get from that lot to the theater and often leads to people being late. If you or your guests plan to arrive 15-30 minutes before the show, PLEASE PLAN AHEAD and park in the overflow parking garage in the Renton City Municipal garage first. That will allow you plenty of time to get to the theater and find your seat before the show starts!

**BACKSTAGE & DANCER DROP-OFF/PICK-UP**

* **What time does my dancer need to be at the recital venue on the day of the show?**
This depends on the age/level of your dancer!
	+ 30 minutes before show start time: Dancers ages 3-7 in Pre-Ballet, Ballet/Tap or Hip Hop/Acro classes
	+ One hour before show start time: Dancers in level 1 or 2 classes
	+ 90 minutes before show start time: Dancers in level 3-5 classes. They have a mandatory 30-minute warm-up before each show.
* **Where do I drop my dancer off before the show?**
We have a full check-in and check-out process for our dancers for their safety. You will drop your dancer off outside the theater at your assigned designated check-in desk. You will receive an email approximately 4-5 days before your recital confirming your check-in desk location and instructions.
* **What should my dancer bring with them to the show?**
Nothing, except what’s on their body and any additional costumes they have! They should arrive in their costume with tights and dance shoes with nothing else. **No outside shoes, jackets, games, toys, books or snacks**. There are over a hundred kids back-stage and things WILL get lost or broken!
* **How should my dancer arrive to the show?**
Dancers should arrive to the show in their costume, tights and shoes (the first one they perform, if they have multiple classes) with hair and make-up already done. There is not time nor space for hair and make- up to be done when you get there.
* **Should I send food or drinks with my dancer during the show?**
No. The shows are no more than two hours. Food and drinks (other than water) can spill on costumes and/or become a distraction or cause of frustration for dancer’s and teachers backstage. Please feed your dancer a meal before they come and after the show!
* **When should my dancer eat?**
Please make sure you feed your dancer a meal 1-2 hours before the show, so they are not hungry backstage. We will have emergency snacks in each dressing room, but they will not be available for everyone.
* **Will you have water backstage for the dancers?**
Of course! We have water and cups in every room.
* **Where do I pick my dancer up after the show?**
At the same place you drop them off before the show – at the check-in desk you are assigned! We will release dancers by class in a specific order, so we thank you for your patience ahead of time. This can take some time, but it’s for the safety of all dancers!
* **Can we take photos with our dancer at the recital?**

Yes! Before you drop your dancer off outside the theater or after the show, in front of the RDC step and repeat!

* **Is there anything special I need to know/do if my dancer has more than one dance in the same performance?**
Yes! If your dancer has a costume change in the same performance, please make sure you send all of their costume, shoe, tight and accessories for all classes, with them when you drop them off. You should also clearly label their costumes There will be staff in their rooms to help them change their costumes.
* **Am I allowed to go backstage with my dancer before the show or stop by to say hello during the show or during intermission?**
No. Parents or family members are NOT allowed backstage unless you are volunteering. Parents drop their dancers off outside the theater before the show, watch from the audience and pick your dancer up after the show. Your dancers are having fun and are focused on getting ready to perform. Although you may think it's helpful or fun to stop in and say hello, this is often distracting and sometimes upsetting for some dancers. Not only does it interrupt them, but other dancers then wonder why their parents aren’t coming back to say hello, or sometimes this can result in dancers getting emotional, and they start to miss their parents. It’s best to just drop your dancer off and come get them after the show. If you’re want to be backstage with them, please volunteer!
* **What does my dancer do backstage during the show?**
In every young dancer dressing room there is a TV with movies, games, books, coloring books and crayons and dance props (scarves, cones, spots, etc.) to play with. Often times the volunteers will coordinate activities or games as well.
* **Is there adult supervision for my dancer?**
Of course! All volunteers are adults or teaching assistants and are parents or family members of dancers. The adult to dancer ratio in our dressing rooms for 3-6 year old’s, is one adult for every 6-7 dancers. The ratio for ages 7 and up is one adult for every 10 dancers.
* **How will my dancer get to and from the stage?**Dancers will stay in their dressing rooms with their teacher and staff until it’s time to move to the backstage area. Their line leaders will lead them to their teacher and backstage manager and their teacher will lead them on to the stage!
* **What happens if there is an emergency with my dancer backstage?**
We pull parent name and phone numbers from all RDC accounts before the shows and these lists are printed and posted at the check-in desks and in every dressing room. Parents have the ability to update these numbers when they drop their dancers off at the show, but if you can confirm these numbers ahead of time in our system, that would be great. If your dancer has a medical emergency, volunteers will call 911 (if needed) and will call you. If it is a non-medical emergency, they will call you first!
* **Do you take security precautions with your backstage volunteers and is there any vetting process involved?**
Yes. Although all of our volunteers are parents or family members of our dancer’s, and most have been around a long time, so we know and trust them, we do security checks for all volunteers. Your dancer will not be alone with only one adult, unless it’s their parent, and most rooms have at least one parent from each class in them. If you’re concerned about this, please contact us, as we can introduce you and your dancer to the volunteers who will be in your room, so you and your dancer feel comfortable.
* **Do your backstage volunteers go through any training?**
Oh yes! Each volunteer is required to attend an in-depth two-hour training prior to the shows where we review the backstage process, their specific job and duties, along with emergency protocol and our policies surrounding behavior and safety.
* **How many dancers are backstage during the recitals?** Between 100 and 180 in each show!
* **How many dressing rooms are there backstage?** Seven.
* **What if I want to volunteer backstage?**
We need you! There’s an online volunteer sign-up process. You can sign up [HERE](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C45A4AD2BA1FCC25-rdc2023). Please reach out to RDC if you have questions about volunteering.
* **My dancer is young and may be hesitant to stay with people they don’t know backstage, during the show. What do I do?**
First, you should volunteer! Being backstage with your dancer may be the best way for them to feel comfortable. If you or someone from your family is not able to volunteer, please reach out to Jenna to discuss further. We’re happy to facilitate a meeting between your dancer and the volunteers in their room ahead of time so they feel comfortable. Your dancer’s teacher will also be backstage so that will help! We want all dancers to feel confident and comfortable.
* **My dancer is young and is in the Saturday or Sunday evening show that goes close to/past their bedtime. What happens if they get cranky or tired backstage without me?**
We recommend trying to plan ahead! See if you can get your dancer to take a nap on the day of the show so they feel rested. If that’s not possible, that’s ok. Most dancers love the backstage part. There are friends and adults to play with, there are movies and books and games and dance props (scarves, cones, etc.). There is also a lot of excitement, as they are wearing costumes and playing. Most dancers, even when they are tired do just great, at least until after the show! Think about the volunteers as babysitters. They are all parents and know how to maneuver tantrums and crying and upset kids. They do their job well and your dancer will be fine! You can sit back, relax and watch the show, knowing your dancer is well taken care of. If anything major goes wrong, they will call you. Again, if you have concerns, please reach out to RDC!
* **RULES FOR DANCERS while backstage:**
	+ No yelling or screaming or loud noises.
	+ Be kind to other dancers, teachers, volunteers and the space
	+ Listen to volunteers and follow their directions.
	+ No chewing gum, food or drinks, other than water.
	+ No toys, books, games, devices allowed.

**VOLUNTEERS – WE NEED YOU!**

* **How do I sign up to volunteer?**

[Click HERE to sign up!](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C45A4AD2BA1FCC25-rdc2023)

* **Why do you need volunteers?**We have close to 400 dancers, four shows and seven different dressing rooms to manage. There’s a lot that happens behind the scenes to make things go smoothly and we can’t do it all on our own. We rely on parent volunteers every year to make our show possible**. We are so grateful for our volunteers and thank you in advance!**
* **Do I have to volunteer?
No, but we do ask that at least one parent from each**
* **What does volunteering entail?**This varies based on the role you sign-up for, but basically you are responsible for an area and/or a group of dancers and making sure things run smoothly!
	+ **IMPORTANT NOTE: You will likely NOT be able to watch the show from the front as a volunteer. You’ll need to stay in your assigned area for the show(s) you sign up for.** We will make every effort for you to be able to see your dancer from backstage, and usually it works out, but unfortunately, we cannot guarantee it.
	+ **Backstage helpers MUST:**
		- Attend **one** in-person or Zoom training on Tuesday, May 16th (6-8pm) or Thursday, May 25 (5:30-7:30pm) to review job roles and duties.
		- Arrive early (1.5-2 hours before the show start time) to the performance(s) you volunteer for.
		- Be willing to be assertive and work with kids of all ages. You will need to interact with, direct and help dancers the entire time.
		- Be willing to miss most of the show. The recitals will be recorded, and you’ll be able to watch your dancer dance from backstage, if you volunteer in their dressing room.
* **What are the recital volunteer roles I can sign up for?**
	+ Check-in/out desk staff or dressing room runner (this role can watch most of the show)
	+ Dressing room manager or staff.
	+ Front of house manager - must be the same person for all four shows.
	+ Ticket box office staff – before show, during intermission and after show only
	+ Ushers/program staff
	+ 50/50 Raffle ticket sales, in lobby and audience before shows and during intermissions.
	+ Parking lot manager or staff
	+ Load-in (5/26, 8am-12pm) and load out (5/28, 7:30-9pm). We’ll have a uhaul with lots of things to load and unload. This is a great job for anyone who wants to sit in the audience and watch, but also volunteer. There is some somewhat heavy lifting and carrying/moving things.
* **If I volunteer in a dressing room, will I be in my dancer’s room?**

Yes! We will assign you in the same room as your dancer.

* **Are there benefits to volunteering?**So many! Not only are you helping RDC out and giving back to your direct community, our show can’t happen without volunteers. All dancers, teachers and parents benefit from having you there and it provides some pretty cool bonding time with your dancer! Also, you get the opportunity to purchase your tickets and choose your seats before everyone else does.
* **Do I have to volunteer for all shows?**No! You can sign up just one show – there are four of them. It’s up to you!
* **Will I get to see my dancer dance if I volunteer?**Most likely, yes. Although we can’t guarantee right now that you can watch your dancer from backstage while they are dancing, as long as we get enough volunteers for each area, you will be able to watch from backstage!

 **PREPARING FOR THE RECITAL – WHAT TO PLAN FOR**

* **How long will each performance be?**Approximately 2 hours
* **What time do I, as the parent, or my guests need to be at the recital venue on the day of the show?**

30 minutes before the start of your dancer’s performance, is when the doors open.

* **Can we arrive earlier than 30 minutes prior to the start of the show to get a good seat?**

You may arrive and wait outside the venue, but the doors to the theater don’t open until 30 minutes prior to show start time AND you have assigned seats!

* **Where do I drop my dancer off before the show?**You will arrive with your dancer, walk them to their check-in desk, drop them off and go find a seat for the show!
* **How should my dancer arrive to the show?**Dancers should arrive to the show in their costume, tights and shoes (the first one they perform in, if they have multiple classes), with hair and make-up already done. There is not time nor space for hair and make-up to be done when you get there.
* **Should I send food or drinks with my dancer for during the show?**No! The shows are no more than 2 hours. Food and drinks (other than water) can spill on costumes and/or become a distraction or cause of frustration for dancer’s and teachers backstage. Please feed your dancer a meal before they come and after the show and do not send them with anything!
* **When should my dancer eat?**Please make sure you feed your dancer a meal 1-2 hours before their performance, so they are not hungry while they wait to perform.
* **Will you have water backstage for the dancers?**Yes!

**ADA SEATS & ADA PARKING**

* **Will you have ADA Parking?**

Yes! ADA parking is behind the theater, near the entrance, in the main parking lot. You’re welcome to drop guests off at the entrance of the theater and then find parking as well.

* **Will you have wheelchair/ADA seats available?**Yes! There will be wheelchair/ADA assigned seats available when you purchase tickets online.

**PERFORMANCE AUDIENCE**

* **Are there assigned seats?**
Yes. You will select your seats when you purchase your tickets online.
* **Will you be filming the performances?**

Yes. We’ll have a professional videographer filming the performances and are available for purchase HERE, until June 17, 2023.

* **Audience rules**
	+ Please do not stand or move around while dancers are on stage, as it can be a distraction. Please stay seated until a dance is over and only move around between dances.
	+ We ask you NOT take photos or video of your dancers while on stage when you are seated in the audience during a performance. This can make it hard for audience members behind you to see and we want to be respectful of everyone, so we can all see our dancers from our seats! You can take photos and videos during dress rehearsal.
	+ Cheering and clapping for your dancer is encouraged – dancers feed off positive energy on stage!

**ACCOUNTS & BALANCES**

* **Is June tuition discounted because we only have three weeks of classes?**No. Most dancers will be in rehearsals and performances that will equal more than their regular class time between May 22-28. In addition, RDC does not charge extra for the months when your dancer may have had five classes, so this balances out and makes up for the weeks of classes we don’t have in June!
* **What if I have a balance due on recital days on May 27 & 28?**Your dancer will not be able to participate in the recitals until your May tuition is paid and your account is at a $0 balance.
* **What is the last day RDC will accept payment for tuition or any balance due for this dance year?**Saturday, June 17, 2023

**POST RECITAL - PURCHASING RECITAL SWAG & RECORDINGS**

* **RDC 2023 Recital t-shirts and hoodies will be available for purchase through June 17.** In the next two weeks, you can see photos and get sizing info on the [Merchandise](http://www.rainierdancecenter.com/merchandise.html) page of our website. You can purchase these when you buy tickets or email us with your sizes and quantities at info@rainierdancecenter.com before 9pm on June 17, 2023.
* **RDC 2023 Digital copies of the recitals will be available for sale starting on May 5th!**
To order, click HERE (coming soon).

Digital copies of the recital are $45 each and will be given to you on a USB thumb drive. These include each show, in its entirety, a slide show and dancer credits/program!

**SUMMER & FALL**

* **What happens after the recital is over?**

We still have three weeks of classes in June, where we’ll wrap up the year! RDC is then closed from June 18 – July 17. Summer registration is open online during this time, but we take some time off between session! 😊 RDC re-opens the week of July 17 for summer classes!

* **If I’m on auto-pay, do I continue paying after classes stop in June?**No! Once a session ends, your card will no longer be charged. If you register for a new session, it will start charging you again.
* **How do I know what classes my dancer should take in the summer?**The week after recital you’ll receive an email with recommendations for summer and fall classes for your dancer. You’re also welcome to register for any open class within your dancer’s age range after August 1, 2023.
* **How can I register for summer session?**If you are already a dancer, you just have to log in to your account and click on ‘Enroll in a class’. The system will default toshowing summer session classes through August 1, 2023 and you can register any time before classes start on July 17, 2023.
* **When do summer classes start?**Monday, July 17 and they go through Thursday, August 17, 2023.
* **How do I know what classes my dancer should take next year?**The week after recital you will receive an email with recommendations for summer and fall classes for your dancer. You’re also welcome to register for any open class within your dancer’s age range after August 1, 2023.
* **How can I register for classes for next year?**If you are already a dancer, you just have to log in to your account and click on ‘Enroll in a class’. The system will default toshowing the summer session classes now and starting on August 1st, you can register for 2023-24 classes any time before classes start on Monday, September 18, 2023.
* **When do fall classes start?**Monday, September 18, 2023
* **Have other questions you don’t see the answers to here?**Reach out to us via email at info@rainierdancecenter.com