

2022 Recital Frequently Asked Questions!

What are the dates and times of the 2022 recitals? There are four total shows!

Friday, June 24 from 6-8:00pm

Saturday, June 25th from 1pm-3:00pm

Saturday, June 25th from 6-8pm

Sunday, June 26th from 4pm-6:00pm

PICTURE DAYS – Saturday June 11 & Sunday, June 12

You can view/download the picture schedule [HERE](#) or at the bottom of the [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. We will not wear masks during the photos. You are 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!

- Saturday, June 11, between 9am-7pm
- Sunday, June 12, between 9am-7pm
- Location: Rainier Beach Community Club – 6038 S. Pilgrim St. 98118
- Picture Days are not mandatory, but it's a great way to document your dancer's year!

AGES 3-6 ONLY: IN-STUDIO DRESS REHEARSALS – Monday, June 20 & Tuesday, June 21

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](#) or at the bottom of the [PERFORMANCES](#) page of our website.

- **What are in-studio dress rehearsals and why are they important for our youngest students?**
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 student 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 Monday, June 20 and Tuesday, June 21, between 4pm and 7:30pm

- **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](#). 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. There will not be supervision for your dancer during this time.

AGES 7 AND UP/LEVEL 1-5 DRESS REHEARSALS – Wednesday, June 22 & Thursday, June 23

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](#) or at the bottom of the [PERFORMANCES](#) page of our website.

- **What are the Level 1-5 dress rehearsals and why are they important?**
Level 1-5 dress rehearsals are rehearsals for our older dancers. It gives them a chance to practice their dance once on the actual stage with their teacher's guidance.
- **When are the level 1-5 dress rehearsals?**
They are on Wednesday, June 22 and Thursday, June 23 between 4pm and 8pm.
- **Where do the level 1-5 dress rehearsals happen?**
They will take place at the recital venue – Explorer West Middle School - 10015 28th Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98146
- **How do I know when my level 1-5 dancer's dress rehearsal is?**
Search for your dancer's class(es) on the [schedule HERE](#). 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 their whole rehearsal. There will not be dressing rooms or supervision for your dancer during this time.

GENERAL RECITAL INFO – June 24, 25 & 26

- **What are the dates and times of the 2022 recitals?**

There are four shows

- Friday, June 24: 6:00-8:00pm
- Saturday, June 25: 1:00am-3:00pm
- Saturday, June 25: 6:00pm-8:00pm
- Sunday, June 26: 4:00pm-6:00pm

- **How do I know when my dancer is performing?**

Check the [performance class assignments HERE!](#) Look for your dancer's class day, time and name!

- **Where are the recitals?**

Explorer West Middle School - 10015 28th Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98146

- **How do I buy recital tickets?**

Tickets will go on sale online on Wednesday, June 1. Check back here or check your email for the link and instructions.

- **How many tickets can I buy?** Each dancer is allowed to bring up to five guests to watch them for each performance they are in. See father below for more detailed information.

- **Do we need to wear masks at the recital?**

No! Since we'll be outdoors, the audience will not need to wear masks and our dancers won't need to wear them on stage! Dancers may need to wear them in their dressing rooms before/after their performance, but we'll make that call in early June.

ACCOUNTS & BALANCES

- **Is June tuition discounted because we only have two/three weeks of classes?**

No. Most students will be in rehearsals and performances that will equal more than their regular class time between June 20 and June 26. 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 June 24, 25 & 26?**

Your dancer will not be able to participate in the recitals until your June tuition is paid and your account is at

a \$0 balance. We will NOT accept payments after June 23rd, so you must pay your balance by June 23, 2022.

- **What is the last day RDC will accept payment for tuition or any balance due for this dance year?**

Thursday, June 23 at 5pm.

COSTUMES, SHOES & TIGHTS

- **When does my student get their costume?**
Your dancers costume will be distributed to an adult the weeks of May 23-28 and May 30 – June 4. Look for emails letting you know when and where to pick up your dancer's costumes.
- **What if my student'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 pictures days on June 11/12 or before dress rehearsals on June 20, 21, 22 and 23rd. It is too late to order a different size for your dancer, so you'll need to make do with what you have. We cushioned measurements when we ordered costumes to ensure no dancer's costume will be too small.
- **Are tights included with my student's costume?**
Yes! If your class requires tights with their costume, you were given tights for your student with your costume! You can confirm on the **Costume, Hair & Make-up document** [HERE](#) or at the bottom of the **'Performances'** page on our website. Please do NOT wear your recital tights except for during pictures, dress rehearsal and the recitals!
- **What shoes should my dancer wear?**
Your class shoe assignments are listed on the **Costume, Hair & Make-up document** [HERE](#) or at the bottom of the **'Performances'** page on our website.
- **When should my student wear their costume?**
Picture days, dress rehearsals and the recitals ONLY!
- **When should my student NOT wear their costume?**
Please DO NOT wear your costumes at any time besides picture days, dress rehearsals and the shows. After the recital, students 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.
- **Should I wash my dancer's costume? How should I care for their costume?** Please do NOT wash or dry your dancer's costume before the recitals. Most costumes will need to be dry cleaned only, and if they only wear them when they're supposed to, they will remain clean until after the performance. Please also do NOT iron your costume – if there are wrinkles in it, you're welcome to steam it, but please be careful. We cannot order you another one!

HAIR & MAKE-UP

- **How should my student wear their hair for the recital?**

That depends on your class! You can find guidelines for each class on the **Costume, Hair & Make-up document** [HERE](#) or at the bottom of the '[Performances](#)' page on our website. Find your dancers class day, time and class name. We always want student's hair off their face and secure, so it's not a distraction on stage.

- **Should my student wear make-up for the recital?**

This is up to each family. If your dancer chooses to wear make-up, you can find guidelines on the **Costume, Hair & Make-up document** [HERE](#) or at the bottom of the '[Performances](#)' page on our website.

VOLUNTEERS – WE NEED YOU!!

- **How do I sign up to volunteer at the recitals?**

The sign-up link is coming soon. Check back!

- **Why do you need volunteers?**

We have over 300 students, four days of performances and six different areas to manage. There is a lot that needs to happen 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!**

- **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 may NOT be able to watch the show from the front as a volunteer, unless you sign up for a job in the performance area. You will 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** hour training at the recital venue on Wednesday, June 22nd or Thursday, June 23rd in the afternoon or Friday, June 24th in the morning to do a walk-through and review your job roles and duties.
 - Be willing to be assertive and work with kids of all ages. You will need to interact with, direct and help students the entire time.
 - Be willing to miss all or most of the show. The recitals will be recorded and you may be able to watch your student's dance from backstage.

- **What are the recital volunteer roles I can sign up for?**

- Entrance/ticket staff
- Dancer check-in/out staff
- Dressing room staff
- Backstage staff
- Performance area staff
- Onstage staff

- **Are there benefits to volunteering?**

So many! Not only are you helping RDC out and giving back to your direct community, but our show can't happen without volunteers. All of our dancers, teachers and parents benefit from having you there and it provides some pretty cool bonding time with your student!

- **Do I have to volunteer for an entire day?**

No! You can sign up for one recital and a 4 hour shift – there are four of them. It's up to you!

- **Will I get to see my student dance if I volunteer?**

Most likely, yes. Although we can't guarantee right now that you can watch your student from backstage while they are dancing, as long as we get enough volunteers for each area, you will be able to watch from backstage!

RECITAL GUESTS

- **How many guests may I bring to watch the recital?**

You may bring up to five guests per dancer for each performance your dancer is in. If you have more than one dancer in the same performance, you may bring up to three more additional guests per dancer (8 total for two dancers, 11 total for three dancers), per show. We thank you for your understanding!

- **Does my dancer's immediate family (parents, siblings) count as guests?**

YES! Anyone coming to watch your dancer counts as a guest, unless they are a baby or toddler who can sit on a lap.

- **Does my dancer count as a guest during their performance?**

No! All dancers are counted as part of the performance, and they will not sit in the audience at all, so won't need a seat or ticket.

- **Does my dancer count as a guest during a performance they are NOT performing in?**

YES. Even if they have a sibling performing, if they are not performing, they will count as a guest.

- **Does my infant or toddler count as a guest?**

Not if they can sit on your lap. If a child needs their own seat, they count as a guest.

PREPARING FOR THE RECITAL – WHAT TO PLAN FOR

- **How long will each performance be?**

1.5-2 hours, depending on the number of dances.

- **What time does my student need to be at the recital venue on the day of the show?**

All dancers and audience members need to arrive 30-90 minutes prior to the start of their performance, based on their age. See below for the time your dancer needs to be there. We need all dancers there at the start of the show, so we can ensure everything runs smoothly and quickly.

- **90 minutes prior to show start time:** Levels 3-5

- **60 minutes prior to show start time:** Levels 1-2

- **30 minutes prior to show start time:** Ages 3-6 (Pre-Ballet, Ballet/Tap, Hip Hop/Acro combos)
- **What time do I, as the parent, or my dancer's guests need to be at the recital venue on the day of the show?**

At least 15 minutes before the start of your dancer's performance, so you can find a seat before the show starts, but no more than 30 minutes prior to show start time. The audience/seating area won't be open for seating until 30 minutes prior to the show start time.
- **Can we arrive earlier than 30 minutes prior to the start of the show to get a good seat?**

You can arrive earlier than 30 minutes before the show starts, but the seating area will not open until 30 minutes prior to the start time of the show. You will be asked to wait in the holding area until 30 minutes before the show starts.
- **Where do I drop my student off before the show?**

You will drop them off at the recital heck-in desk, at the back entrance of the school (from the parking lot). Our staff will take them to their classes designated dressing room and you can go find a seat for the show!
- **What should my student bring with them to the show?**

Nothing except what's on their body, plus dance shoes and any additional costumes they have! They should arrive in their costume with tights and outside shoes with nothing else, except their dance shoes. A parent/guardian should bring a water bottle for your dancer for after they perform, but you will keep it with you in the audience! No, jackets, games, toys, books or snacks.
- **How should my student arrive to the show?**

Students should arrive to the show in outside shoes (not their dance shoes) in their first costume, if they have more than one, and tights, with their hair and make-up already done. You won't be able to be backstage with your dancer before/during the show, and 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 student for during the show?**

No! We are unable to manage food or drinks with dancers, other than water, backstage. 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 right before they come and after the show and do not send them with anything.
- **When should my student eat?**

Please make sure you feed your student 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! You're welcome to bring a water bottle with you and can give it to your dancer after the perform. They will not be able to carry anything with them on the stage.

ADA SEATS & ADA PARKING

- **Will you have ADA Parking?**

Yes! ADA parking is in front of school/main entrance parking lot on 28th Ave. S. To park in this lot, you must be granted special permission and we need to know ahead of time if you need this, as the staff will have a list to check against at the gate. If you need to request ADA parking, please email us ASAP at info@rainierdancecenter.com and confirm which show you need ADA parking.

- **Will you have wheelchair/ADA seats available?**

Yes! There will be wheelchair/ADA seats available for each show closest to the ADA entrance and parking lot. These are pre-arranged, so if you need ADA seating, make sure to email us before Wednesday, June 15th, to get added to the ADA list at info@rainierdancecenter.com

GENERAL PARKING & CARPOOLING

- **Where should I park?**

Non-ADA Dancers and audience members will park in the back parking lot with the entrance on 30th Ave. S or on the street in the surrounding neighborhoods. The nearest cross street is 100th St. Look for the orange Explorer West Middle School sign! We're also looking to confirm an additional parking lot close-by. More to come on that.

- **Should we carpool or drive separately?**

Please carpool, as there is very limited parking in the parking lot around the school. Be prepared to walk a short distance (a block or two) to the entrance, as the parking lot will fill quickly.

- **Can I park in the front parking lot?**

No. No dancers or audience members will be allowed in the front/east parking lot. You will be directed to the west/back one, unless you are on our ADA list and pre-approved, or if you are volunteering.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE ARRIVE (AFTER PARKING)?

- **If you're dropping off a performer:** You will enter the school in the back and go directly to the recital check-in desk where RDC staff will check-in your dancer and take them to their dressing room. From there, you will go to the front of the school and have your ticket checked. If it's more than 30 minutes prior to show start time, you will wait in the audience holding area until the seating area opens. If it's less than 30 minutes prior to show time, you can proceed to the performance area to find a seat for the performance!
- **If you're NOT dropping off a performer and you're just an audience member:** You can enter the school in the back or the front. And proceed to the ticketing staff and have your ticket checked. If it's more than 30 minutes prior to show start time, you will wait in the audience holding area until the seating area opens. If it's less than 30 minutes prior to show time, you can proceed to the performance area to find a seat for the performance!
- **What if I'm late?**
We will not wait for any dancer or guests to start the performance. If you and your dancer arrive after your class leaves their dressing room for the stage, they will miss their performance.

WAITING BACKSTAGE & DANCER DROP-OFF

- **Can we take photos with our dancer at the recital?**

Yes! Before you check your dancer in, there will be a place for you to take photos with your dancer and guests and a big grass area for hanging out in if anyone (small siblings?) needs to burn some energy before sitting down to watch the show! You can also take photos with your dancer after the show!

- **Where does my dancer go when we arrive?**

One parent/guardian will drop off your dancer at the recital check-in desk at the back of the school. You will leave them with their teacher and/or backstage staff and head to the holding or performance area to find a seat for the show.

- **What does my dancer do when they aren't performing?**

They will be backstage in their dressing room. They will be supervised by their teacher and RDC staff/volunteers. We will have movies, games, books, dancing props (scarves, etc.) and plenty of space for them to stretch out.

- **Does my dancer have to stay in their dressing room the whole time?**

Yes, except when they go to the stage to perform.

- **Why can't my dancer sit with me in the audience, or leave, once they're done performing?**

Some of our shows have more than 100 dancers in them and because the dressing rooms and performance areas are close together, it would take a lot of time and organization to connect dancers with their parents during the show and it would be a distraction for the audience. In our years of experience putting on recitals, it's best to keep all dancers in dressing rooms before and after their performance and release all dancers after each show at once. This is the best use of our limited staff, and to ensure that the show runs smoothly!

- **What if my dancer or I feel worried about them being by themselves backstage without me?**

This happens! We want every dancer and their adults to feel safe. Your dancer's teacher will be floating around the dressing rooms and helping your dancer get to and from the stage. In addition, all of our recital staff are either RDC employees or parents of dancers at RDC. Everyone is vetted and trained and cares deeply about your dancers. If there's any worry about them being backstage without you, you can always volunteer during their show and be assigned to their dressing room and help. Or, if you prefer to sit and watch the show, we can facilitate a meeting between your dancer and the staff who will be in your dressing room ahead of time, so they feel comfortable. 😊

- **Is there anything special I need to know/do if my dancer has more than one dance in the same performance block?**

Yes! If your dancer has a costume change in the same performance, you should send all of their costumes for that show with them to their dressing room with their name clearly labeled on them. They will return to their dressing room to change into their next costume and RDC staff will help them.

- **What should my dancer have with them backstage?**

Nothing except what's on their body and their outside shoes! Dancers should wear their outside shoes into the venue and change into their dance shoes once they are in their dressing room. No toys, books, cell

phones, food or water, jackets, etc.

- **RULES FOR DANCERS while in dressing rooms and backstage:**

- No yelling or screaming or loud noises so we don't distract from the performances happening.
- No chewing gum, food or water.

- **What happens if there is an emergency with my dancer backstage?**

We will make an announcement on the microphone for you to come to their dressing room.

- **How many students are backstage during each performance block?**

Between 60-100!

- **How many dressing rooms are there backstage?**

Eight! This is so we can have smaller groups and have plenty of space.

- **How will my dancer get to the performance area and on stage?**

Dancers will stay in their dressing room with their teacher and staff until it's time to move to the performance area. The backstage manager will come and get them when it's time to go to the holding area in the performance space to wait. Their teacher and RDC staff will lead them there!

PERFORMANCE AREA - STAGE & AUDIENCE

- **Do we need to bring our own chairs?**

No! We will provide chairs for you.

- **Are there assigned seats?**

No. You can sit where you'd like. You may not save chairs, so we suggest your entire party arrive together if you want to sit together. Please do NOT move chairs around.

- **How does my dancer get on to the stage?**

- When it's your dancers turn, their teacher will lead them up on stage, set them up on the side of the stage they enter, and/or the color X they start on and get them ready to dance.

- **Will you be filming the performances?**

Yes. We'll have a professional videographer filming the performances and will be available for purchase when you purchase tickets or after the recital.

- **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 that you not take photos or video of your dancers while on stage when you are seated in the audience. 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!
- Cheering and clapping for your dancer is encouraged – dancers feed off positive energy on stage!

AFTER YOUR DANCER IS DONE ON STAGE

- **Where do I pick up my student, after they dance?**

- Once their performance is over, dancers will bow and exit off the stage slowly and carefully and return to their dressing room until the end of the show.
- Parents should pick their dancer up after the show is over at the same place you dropped them off at. We'll release one dressing room at a time, so we thank you in advance for your patience. This will make sure every dancer gets connected with their adult safely.

- **What should my dancer and I do after they are done performing?**

- Your dancer will go back to their dressing room until the end of the show, so you should continue to watch the rest of the show. All audience members and dancers are strongly encouraged to stay until their entire performance is over. Everyone deserves a full audience for their performance.

- **Can my student/family leave when our dance(s) are done?**

We are aware that some families, especially families of younger dancers, may feel like they don't want to stay for their whole performance, but our dancers and teachers have worked hard all year long. We ask that everyone support other dancers and families and stay for your whole performance. Your dancer will stay backstage with our staff until the end of the 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. Please make sure to pass this on to extended family and friends!

AFTER YOUR PERFORMANCE IS OVER

- Once your performance is over, you will pick up your dancer and leave the performance area through the front or back.

POST RECITAL - PURCHASING RECITAL SWAG & RECORDINGS

- **RDC 2022 Recital t-shirts and hoodies will be available for purchase through July 10th.** You can see photos and get sizing info on the [Merchandise](#) page of our website after June 1st. Email us with your sizes and quantities at info@rainierdancecenter.com before 9pm on July 9th!
- **RDC 2022 Digital copies of your dances and the recitals will be available for sale starting on June 1!** To order, email us with the individual dances or shows you'd like to purchase at info@rainierdancecenter.com.
 - Individual dances: \$12 each
 - Full shows (includes intro, slideshow, senior spotlights and numerous dances): \$30
 - **Show 1:** Friday June 24, 6-8pm
 - **Show 2:** Saturday June 25, 1-3pm
 - **Show 3:** Saturday June 25, 6-8pm
 - **Show 4:** Sunday June 26, 4-6pm

SUMMER & FALL

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

RDC is closed from June 27 – July 17. Summer registration is open online during this time, but we take some time off after the recital! 😊 RDC re-opens the week of July 18 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 student should take in the summer?**

A few weeks before 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 fall class within your student's age range after August 1, 2022.

- **How can I register for summer session?**

If you are already a student, you just have to log in to your account and click on 'Enroll in a class'. The system will default to showing summer session classes through August 1, 2022 and you can register any time before classes start on July 18, 2022.

- **When do summer classes start?**

Monday, July 18 and they go through Saturday, August 20

- **How do I know what classes my student should take next year?**

A few weeks before the recital you will receive an email with recommendations for summer and fall classes for your dancer. You're welcome to register for any open class within your student's age range/level after August 1, 2022.

- **How can I register for classes for next year?**

If you are already a student, you just have to log in to your account and click on 'Enroll in a class'. The system will default to showing the summer session classes now and starting on August 1st, you can register for 2022-23 classes any time before classes start on Monday, September 19.

- **When do fall classes start?**

Monday, September 19, 2022

- **Have other questions you don't see the answers to here?**

Reach out to us via email at info@rainierdancecenter.com