



# Recital Handbook 2026

*Please read this handbook very carefully and keep it for your reference.*

[ALBEMARLEACADEMYOFDANCE.COM/RECITAL](http://ALBEMARLEACADEMYOFDANCE.COM/RECITAL)

## **MANDATORY REHEARSALS**

Sunday, June 7-Thursdays, June 11

Stanly County Agri-Civic Center

## **DRESS REHEARSALS**

Friday, June 12 at 12:00PM & 6:00PM

Stanly County Agri-Civic Center

## **RECITAL 2026**

Saturday, June 13 at 12:00PM & 6:00PM

Stanly County Agri-Civic Center

**WE ARE HAPPY TO ANSWER QUESTIONS, BUT PLEASE READ YOUR HANDBOOK BEFORE ASKING QUESTIONS.**

Still have questions after reading everything? Text us! 704.982.7514

The Stanly County Agri-Civic Center is located at 26032 Newt Road, Albemarle

## STAYING INFORMED

Do the following things to stay informed:

- Please read all emails and other any information sent home.
- Feel free to email questions to the office at: [info@AlbemarleAcademyofDance.com](mailto:info@AlbemarleAcademyofDance.com) or text us 704-982-7514
- Join our Facebook & Instagram
  - Facebook.com/AlbemarleAcademyofDance
  - Instagram: @albemarleacademyofdance
- Subscribe to our group text reminders
  - Follow these directions:



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## ATTENDANCE

We expect students to be present and on time for all of their classes and rehearsals. It is imperative that all students be able to rehearse their dances as a group. Practice time is not productive without everyone present. It is especially confusing for the students when they must 'pretend' that someone is there.

It is also impossible for students to remember or even learn their dances when they are not in class on a weekly basis. AAD reserves the right to remove students from the recital if they are not attending class on a regular basis. Dancers that are absent, or who are not prepared for class when instructors are adding to the dance, may not be included in those additions.

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## COSTUME PICK-UP & PARENT VIEWING/AWARDS NIGHTS (June 1-4)

During the week of June 1-4, we will hold costume pick-up, parent viewing, and awards in each class. Parents will go to every class that their child is in, with their children. During this time, we will go over detailed recital information, let you know what order your child will dance in at recital, give out recital costumes, and give parents a chance to ask any recital questions. Parents will attend for the entire class. We will also give out individual student awards. Please mark your calendar and make sure to join us!

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## THEATRE STUDENTS

This year, our theatre students will perform during recital, as well as during parent-viewing week.

## **MANDATORY ON-STAGE REHEARSALS (JUNE 7-11)**

**There are mandatory rehearsals held at the Ag Center during the week of June 7 for all students.**

All classes this week will be replaced with rehearsals (see schedule) that will be held at the Stanly County Agri-Civic Center stage to better prepare the students for their performance.

- **Rehearsals will be a different day and/or time than your regular weekly classes. Please check the sheet included in this folder for your child's specific rehearsal times.**
- Students should be dressed in their regular dance class attire with hair in a ballet bun during regular rehearsals June 7-11. Do not send them in their recital costumes! Make sure that they have all appropriate shoes with their names in them. Do not send extra things that dancers will have to keep up with.
- Each class is only allotted a very limited time to rehearse. Their rehearsal BEGINS at the scheduled time, so please be EARLY to allow time to check in and be accompanied to the theatre. If you are late, the entire class is affected. Do not be late.
- Parents are NOT allowed in the auditorium during rehearsals. The students need this time to get acclimated to their surroundings and concentrate on their rehearsal. ONLY the volunteer(s) assigned to the classes rehearsing will be allowed to accompany the class during rehearsals.
- A staff member will bring the students back to the Ag Center lobby after their rehearsal is complete. You are welcome to drop your child off or wait in the lobby until they are done. Please do not attempt to watch or sit in the auditorium during rehearsals. You will be asked to leave. Please remind anyone else who may be bringing your child to rehearsals.
- Monday, June 7 through Thursday, June 11, you may continue to register for summer or fall classes and take care of AAD business. We will have an office area set up at the Ag Center. Please do this before Friday; we will not be available for this during dress rehearsal or recital.

## **DRESS REHEARSAL - FRIDAY, JUNE 12**

**Participation in the dress rehearsal is mandatory.**

The dress rehearsal is the only full rehearsal with all performers, and crew members.

- Friday, June 5th, is a dress rehearsal and students should be dressed just like they will be for the actual recital performance. This includes shoes, hair, tights, & make-up. This is the only day on-stage photos will be taken.
- Make sure you are present for costume & awards days (June 1-4); we will tell you the show order so you know what costume to send your child dressed in first.
- Students should arrive fully dressed (including hair & makeup) in their first performance costume at their call time! Please check the sheet included in this folder for your call-time. Should you forget, you can also refer to the list on your child's costume bag to see the first costume that they will need to be dressed in.

## **RECITAL - SATURDAY, JUNE 13**

- While we do have two showings of recital, both are different, so your child may be in just one show, or possibly both. If your child takes multiple classes, they are likely to be in both shows. We must take into consideration the very limited amount of dressing room space, and the lineup of the show to allow ample time for costume changes. Please refer to the included sheet with RECITAL REHEARSAL & SHOW TIMES for your child's specific information. Students should arrive fully dressed in their first performance costume by their call-time. Fully dressed includes costume, hair, make-up, shoes, and tights. Make sure you are present for costume pick up and awards nights; we will tell you the show order, so you know what costume to send your child dressed in first.
- Video cameras/still cameras/phone cameras may NOT be used at any time during the recital. Crown Productions will be recording; they produce a great quality video that will be distributed to all families once production is completed (typically by mid-August). AAD will also take photos during rehearsal week and the dress rehearsal, and we will post & email out a link to ALL the recital photos after recital that are available to you for FREE.
- Doors to the auditorium will open for audience members 30 minutes before each show starts. Please be considerate when standing in line and choosing seats. Entering the auditorium to save seats, prior to the opening of the house, is strictly prohibited.
- It is up to the discretion of the AAD Staff to have removed any audience member, parent/guardian, volunteer, or performer who is disrespectful to any Ag Center employee, security, volunteer, director, or staff member working at the recital. Please make sure your guests are aware of these policies and that they follow all theatre etiquette.

## **DROP OFF AND PICK UP OF STUDENTS AT THE AG CENTER**

### ***DURING REHEARSAL WEEK (SUNDAY, JUNE 7 – THURSDAY, JUNE 11)***

- When you get to the Agri-Civic Center, come to the lobby. ALL STUDENTS MUST CHECK-IN at our makeshift “office” in the Ag Center lobby. During this time, you can still handle any outstanding AAD business.
- Your children will be taken back to their rehearsal by AAD teachers, assistants, or designated volunteers.
- You are welcome to stay in the lobby or leave and come back when their rehearsal is scheduled to be complete.

### ***DURING DRESS REHEARSAL (FRIDAY, JUNE 12TH)***

- A call time is the time that you must have your child completely dressed, and ready and checked in by.
- Bring all your child’s costumes for the show that they are in, as well as any additional shoes and tights that they will need for that show. Any extra items should be placed in the large Ziploc bag provided.
- When you get to the Agri-Civic center, come to our “office” in the lobby and check-in.
- When planning what time you should arrive to the Ag-Center, please remember to allow yourself time to wait in line, take your child to the restroom, and check-in, and still be able to have your child safely in their dressing room no later than 45 minutes before dress rehearsal time.
- Upon check-in your child should be fully dressed in his/her first performance costume (fully dressed means hair and make-up done, tights and first costume on).
- Please take your children to the restroom before checking them in at all rehearsals/recital, even if they say they don’t need to go.
- An AAD official will escort your child to his/her dressing room.
- For student’s safety, parents/guardians/siblings are not allowed in the dressing room, unless they are volunteers. NO ONE WITHOUT a nametag is allowed in the dressing rooms.
- For dress rehearsal (Friday, June 12th), if everyone is checked-in on time, we may start early. Rehearsal should take about 1 hour and 45 minutes from the time we start. Students may be released when they are finished, but it is unlikely. If you are not able to stay during dress rehearsal, please plan to return at 1:45pm or 7:45pm respectively.
- Please, do not attempt to enter the auditorium to look for your child during dress rehearsal. Make sure that you have signed up for our “Remind” group texts so you will be notified if your child is ready to be picked up early.

### ***DURING RECITAL (SATURDAY, JUNE 13TH)***

- When you get to the Agri-Civic center, come to our “office” in the lobby and check-in.
- When planning what time you should arrive to the Ag-Center, please remember to allow yourself time to wait in line, take your child to the restroom, and check-in, no later than 45 minutes before show time. The lobby gets very crowded, very quickly, so arriving extra early is best.
- Upon check-in your child should be fully dressed in his/her first performance costume (fully dressed means hair and make-up done, tights and first costume on).
- Please take your children to the rest room before checking them in at all rehearsals/recital, even if they say they don’t need to go.
- Bring all your child’s costumes for the show that they are in, as well as any additional shoes and tights that they will need for that show. Any extra items should be placed in the large Ziploc bag provided.
- An AAD official will escort your child to his/her dressing room.
- Parents are not allowed in the dressing room, unless they are volunteers. NO ONE WITHOUT a nametag is allowed in the dressing rooms.
- Students will stay together with their class and volunteers throughout the entire performance and will not be dismissed until the end of the show.
- For the recital, all students will return to the stage after the final performance for a final number and bow. At the conclusion of the recital, we will bring all the young dancers to the front of the stage; please designate ONE person from your family to come down to the front of the stage and pick up your child (preferably the primary parent that AAD staff are familiar with). After you pick up your child, you may then go with them to their dressing room to retrieve their belongings.

## **DRESSING ROOM/BACKSTAGE INFO.**

Only AAD staff and volunteers, with a nametag, are allowed in the dressing areas before and during rehearsals and recital.

### **PARENTS ARE NOT ALLOWED IN DRESSING ROOMS.**

#### **IF YOU WANT TO STAY WITH YOUR CHILD, SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER.**

- Dressing room leaders do not know who students are allowed, or are not allowed, to leave with. We use experienced teachers from local schools and pre-determined classroom helpers to take care of our students in the dressing rooms.
- While not performing, the students will have activities to keep them busy, or they will sit in a designated area in the auditorium, with their group, to watch the other performances.
- For the recital, all students will return to the stage after the final performance for a final number and bow. At the conclusion of the recital we will bring all the dancers to the front of the stage; please designate ONE person from your family to come down to the front of the stage and pick up your child (preferably the primary parent that AAD staff are familiar with). After you pick up your child, you may then go with them to their dressing room to retrieve their belongings.
- Please do not send snacks. We will provide all students with snacks and water during the recital. If your child has a food allergy, please let us know.
- Parents, family members, and friends don't belong backstage or in the dressing rooms during rehearsals or the recital. The same applies during intermission and after the show. There is a lot of backstage activity in a limited space, and dressing rooms are private areas. Please remind your family and guests to be respectful of these areas. Anyone insistent on retrieving a performer while the show is in progress will be, AT THAT TIME, asked not to return to the studio for future classes. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTION. If any situation should arise where only mommy, daddy, grandma, etc. will do, we will not hesitate to inform you.
- If you see your child watching in the designated area in the auditorium, do not attempt to remove them from their group or sit with them.

Keep in mind that our volunteers do not know you, and do not know who is allowed to pick up your child; we have these rules for your child's safety.

**If you wish to be with your child during rehearsals and recital, you are welcome to sign up to volunteer. Volunteers will help with all children, not just their own child.**

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## **VOLUNTEERING**

AAD relies on the assistance of many dedicated volunteers to provide a high- quality performance experience for your child. The children benefit from this volunteer effort, so we hope that you will become an enthusiastic member of our volunteer pool. Please note that dressing room volunteers will need to be present at dress rehearsal on Friday.

You can sign up online here:

<http://bit.ly/recitalvolunteer>

### ***PLEASE SIGN UP EVEN IF YOU THINK WE ALREADY KNOW YOU WILL VOLUNTEER.***

(We have so much going on, it's just easier for us to have a list to refer to; we can't remember if you say "I'll HELP if you need me!")

### ***DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE MORE THAN THREE COSTUME CHANGES?***

If your child has three or more costume changes in one show, and is 10 years old or younger, you will be required to be a class volunteer and will assist with your child and their class. You will still get to see your child perform, but they need your help so that they look their best on stage!

We will let you know if you are one of these parents.

## MAKEUP

*This applies for dress rehearsal on Friday, June 12, and recital on Saturday, June 13*

Use the following to ensure your child looks their best on stage:

- Foundation
- Powder
- Blush
- Mascara
- Long-wear lipstick or lip stain that won't wipe off on costumes
  - PLEASE SEND IN YOUR CHILD'S LIPSTAIN OR LONGWEAR LIPSTICK IN A SEALED ZIPLOC BAG WITH THEIR NAME ON IT IN CASE WE NEED TO REAPPLY WHILE THEY ARE IN OUR CARE.
  - We recommend MAYBELLINE SUPERSTAY 2-STEP LIPCOLOR (it's worked well and doesn't smear once it's dried) it's available on Amazon.
    - Our tiny dancers should use a color like Blush On, and older students a red like Keep Up The Flame

Watch this tutorial for help with make-up: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VdUX3H5UfUQ>

### **DON'T FORGET:**

- NO GLITTER
- NO NAIL OR TOENAIL POLISH
- NO JEWELRY (this includes stud earrings, please remove them prior to drop off). We are not responsible for any lost jewelry that results because you did not remove it prior to drop off

*Advanced students, please use normal stage makeup.*

# HAIR

## *Regular Rehearsals*

**Sunday, June 7-Thursday, June 11**

Hair should be in a secure ballet bun. Please no bangs or 'whispies'

## *Dress Rehearsal & Recital*

**Friday, June 12 & Saturday, June 13**

- Make sure that your child brings all headpieces for costumes with them on dress rehearsal and recital day!
- Classic ballerina hair is required for all our female recital performers. Hair should be pulled away from the face in a secure ballet bun.
- Do not use glitter or glitter spray on the hair!
- Follow the directions below for a correct ballet bun. DO NOT USE THE DONUT BUN; follow the directions below to achieve a bun that lies flat against the head.

Directions:

1. Pull hair straight back, with no part, in a low ponytail placed at the nape of the neck. Use hair wax or gel to secure all 'whispies' and bangs.
2. Wrap the hair around itself into a flat "cinnamon bun" style bun. Place bobby pins around the edge of the bun.
3. Wrap a hair net around the bun several times until tight.
4. Place hairpins through the bun securing the hair net to the bun, and the bun to the head.
5. Spray hair to secure.

If you have any hair issues, please see us individually to discuss the best plan for your child's hair.

**Boys** – hair must be pulled back out of the face with gel, clips, hairspray – whatever is needed to keep it back. Should be neat and not distracting.

## **STILL UNSURE?**

We will have bun specialists doing buns for dress rehearsals, and for recitals. The bun specialists will provide all materials including bobby pins, gel, hairnets, and hair spray. The charge will be \$10 (CASH only!! Paid the day it's done).

Sign up online here. Deadline is June 11:

**<https://bit.ly/aadhairhelp>**

The last day to sign up will be June 11. When you sign up you will be making an appointment for a specific time. Make sure that your child is completely dressed and ready BEFORE they get their hair done. Sign up early so you get the time you want!

## COSTUMES

The additional page included in this folder is highlighted specifically for your child and lists the tights and shoes that they will need for recital. Please review and make sure your child has everything that they need.

- Costumes will be handed out during COSTUME HANDOUT & AWARDS DAYS (June 1-4) Make sure you are present to receive your child's costumes.
  - We have taken care of any extensive alterations; however, you are responsible for small alterations. You may have to make some adjustments such as hemming pants, attaching straps, etc. that can only be done on the child.
  - Please make sure that you check and double check all your child's classes to be sure that they have the appropriate tights.
  - Please, no underwear underneath costumes or tights! Tights have a gusset and are intended to be worn in place of underwear with both class wear and costumes. Underwear that can be seen or is bunched up distracts from the aesthetics of the movement being created.
  - **LABEL EVERYTHING!!** Please put names in/on **ALL** belongings. This includes every costume piece, undersides of hairpieces, inside every shoe, and every pair of tights. We will provide each student with a large Ziploc bag with his or her name on it with his or her costumes. Please place all the items they need (with the exception of what they need for their first number) in the Ziploc bag. This bag is to be sent in with them on DRESS REHEARSAL and RECITAL DAY only.
  - Make sure your child's shoes appear clean.
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## REQUIRED ITEMS THAT YOU MUST PROVIDE

The additional page included in this folder is highlighted specifically for your child and lists the tights and shoes that they will need for recital. Please review and make sure your child has everything that they need.

- AAD will submit an order for tights. You are welcome to purchase from us, but you are not required to. If you wish to purchase from AAD, please visit our website to order. Deadline to place an order with AAD is May 8<sup>th</sup> at 5pm.
  - If you prefer to purchase tights on your own, you absolutely can do that.
  - We suggest ordering extra in case your child gets a hole or tear in their tights.
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## NON-REQUIRED ITEMS

These items are completely optional. If you are interested in purchasing any of these things, please visit our website.

*You are not required to purchase these items.*

- **ORDER DEADLINE MAY 17 @ 5pm**
  - Recital t-shirts
    - These are commemorative and unique to this recital and have all the student names listed on the back. They are NOT available for purchase after the recital. We do not order extras.
  - Playbill Ads - see information included in this folder
  - Playbill Shout Outs - see information included in this folder
- **RECITAL VIDEOS**
  - \*New this year! Included in your recital fee is a copy of the recital video. These will be emailed to the primary email address on file once we receive copies (typically around mid-August).

**[AlbemarleAcademyofDance.com/Recital](http://AlbemarleAcademyofDance.com/Recital)**

## AUDIENCE & THEATRE ETIQUETTE

Two major aspects of classical dance training are respect and discipline. At AAD we teach our students to respect themselves, their fellow dancers, and their instructors. We expect them to display self-discipline in all areas of their lives. The recital is a great opportunity for the students to display respect and self-discipline. We ask that our audience members do the same.

Please remember to use your theatre etiquette and set a great example for our students:

- Every student has worked equally hard on his or her performance and they deserve the audience's attention and applause.
- Everyone cannot perform in the first half of the recital. The last performance is just as important as the first. Please encourage friends and family to stay for the entire show. It's disappointing for the final groups to perform to a half-full auditorium after intermission. Remember, all students will be on stage for the final curtain call.
- Flash photography, use of cell phones, or other electronic devices, coming in and out of the theatre and crying babies are all distracting to other audience members and the performers. Just don't do it. Please be respectful!
- Please keep in mind handheld electronic games or other devices with sounds and/or lights are a distraction for other audience members and affect stage lighting; they are not allowed.
- Because we present a professional performance, we ask that everyone remain seated during the entire performance. If you do leave the auditorium during the show, you will be allowed back into the auditorium only between dances. This rule is strictly enforced; please do not create a disturbance with the auditorium ushers regarding this policy.
- Children must remain seated for the entire performance. If you think they will have a hard time remaining seated during the performance, please do not bring them to the recital. Allowing children to run around or otherwise disrupt the performance is not fair to other audience members.
- Parents who bring infants to the performance should quickly exit the auditorium if the infant begins to cry or create a distraction for the audience.
- Please do not bring food or drinks into the auditorium.
- No video or photography will be allowed at the recital. You will be asked to stop and may be asked to leave if you do not immediately. Please make sure family and friends are aware of this policy.
- Countless volunteers work backstage to ensure that our students are able to make it to the stage, looking their best. Please remind your child to say, 'Thank You' and to be on their best behavior.

***PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO SHARE THIS INFO. WITH OTHER GUESTS THAT PLAN TO ATTEND RECITAL.***

## **DRESS REHEARSAL PASSES**

Because we do NOT allow any photography or videography on recital day, we sell one ticket per family that allows a parent/guardian to come in and watch their child on dress rehearsal day, Friday, June 12. During this time, you will be allowed to enter the auditorium and can record your child's dance, and take photos of your child on stage.

- Each family may purchase ONE dress rehearsal pass. This pass will allow one person per family to attend dress rehearsal where you will be allowed to video or take photographs.
- No flash photography allowed. No tripods, please, so be prepared to hold your camera.
- Please do NOT bring other children or family members with you. Only those with passes will be allowed in; all others will be asked to leave.
- Keep in mind that dress rehearsal may not have full lights like the day of the show. The AAD staff is usually busy programming the lights during this rehearsal and our screens will most likely not be up and running.
- Please keep in mind that dress rehearsal is just that, A REHEARSAL. There will be mess- ups. Lighting, scene, and costume changes will not be perfect. The purpose is to get the dancers onstage, and in their costumes, and to practice it the way it will be in the show.
- Please remain calm and bring positive energy. Kids love to perform for an audience, so make sure you clap!
- Be early. We will start dress rehearsal early if we are ready and able to.
- DRESS REHEARSAL PASSES GO ON SALE MAY 18
- DRESS REHEARSAL PASSES ARE \$10 EACH – PURCHASE BY THURSDAY, JUNE 11

***These must be purchased in person so that we can mark your family off the list & provide you a wristband.***

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## **RECITAL TICKETS**

Each student receives two complimentary, general admission tickets to each show in which they perform.

Your complimentary tickets will be available for pick up at the ticket office window on recital day.

Tickets are required for ages 2 and up.

All tickets are general admission. Seating at the Agri-Civic Center is first come, first served.

Tickets are \$10 each.

**TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE NOW!**

All ticket sales will be online:

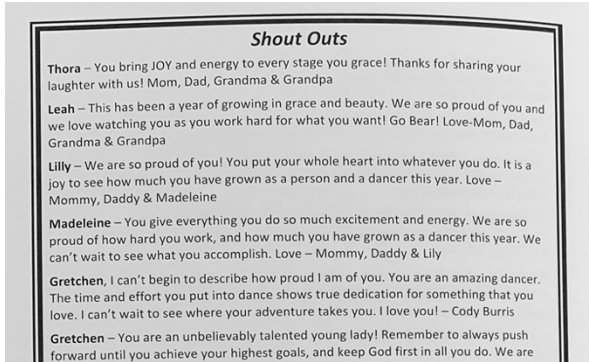
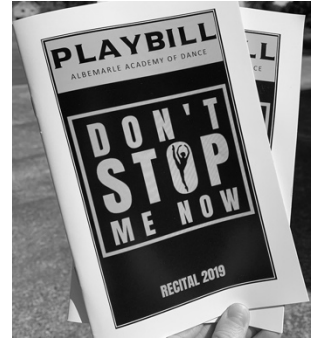
**[albemarleacademyofdance.com/recital](http://albemarleacademyofdance.com/recital)**

## PLAYBILL INFO.

AAD produces a Broadway-style playbill that is unique for each of our recitals. Not only are they informative, they can be a great way to congratulate your dancer, or share your business. Dancers are so excited when they get to see something special just for them in the playbill! It creates a memory that they will cherish forever.

We offer two options for personalized messages in our playbill, an **AD** or a **SHOUT OUT**.

Examples of past playbills are available at the studio.



### PLAYBILL SHOUT OUTS:

A shout out is a short message (50 words or less) of encouragement that is included in a list of shout outs in the playbill. These will be printed exactly as written. Please be sure that there are no grammatical errors or misspelled names/words.

### PLAYBILL ADS:

A playbill ad is either a half page (4 in. x 3.5 in.), or a full page (4 in. x 7 in.).

Within the ad can be photos and any text you wish.

We can design the ad for you, or you can design it and send it to us in PDF format.

If you design your own ad, it will be included EXACTLY as it is sent; even if it is sized incorrectly or pixelated. Please keep this in mind when designing for yourself.



**THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT PLAYBILL ADS, AD MATERIALS, & SHOUT OUTS IS THURSDAY, MAY 17 at 5PM. Submit all ad materials to AADPLAYBILL@GMAIL.COM**

Place your order for an ad or shout out online at [AlbemarleAcademyofdance.com/recital](http://AlbemarleAcademyofdance.com/recital).

ADS ARE VERY LIMITED THIS YEAR; ONCE THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF ADS IS REACHED, WE WILL NOT ACCEPT MORE ORDERS.

# RECITAL ORDERS, IMPORTANT DATES, & DEADLINES

**TO DO** – Purchase tickets online (available now)

- All pre-sale tickets will be sold online. Tickets will be available at the ticket window the day of recital as well.

**DEADLINE – THURSDAY, MAY 17th @ 5PM:**

- Order these online at [albemarleacademyofdance.com/recital](http://albemarleacademyofdance.com/recital)
  - Tights
  - T-Shirts
  - Playbill Ads
  - Playbill Shout Outs

**STARTING – MONDAY, MAY 18TH**

- Purchase dress rehearsal pass (in-person only)

**JUNE 1-4**

- Parent costume pick-up, parent viewing, and awards in each class. Plan to attend all of your child's classes.

**JUNE 7-11**

- Rehearsals at the Stanly County Agri-Civic Center (no classes held at AAD). Check the included schedule for times that are specific to your child.

**JUNE 12**

- Dress rehearsal at the Stanly County Agri-Civic Center.

**JUNE 13**

- Recital at the Stanly County Agri-Civic Center

**Order online: [albemarleacademyofdance.com/recital](http://albemarleacademyofdance.com/recital)**