

Good Morning!

We hope everyone is staying healthy & happy!

With the updated school closures, we wanted to reach out and inform you all that we also plan to follow the issued recommendations and return to in-studio classes late April. We can't wait for the day we can high five, hug and all be together again but in the meantime, we promise to still show up for your children and give them what we can during these unusual circumstances.

What you can expect over the next 5 weeks:

- Weekly (non-recital) video classes from our DMME staff. Many of these classes will be open to ALL students so although you may only be enrolled in Beginner Ballet, for example, you will have access to other dance videos and activities. This will be a great time to take advantage of this opportunity and try new styles!
- Recital choreography. DMME instructors will be sharing additional recital choreography in your portal. *Please note that instructors have been advised to use their discretion if they are almost done with their recital routines and feel it would be more beneficial to advise practicing the majority they already know and potentially finishing when we return to the studio.
- Ongoing activities, challenges and check-ins. At this time, it will be important to regularly check your shared studio files & class files in your parent portal as well as visit our webpage: **dancemoves-me.com/stilldancing**
- ★ Instructors will be adding content continuously over the upcoming weeks, however, they have been asked to ensure that new weekly content be up by Tuesday of each week. *Please bear with them this week as some are still working their day jobs and may need a little grace of an extra day but going forward we have plans to ensure all content up by Tuesdays of each week.
 - Teachers have also allowed us to contact their emails directly with specific questions or if they require "assignments" to be shared with them. If you visit the contact us page in the parent portal, you will see a drop down menu to contact each teacher directly.

Pre-recorded vs live classes? At this time, we feel pre-recorded video content is more beneficial to you and the dancer versus live classes. This way, you can have access to the video whenever is convenient for you. Working from home? This is a great afternoon activity to keep them occupied! Want to get them up and moving before sitting down for school work? Wake them up with a dance video! We think it's important that you can work dance into your schedule right now as you see fit *AND* you will also be able to go back and reference the video again and again! Want to do that stretch video *every* morning? Great, you absolutely can!

We do want to mention that we are currently set up for live classes and are ready to move to a live class structure if necessary. We will look forward to any feedback regarding this as everyone gets acquainted with this (temporary!) class structure. Our teachers may schedule live check-ins with classes in the upcoming weeks and we will notify you well in advance.

We strongly encourage continued participation because it's not only how our dancers can continue to grow, and how they will continue to learn recital material but it's how they can maintain some joy and normalcy. Children have lost so much already in just this short period of time and we promise to do everything we can to bring them wonderful dance experiences at home and still the best show ever! We have an amazing theme with awesome costumes, decorations and plans for a truly memorable and fantastic show! Let's keep our heads up and look forward to the show being a true celebration and that we all made it to the other side of this tough time! Because there *is* the other side! We will get through this and we will be even more appreciative of our outside activities, our social interactions, and of course, our wonderful and amazing dance family. (I REALLY MISS Y'ALL!)

Our plan, as mentioned above, is to return to the studio at the end of April to coincide with the school closures, but if this looks unlikely due to government restrictions, we will address the situation accordingly at that point. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we all face this unprecedented time, however, we want to assure you we have multiple plans of action ready for when we are "released back into the world!"

We have plans for:

- 1 class at a time/no more than 15 in the building
- 1-2 classes at a time/no more than 30 in the building
- potential extended session through June
- additional hand wash station in the lobby (it's a portable hand wash station - so cool!)
- extra & extreme cleaning measures
- and more! We are ready to adapt to ensure safety & wellness but to also get our dancers back into the studio with their dance fam!

We appreciate your continued support and understanding. We are all trudging these new waters as best we can. If you have any questions, absolutely do not hesitate.

As for April Tuition, we will be offering a discount. (More information to come later this week) We know this can be a hard time for some of you financially and we want to work with you and we are also asking that you work with us. Our staff is more than willing to still give their time and talent to your children, even if virtually through a screen. Our beautiful studio space isn't taking a day off, even if we aren't able to visit it. We sincerely appreciate your support and we will make it to the other side - happy, healthy and #stilldancing!

Sincerely,
Michelle & your Dance Moves Maine staff