

# Art In Motion Dance Studio Update May 15, 2020

# Please read our entire update - WE HAVE NEW RECITAL PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

The AIM STAFF misses seeing all of the AIMazing students in person! We are very grateful for the virtual way of learning and the technology we have in this day of living, but we cannot wait to get back to in person classes! It is certain to say that these past weeks have been among some of the most turbulent and emotional that any of us can remember in our lifetimes. The impact of this pandemic has been felt by individuals, families, companies, small businesses, children, and communities around the globe. We do believe it has made us better people, better communicators, and more awake to our need to be connected with one another. We thank our AIM FAMily for being such a strong, supportive, kind, loving group of people during these past two months. You have truly kept us going and given us hope and encouragement through an adversity we couldn't even have made up in our minds before March, 2020.

We are forever thankful for you.

AIM'S PHYSICAL STUDIO WILL REMAIN CLOSED UNTIL PHASE 3 BEGINS, which is set for May 29. At that time, groups of 10 will be allowed. We will be following the safety regulations set by the CDC, state and local government. More info will follow as we are more informed of the dates and details.



### **Art In Motion CLASSES UPDATE**

How Long Will the AIM online training Continue? The current session (January through Recital) is set to go through June 13. Classes will continue via Zoom up until the Recital Showcase video taping (see info below). During Phase 3, we will be allowed to have groups of 10 or less, and we will be evaluating and implementing a plan to allow dancers to take live classes in small groups, for those who are ready to resume that way of learning. We understand that we all have different emotions and opinions and we value everyone's beliefs. Therefore, we will continue zoom classes until the Recital Showcase video taping simultaneously to any classes that may have dancers join the teacher inside of the studio.

Stage 4 will possibly begin late June, so what will the larger classes do in order to maintain choreography and prepare for the recital showcase? Following June 13, we will continue to have a weekly recital run through with the larger classes, up to the day we are able to have their Recital Showcase video taping. This will be a 15 minute recital rehearsal to run through their recital dance & maintain all they have worked on this past season.

What if we don't reach stage 4 by the end of June? As time gives us more details, road maps, and answers, we are hopeful that we will be in Stage 4 by late June. IF by chance we are not, and it looks as if we have to continue with small groups, we will then have the larger classes split into groups to perform and videotape their recital showcase dances. This will take place during the end of June and beginning of July.

#### UPDATED RECITAL PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

Throughout the past weeks we have waited for a clear vision of how to proceed with our Recital Showcase. Time, patience, lots of learning, and many virtual meetings with trusted dance colleagues & friends from across the nation, has enabled us to evolve our performance plans. We are committed to providing an opportunity for our students to showcase their love of dance and their progress & hard work during this season while balancing our commitment to the health and safety of our community. Due to the fact that Phase 4, which includes social gatherings of up to 50 people, will not happen until most likely late June, we will not be able to have a Recital Showcase at The Virginia Theatre. We waited until the last possible moment to let go of that hope. The Virginia Theatre had already been scheduled to be closed the duration of the summer, after our show, for renovations. Therefore, we cannot re-schedule a later recital date in August at The Virginia Theatre. We also feel that the dancers need their Recital Showcase as close to the original date as possible. Up to March 12 (that last Thursday we were all in the studio having our regular way of AIM life), the dancers were excited to be reaching the completion of most of the recital choreography. They were feeling the excitement of Spring Break coming that next week, which opens the door of their next big event - the Recital Showcase at The Virginia Theatre! The feeling students get from even thinking about their recital showcase performance is one that cannot even be explained. It is a time they work for, aim for, long for, dream about, and REMEMBER for the rest of their lives. So, we held on to our original plan until the last possible thread holding together the fabric was just too thin for reality. NOW, we jump onto the next plan with a passion, drive and force that stirs up creativity, planning and excitement - because we HAVE to give these AIM students something they will cherish & remember for as long as they live! The students have showed up these past several weeks on a computer screen, or phone, or ipad & participated in their classes in a brand new way! They have learned recital choreography in a setting we never even knew was possible. They are incredible, extraordinary young people & their ability to do this brings me to tears just writing about it!

They show up - they smile - they laugh - they listen - they communicate through a screen - they dance regardless of who is watching - they dance in whatever space they have available - they tell us funny stories - they randomly share a burst of excitement that they cannot contain - they show us faces of hope – faces of questions – faces of answers. They deserve to have a show. They deserve to have a time of culmination of this year's hard work despite a pandemic that happens once in a century. They deserve to have our minds working tirelessly and continuously and creatively. They deserve for us to AIM higher than we knew we could. & they deserve for the show to go on. With all that being said, Our plan is now to have a Recital Showcase at AIM that will be videotaped and made into a full length recital video. There will not be an audience, as the group limit will not allow for anyone other than the dancers, teachers & videographer. The full length Recital Showcase video will be a time for the AIM families to watch the entire performance. We hope to have a "viewing" at The Virginia Theatre on their big screen as soon as we are allowed to do so (sometime during the fall months). We will have most of the same recital favorites - a finale incorporating all of the dancers, a senior memories showcase, and Miss Natalia has created a Sleeping Beauty Ballet Production with her classes.

To promote social distancing, Art In Motion is offering two options for the Recital Showcase performance.

#### OPTION 1 - RECITAL SHOWCASE PERFORMANCE VIDEO TAPING AT AIM

We have been reviewing all recital classes and developing a plan that will allow our students to perform their recital pieces inside AIM. We will schedule two weeks of 20 minute increments for each class to perform their routine inside AIM, where they will be videotaped. The dancers will perform in their costumes with the hair-styles given by the teachers. Makeup will be optional for the younger dancers. We will mark the dance floors and will arrange space to maintain the 6 foot social distancing requirements. Dancers are welcome to wear a mask while performing. All AIM staff will be wearing masks. We will be asking for limited contact among dancers for the protection of our entire community. The floors and surfaces will be cleaned in between each class performance.

#### **OPTION 2 - VIRTUAL RECITAL SHOWCASE PERFORMANCE VIDEO TAPING**

Students and/or families who are uncomfortable with performing with other students or being in a physical setting can perform their routine with their class from the comfort of their own homes! AIM's Virtual Year End Performance will happen by Zoom simultaneously with the live performance taping.

#### THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION PERTAINS TO BOTH OPTIONS

#### What are the dates & times of the Recital Showcase video performances?

We are aiming for the weeks of June 8-13 & June 15-20 to record the smaller classes at AIM (classes with 8 or less dancers). We hope to have the larger classes record during the week of June 22-27. Additional days for the taping of the larger classes will be during July 1-12. We will begin constructing a schedule for the smaller classes asap, after the Parent Survey responses have been collected (see below).

What do I wear? Your dancer will perform in his/her recital costume. This is for the live recital taping AND the virtual recital taping. IF your dancer's costume has not yet arrived by the time of the recital taping, alternate costume guidelines will be given. Please note that a few of the costume companies were forced to close their doors during the

pandemic and have not been able to fulfill orders. NY and PA are still in lockdown, and any companies in those states are not in the position to give us ship dates. Dancers should wear the style of dance shoes listed on the information sheet that was emailed in March. This is also attached. Hair should be in the style requested by the teacher in the information sheet. Make up is not required for the young dancers (Beginning Dance, Toddler, Dance 1, Everything Dance, etc.), but regular stage makeup is required for all dancers ages 9 & up (dark pink lipstick, mascara, blush, foundation, brown/gold eyeshadow, bronzer).

What shoes & tights do I wear? If you have the shoes & tights listed on the shoes/tights form (attached) that was sent a few weeks ago, please wear those. Otherwise, wear whatever you have that is as similar as possible to what is listed for your dancer's class. You CAN still order items from On Pointe Dancewear if you choose. You can reach them on Facebook at @on pointe dancewear or Instagram at @on.pointe.dancewear.

Will my dancers classes be scheduled on the same day? We will try our best to accommodate our AIM families. We will not be able to allow costume changes inside the studio because of the health & safety regulations. We will know more information as it becomes available. Please help us with the scheduling by answering the questions in the Parent Survey (see below).

#### Who will be doing the video work for the Recital Showcase?

Sam Ambler will be doing the videography & editing for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year. We are excited to have Sam's expertise & he is 100% on board to help us create the most AlMazing video possible for our AlM FAMily!

#### How much will be video cost?

More info will follow on this, as we are still working through the details. Our hope is to have the video – via media file - be no charge or a very low amount. You will have the option to purchase a DVD if you choose.

#### Will recital pictures be taken?

Woods Photography will be taking individual recital pictures on Friday & Saturday, June 12 & 13, provided we will be in phase 3 by those dates. A sign up link will be emailed to you asap. Dancers can sign up for individual time slots to take professional photos in their recital costumes. Each dancer will have a set amount of time. One dancer will wait in the hallway at a time, while all others wait in their cars until notified to enter the building. Order forms from Woods Photography are attached in this email.

#### Will group recital pictures be taken?

With the social distancing set in place, group photos will not be able to happen until the fall months. If there is interest, we will schedule group photos in September or October with Woods Photography. More info will follow as information develops in the weeks ahead.

#### Will we have recital t-shirts this year? YES!

#### When Will The Virtual Recital Showcase Performances Happen?

The Zoom videotaping will happen at the same time as the live taping. The dates & times will be announced asap.

#### Where will my child be dancing to participate, if participating virtually?

Your child can do their recital performance anywhere in your house, garage, yard etc. where your internet connection will allow them to be on a Zoom conference call.

#### Can I invite Family and Friends to Join the Zoom Performance? Yes!

#### The "MIRACLE" recital showcase date!

Because we are hopers, dreamers, and AlMers, we do have a "miracle" Recital Showcase date set for Saturday, July 11 at the iHotel. IF by a miracle, we are in a phase of up to 100 people in a gathering by that date, we will move our Recital Showcase plans to the iHotel! If this becomes a real possibility, then we will quickly gather & deliver all of the information needed.

### **Parent Survey**

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/D2RFYWD

Please let us know which recital showcase option you will choose for your dancer(s).

Please fill out the survey so that we can plan accordingly to adhere to the CDC &
government guidelines. It will help us tremendously to know exactly how many dancers
will be participating in the taping at AIM and how many will be participating from home on
Zoom. Thank you so much!

# How to Reach Us at AIM?

www.aim-dance.com

You can send us an email @ chad-aim@sbcglobal.net (217) 351-9741

Studio Phone Hours During Closure -Monday to Thursday 12:00noon - 8:00pm 4010 Colleen Drive Champaign

Like us on Instagram & Facebook

We love our AIM FAMily and thank you for your Support!

#### STUDIO OPENING UPDATE

AIM'S PHYSICAL STUDIO WILL REMAIN CLOSED UNTIL PHASE 3 BEGINS on May 29. We will know more as information progresses. We hope to be having small classes in conjunction with the Zoom classes when the 10 person limit begins in Phase 3. More info will follow as we are informed of the dates and details.

#### **Art In Motion Dance Studio New Studio Procedures**

New processes will be implemented upon reopening (Exact date TBA)

- 1. AIM will comply with all State, County and Local rules about social distancing and sanitation.
- 2. Students, faculty, staff and families should stay home when they are sick.
  All should stay home until you are free of fever for at least 72 hours without fever reducing medication.
- 3. Students or staff who complain of not feeling well will have their temperature taken and sent home if they have a fever of 100.4°F or above and/or respiratory infection symptoms. Parents need to update their emergency contact information to ensure dancers can be picked up immediately.
- 4. Students who show symptoms will be separated from staff and others until they go home.
- 5. Every student should bring their own labeled water bottle to class. AIM will continue to sell water and other drinks in the lobby.
- 6. Class water breaks will be taken inside each classroom to reduce the number of students in the lobbies.
- 7. Hand sanitizer stations will be available at the entry doors of each lobby AND inside all studios. Students and adults dropping them off should use them as they enter and exit the building.
- 8. We will be restricting the number of non-dancers (parents, siblings etc.) in the lobbies to protect our customers, staff and faculty. Please just drop off your dancer with their dance bag (including all necessary shoes and a water bottle) we will take care of the rest.
- 9. We will be re-engineering dance rooms to create social distance recommended spacing (6 feet between students' dance spaces).
- 10. We will modify classroom activities to minimize very close contact among students and teachers. Sorry but please let your dancers know that hugs, high fives and any physical contact will be prohibited between teachers, assistants, staff and any dancers FOR THE TIME BEING. (HUGS ARE ESSENTIAL & WE CANNOT WAIT UNTIL THAT BECOMES A REALITY AGAIN!)
- 11. Dancers should wash hands before and after class and after sneezing or coughing
- 12. Sneeze or cough only into crook of the arm and then immediately wash hands or use hand sanitizer.
- 13. Faculty and Staff will be wearing protective masks as recommended by the County of Champaign Public Health officials. Students and parents will be asked to comply with all recommendations of public health officials.
- 14. All classroom props & ballet barres have been thoroughly sanitized prior to opening. All furniture and other surfaces have been thoroughly cleaned and sanitized prior to opening. AlM staff and hired cleaning crew will continue to clean and sanitize public areas (lobbies, classrooms and bathrooms) throughout each day.
- 15. AIM processes and procedures will be modified as recommended by County of Champaign Public Health Officials.

# **IMPORTANT DATES**

Monday, May 25 - Memorial Day - No Classes

Mon. June 1 to Sat. June 6 - WE DID IT WEEK!

More details coming soon! This will be a week long celebration to all AIM students, parents & staff!

Week of June 8 – Recital Showcase performance video tapings begin (in studio & virtually)

Friday & Saturday, June 12 & 13 – Recital Showcase Individual Pictures at AIM (a sign up link will be emailed asap)

Week of June 15 – Recital Showcase performance video tapings continue

All classes yet to perform will continue with 15 minute rehearsals weekly

Week of June 22 – Recital Showcase performance video tapings continue

All classes yet to perform will continue with 15 minute rehearsals weekly

Week of June 29 – Recital Showcase performance video tapings continue
All classes yet to perform will continue with 15 minute rehearsals weekly
(IF the comp company has nationals this week, the tapings will be scheduled around those dates)

Week of July 6 – Recital Showcase performance video tapings continue
These will be scheduled in the mornings because summer classes begin this week

July 10 & 11 (Friday & Saturday) – LAST DAYS of any Recital Showcase performance video tapings that still need to take place

July 11 – "MIRACLE" date for the Recital Showcase performance!

AT THE iHOTEL!

#### **ADDITIONAL DATES TO KNOW**

Dance Camps! (9:00am-Noon daily)

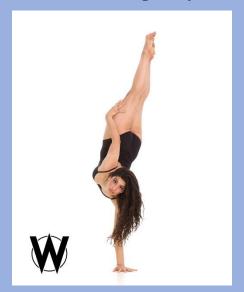
(split into separate small groups)

Monday, June 22 – Jazz/Hip Hop Camp Tuesday, June 23 – Ballet Camp Wednesday, June 24 – Lyrical/Contemporary Camp Thursday, June 25 – Musical Theatre Camp

#### SUMMER CLASS SESSION

July 6 – August 14 Summer registration will be online!

# More info coming very soon!





#### **THANK YOU FAMILIES**

We are forever grateful for your love and support for our family-owned small business during this crazy time. We couldn't do it without you!

When you support a small business, you supported a dream!