

March 1, 2023

Dear Parent(s) and Dancers,

It's hard to believe that the dance recital is two months away! There are many important dates and details to go over prior to this exciting event. Classes will continue as usual, up to and including May 18th. Attendance is very important this time of year to polish the dances. Please encourage your daughter/son to practice their dances. After reading this letter, please feel free to contact us with any questions.

**Dates for Recital #1 (Younger Students)**

<b>Monday, May 22nd</b>	<b>Tuesday, May 23rd</b>
<p>Recital for:  Creative Movement (A, B)  Combo Kids (A, B)  Dance Fusion 1, 2, and 3  Tap 1, 2, and 3  Beginning Acro</p> <p>Titusville High School Auditorium beginning at <b>6:00 PM</b></p> <p>*Please be in costume and in dressing rooms by <b>4:30 PM</b></p>	<p>Recital for:  Creative Movement (A, B)  Combo Kids (A, B)  Dance Fusion 1, 2, and 3  Tap 1, 2, and 3  Beginning Acro</p> <p>Titusville High School Auditorium beginning at <b>6:00 PM</b></p> <p>*Please be in costume and in dressing rooms by <b>5:30 PM</b></p>

**The entire recital including the finale will last approximately 2 1/2 hours. ALL STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO DANCE IN BOTH RECITALS AND STAY FOR THE ENTIRE RECITAL TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FINALE PERFORMANCE.**

**Costumes**

Costumes will be distributed in April. If your family has a balance on your account, you will **not** receive your costumes until it is paid. If you have a question about your balance, please first check the Parent Portal, and then if you have a question, email us. When you receive your costumes, we recommend trying them on at home rather than at the studio where items may get lost or confused with other students'. Remember that these are costumes and may not fit perfectly. Feel free to tack, pin, hem, or do any alterations necessary. Please be very careful with your costumes. Students will only be allowed water and mess-proof snacks (no pop, juice, cheese curls, chocolate, etc.) during pictures and the recital. It is very difficult to clean the costumes and stains will be very noticeable on stage. Put your dancer's name in all costumes and accessories!

**Hair and Make-up**

Hair should be pulled up off your neck, long bangs pulled back, and hair secured to your head (i.e. bun, French braid with the braid rolled under, French twist, etc.). No pony tails unless your teacher has told you otherwise. Make-up will help make your child's face more visible on stage. Make-up should include the following: blush, eye shadow, and lipstick. Foundation, mascara, and eyeliner are optional.

**Recital Venue Tour, Finale Practice, and Question/Answer Session on Sunday May 21st. at 3:00 pm**

There will not be a formal dress rehearsal for the younger students' recital. However, on Sunday May 21st at 3:00 pm we will have an opportunity for parents to bring their student(s) to the recital venue for a tour and question/answer session so that everyone feels more comfortable for the performances. This will be a great opportunity for families new to the studio to see how we run our recitals, ask questions, and find out what to expect on the evenings of the performances. Students will have the opportunity to go on stage, see what it's like under the lights, go back stage, and see your dressing rooms. All students will benefit from attending, as we will be walking each class on stage, showing you where you will stand, etc. as well as practicing our big group finale routine! Do not wear your costume to this "walk-through."

**Class “Walk Through” Monday May 22nd at 4:30 pm**

Prior to the Recital #1 performance on Monday May 22nd, some classes (at the instructors’ discretion) will be taken on stage to check positioning, formations, etc. All students should be in their assigned dressing rooms, dressed and ready to go by 4:30 pm. Walk-throughs will begin promptly at 4:30 and end at 5:30 when the auditorium doors are opened.

**Recital Night Drop-off and Pick-up**

When you arrive for the recital, proceed to your child’s assigned dressing room. Dressing room assignments will be posted in the studio for several weeks leading up to the recital as well as in the hallway next to the auditorium doors. Check in with the parent helpers assigned to your child’s group. Provide them with your auditorium seat location so we can find you in case of an emergency. Dancers are not permitted in the auditorium during the recital. Parents should not come and go from the auditorium during the recital. This is very disruptive to our audience and performers. Designated parent helpers are with all dancers during the recitals. If your child needs you, we will find you; so sit back and enjoy the show! After the finale, all dancers will be taken back to their dressing rooms. Parents should pick up their dancer(s) in their rooms. Please be sure to let the parent helper know you are taking your child and sign them out.

**Parent Helpers**

**Parent helpers are needed for both performances.** These helpers check students in when they arrive, supervise, assist with costumes, entertain students who are waiting to dance, help to line up students prior to their performance, and ensure students are signed out by a parent or guardian. Our helpers are given detailed instructions and are often partnered with another helper, so don’t be afraid to volunteer! Parents who wish to be a helper can sign up at the studio or notify us by phone or email. Helpers do not watch the performance so please do not purchase a ticket on the night you are helping! You will be able to stand along the side of the auditorium and watch the performance of the class you are helping.

**Recital Pictures**

Our Photographer is Uriah Sampson.

**Recital #1 Picture Information**

**Classes included:** Creative Movement A and B, Combo Kids A and B, Dance Fusion 1, Dance Fusion 2, Dance Fusion 3, Tap 1, Tap 2, and Tap 3, and Beginning Acro.

**Picture day:** Sunday afternoon, April 30th (see the schedule that follows for times)

**Location:** The photos will be taken in Dance Room #3, of the studio.

**Costumes:** Dancers should come dressed for their first picture. We suggest the girls wear sweat pants to protect their tights. For dancers in two classes, there will be a changing area set up in dance room #3. **Be sure to bring dance shoes!**

**Hair and Make-up:** Hair and make-up is at the discretion of the parents. Keep in mind though, that hair up and off the dancer’s face is the most appropriate style for a dance picture.

At picture check-in, the dancers will be given suggestions for individual poses for their photos.

**Cannot Come on April 30th?** If you are unable to come that day, your dancer will not be part of the group picture, but you can still get individual photos taken by scheduling with Uriah at 671-9890 or [uriah@uriahssampsonphoto.com](mailto:uriah@uriahssampsonphoto.com).

**Additional Option for Personalized Photo Session and Family Pictures:** If you want a family picture or prefer to do all your pictures in your different costumes at one time, it’s recommended that you make an appointment to go to the Sampson studio, or schedule during an open time while Uriah’s set up at the dance studio (Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup> through Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>). If you go to the photography studio, there will be opportunities for different settings and potentially outdoor pictures. Also, by going to the Sampson studio, you may find it easier to do your hair and make-up. Their phone number is 671-9890. Their email is [uriah@uriahssampsonphoto.com](mailto:uriah@uriahssampsonphoto.com).

**Purchasing Photos:** Jacqui Sampson will be taking orders for the photos that you wish to purchase. For each individual picture that you want, you will have a separate order form. Forms can be downloaded from our website, under the Recital tab. Payment is due when the order is placed. Cash and checks will be accepted. Checks are made payable to “Sampson Photography.” No credit cards!! The date that pictures will be ready for distribution has yet to be decided. Any questions about picture orders should be directed to Uriah at 671-9890 or [uriah@uriahssampsonphoto.com](mailto:uriah@uriahssampsonphoto.com).

**RECITAL #1 PICTURES**  
**Sunday, April 30th**

<b>TIME</b>	<b>INDIVIDUAL</b>	<b>GROUP</b>
12:30	Combo Kids A	Creative Movement A
12:50	Creative Movement A	Combo Kids A
1:10	Tap 1B	Tap 1A
1:30	Tap 1A	Tap 1B
1:50	Dance Fusion 1A	Dance Fusion 1B
2:10	Dance Fusion 1B	Dance Fusion 1A
2:30	Dance Fusion 2A	Dance Fusion 2B
2:50	Dance Fusion 2B	Dance Fusion 2A
3:10	Tap 2A	Tap 2B
3:30	Tap 2B	Tap 2A
3:50	Beginner Acro	
4:10		Beginner Acro
4:30	Tap 3A	Tap 3B
4:50	Tap 3B	Tap 3A
5:10	Dance Fusion 3A	Dance Fusion 3B
5:30	Dance Fusion 3B	Dance Fusion 3A
5:50	Creative Movement B	Combo Kids B
6:10	Combo Kids B	Creative Movement B

**Videos**

Keepsake Video Productions will be videotaping the recital on Tuesday May 23rd. They will be offering a digital download of the show. A digital download is a much higher quality than a DVD and gives more options for playing, archiving, and sharing. And the cost will be \$30, lower than a DVD. We are going to offer the purchase of the download at ticket sales, so that you can pay with credit card or any of the credit you have on your account.

**Tickets**

Ticket sales for the recital will begin **Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup> from 9-1**. All tickets are reserved seats and are sold on a first-come, first-served basis. At the initial sale, each family is limited to 12 tickets total for Monday & Tuesday. Of these 12 tickets, **2** of the tickets are free. Additional tickets are **\$10.00**.

“Dance as if no one were watching”

**No one will be permitted to purchase tickets for multiple families!!** If you cannot come to ticket sales, you may fill out a ticket request form. Requests will be held in the order they are received. **After** ticket sales are over on April 29th, the requests will be filled in the order they were received. Request forms will be available at the studio on April 24th at 4:00.

**Please note, that whether you are first in line on April 29<sup>th</sup>, or do not come at all and have filled out a ticket request form, there are 12 seats available for your family. The last request filled most likely will not have the seats all together, but there will be seats.**

After ticket sales on the 29<sup>th</sup> and after the ticket requests are filled, additional tickets will be available. These tickets will be sold on **Monday, May 1st from 4:30 to 6:30 pm**. Any remaining tickets after May 1<sup>st</sup>. will be sold via email to the studio or at the door on the evening of each performance.

If you need more than your allotted number of tickets, you have several options.

1. Talk with other families who are not going to need all of their allotted tickets. They can give us permission to sell you tickets that they are not going to need. They will tell us that at the sales on April 29th.
2. Come on Monday, May 1st. to see the seats still available and purchase more tickets.
3. Fill out a request form for “additional tickets”. Forms will be available at ticket sales on Saturday the 29th. Requests for additional tickets will be filled after ticket sales are over on Monday, the 1st.

### **Flowers**

McElroy’s Flowers will be selling flowers for your dancers in the lobby before each performance.

I hope that you found this letter informative and that it helped answer many of your questions. The dancers and instructors have put in countless hours to make this year’s recital a success. We can’t wait for you to see their hard work come alive on the stage. Thank you for your cooperation and support during this exciting time for all.

Be sure to review the “Dance Recital Survival Guide” for helpful tips on making recital week an enjoyable experience for your child.

Sincerely,  
Miss Becky

### **“Dance Recital Survival Guide”**

**Parents: please read and review with your child**

- Label all shoes, accessories, dance costumes and/or storage bags, and other personal items with your name
- Keep all items brought to the school in one place (laundry baskets work great!)
- Leave valuables at home! We are not responsible for any lost items.
- Bring non-messy snacks (crackers, pretzels, carrots) and water bottles.
- Bring homework, books, games, coloring books, etc. to stay entertained during recital nights (you will be in an assigned dressing area with other students in your classes)

“Dance as if no one were watching”

- Arrive early! Allow plenty of time to get settled in your assigned dressing area, go to the restroom, put on your costume, etc.
- After arriving, be sure you have all costumes and accessories. Notify someone immediately if you discover something is missing.
- Go to the restroom before putting on your costume. If you need to go again, do not wait. Ask your parent helper if you have time to use the restroom before you are to be on stage.
- Ask for help! You will have an assigned parent helper willing to assist you with putting on costumes, tying shoes, fixing hair, etc.
- Bring extra safety pins, bobby pins, hairspray, etc for last minute fixes (parent helpers will have some too!)
- Listen carefully to your assigned parent helper and teachers for instructions. They will tell you when it is time to line up to go on stage and will show you where to go.
- Before leaving each night, make sure you have all of your belongings
- Before leaving each night, be sure your assigned dressing area is clean
- No matter what: SMILE and have a lot of FUN!!