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NEWSLETTER

April 2009

Dear Dance Alliance Students and Parents,

The Winter/Spring semester is well underway. All the steps that it takes to produce a concert are in motion. The costumes and practice CDs will soon be handed out and the teachers have been busy choreographing. Now to let you know what comes next. *Please read this newsletter carefully as it contains important information.*

SPRING CONCERT: Saturday, May 16th & Sunday, May 17th. We will have two matinees that will feature 3 year olds through 3rd graders. The two evening performances will include 4th graders and up. The matinees will be on Saturday, May 16th at 3:00 and Sunday, May 17th at 1:00. The evening performances will be Saturday, May 16th at 7:00 and Sunday, May 17th at 4:00. **Please see the enclosed shoe, tight, and concert assignment sheet for specific clarification.** This information is also included in the costume books in the lobby of each studio. All dancers will dance in two performances. If your dancer is listed under matinee, he/she dances in both matinees. If your dancer is listed under evening, he/she dances in both evening performances. Be advised that there may be a few instances where dancers will be in both the matinee and evening performances because of the level of classes that are taken. Of course, we try to avoid crossing-over whenever possible. If a dancer is in a class that is a 3rd/4th grade split, the majority determines the level.

CONCERT TICKETS: Tickets are GENERAL ADMISSION. Tickets are \$13.00 each. Pre-sale of tickets will begin as soon as you receive this newsletter. You may immediately send in the enclosed ticket order form and payment. At this time, you may purchase an unlimited number of tickets. The cut off date for mail orders is April 30th. Pre-ordered tickets will be distributed in your dancer's class beginning April 27th. Teachers will have tickets to sell in class beginning April 27th, the three weeks prior to the performance. **There are no exchanges or refunds on tickets.** If buying tickets from teachers, please have exact change or pay by check for the exact amount. We do not want to take precious time during class to try to find change. Tickets will also be available at the door before the performances. We encourage matinee performers to attend the evening performance and vice versa. The dancers have been working so very hard and we want them to be able to share their accomplishments.

CONCERT PROCEDURE: It is important that our dancers and audience members observe appropriate concert etiquette. We are pleased with the steps that have been taken in the past to promote a more pleasant and professional atmosphere and will continue those procedures this year. All dancers will be housed in designated rooms near the stage for dress rehearsal and the duration of both performances. Dancers will be monitored by parent volunteers and Dance Alliance staff. We are doing this for the safety of your dancer, not to be an inconvenience. Amongst the hustle and bustle of the weekend, their safety is of the utmost importance. Dancers can be "reclaimed" at the conclusion of the performances and will at that time be released by their parent volunteers. Please help us to make this very special weekend enjoyable for all. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

PARENTS: You are a very important part of our concert. Without your volunteering, we could not produce a quality performance. Please be thinking about how you can contribute to our concert. For the matinee performance, we need at least one parent chaperone with each class for each concert. We also need a parent chaperone with some of the evening performance classes as well. We will always allow you to be available to view your dancer's performance from backstage. Only official volunteers will be allowed backstage access. It is an easy job and a lot of fun to be part of the backstage excitement. Parents who volunteer in any capacity will receive a \$5 credit toward their dancer's 2009-2010 dance class tuition. Parents interested in volunteering, please fill out the enclosed volunteer sheet and return to the studio by April 25th.

UNPAID ACCOUNTS: Winter/Spring tuition and costume balances were due January 31, 2009. Monthly billings have been sent and when necessary, late fees have been applied. Students with unpaid accounts will not be given costumes nor practice CDs and will not be allowed to participate in the Dance Alliance Spring Concert. All accounts must be paid in full by May 1, 2009. Your prompt attention is appreciated!