

# NEWSLETTER

May 2009

Dear Dance Alliance Students & Parents,

The dance year is swiftly drawing to a close. The concert is going to be terrific and we would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your hard work and support. Preparing for the concert is a most exciting and rewarding time. As we pull the dances and all the elements of the performance experience together, we hope to create a little "magic" in everyone's heart.

Please remember that the matinees will be Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at **3:00pm** and Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at **1:00pm**. The evening performances will be Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at **7:00pm** and Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at **4:00pm** (early evening). All dancers perform in at least two concerts and all performances are at the Saline High School.

**TICKETS:** Everyone must have a ticket to enter the auditorium. The cost of a concert is very expensive and expenses are rising constantly. We rent the auditorium and several dressing/classrooms, pay technical personnel (lighting and sound crew), pay building supervisors and custodians, rent lighting and sound equipment, and pay printing costs. The auditorium and dressing/classroom rental is more than double the cost of the old high school facility. Please help us cover these expenses by encouraging relatives and friends to attend the concerts. Each person who takes a seat will need a ticket, even small children and parents. (Babies in arms are free.) Younger dancers are encouraged to attend the evening performances and vice versa. Teachers now have tickets to sell in class through May 15<sup>th</sup>. Tickets will also be available at the Saline High School box office one hour prior to the start of each performance. When purchasing from the teachers, please have correct change or make your checks payable to Dance Alliance. Credit cards will no longer be accepted. There will not be any refunds or exchanges on tickets purchased. Let's have a full house for all four performances! We have a terrific show. Let's share it with everyone that we know.

**CONCERT PHOTOGRAPHS & VIDEOS:** Jack Durham of *a la carte Images* will be at the high school during dress rehearsal to photograph all interested dancers. Please look for his flyer at the studio and at dress rehearsal. Also, Pask Video Productions will be taping both the Saturday Matinee and Evening Performances. This flyer is enclosed and will also be available at the studio. We are asking that if you want to personally photograph and/or video tape your dancer, please do so during Dress Rehearsal. This way you will not infringe upon someone else during the actual performance. For the safety of the dancers, flash photography is strictly prohibited. Thank you.

**CONCERT ETIQUETTE:** Although this is a student recital, we make every effort to make this a high-quality, first class event for all. Just a few etiquette reminders... We prefer that our audience remains seated until the intermission or the conclusion of the concert. We understand that there may be the occasional emergency, however, this makes the concert more enjoyable for everyone when there isn't the disruption of audience members leaving their seats during the concert. Your dancers are well-attended backstage and will be consistently monitored until the end of the show. In addition to our requests mentioned above, we also request that cell phones and pagers are turned off for the concert and that individuals also refrain from taking pictures from their cell phones. Unfortunately, these indiscretions have been forever captured on our videos in previous years. We appreciate your cooperation!

**VOLUNTEER TO HELP:** Volunteering to help is a rewarding and fun experience. Being with the dancers and seeing what actually happens behind the curtain adds a new dimension to the weekend. Our performances could not happen without our parents helping us. Parents who volunteer will receive a \$5 credit toward their dancer's 2009 Fall dance class tuition. You must be on the official volunteer list to receive this credit. The volunteer sign up sheets have been posted in the lobbies of each studio. Please either add your name to the list or you may call 429-9599 and we will add it for you. **Reminder: Although mom's are allowed in the dressing rooms, only parent volunteers with badges will be allowed backstage. Also, NO men are allowed backstage in the dressing rooms! Our hired staff will be enforcing this policy.**

**VOLUNTEERS' MEETING:** On Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in Studio II of Dance Alliance, we will be hosting a meeting for all of our parent volunteers. Please reserve this date on your calendars. We feel that this informational meeting will help things run smoothly for the rapidly approaching concert. Beverage and dessert will be served.