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## NEWSLETTER LATE AUGUST 2017

Dear Dance Alliance Parents and Students,

We hope that all of you are enjoying your summer and are looking forward to the beginning of the dance season. The Dance Alliance faculty joins us in welcoming all of the new and returning Dance Alliance dancers. Here's to an enjoyable dance experience and a rewarding year!

FALL CLASS SCHEDULE & TUITION STATEMENT: Enclosed you will find your dancer's tuition statement and fall class schedule. Please remit your tuition payment by the September 15, 2017 due date. You may pay by cash, check or Visa/Mastercard. Payments may either be mailed to the studio mailing address (see above) or placed into one of the payment boxes in either studio lobby. Please see the enclosed tuition statement for the current amount due. Classes begin September 5, 2017. If you have registered and know that your dancer is not returning, please call or email to let us know so that we can give your dancer's spot to someone on the waiting list.

**DRESS CODE:** Parents, please remind your dancer that there is a studio dress code. Girls are to wear a leotard and pink tights for ballet classes. Proper dancewear such as leotards, booty shorts, capri pants and jazz pants may be worn for jazz, tap, and other classes. Just be sure that all dancewear is close-fitting and shows the dancer's form and alignment. Proper shoes are also required for all classes, see below. Hair should be properly fastened off of the neck and out of the eyes. A bun works best for ballet and a bun or ponytail is acceptable for all other classes.

DANCE ALLIANCE REQUIRED SHOE LIST: Ballet, Pre-Ballet, Creative Pre-Ballet and Creative Movement - pink (when available, preferably split-sole) leather ballet shoes for girls and black canvas for boys; Jazz and Lyrical - Bloch tan leather slip-on jazz shoes for girls and black for boys (such as Bloch #401 or Bloch #470, leather without laces); Hip Hop - All levels need black and white high or low-top sneakers of the dancer's choice (Int. and Adv. Hip Hop may need specific shoes for performance); Kickline - Beg. and Int. need caramel character shoes with 1 1/2" heel, Adv. needs caramel T-strap character shoes with 2" heel; Modern - no shoes required; Tap - Tap I Beg/Int., Tap I Int/Adv., and Tap II Beg/Int. girls need the black Mary Jane style buckle shoe (no lace-up styles and no shiny patent), girls in Tap III, Int/Adv. need the black lace-up oxford tap shoe, boys all levels will also wear the black lace-up oxford tap shoe; Musical Theater - TBA.

Dancewear and shoes are available at The Dancer's Boutique: 355 S. Zeeb Road, Ste C, Ann Arbor, MI 48103, (734) 973-1178. The Dancer's Boutique has been given the Dance Alliance required shoe list; however, if you are not sure that you have purchased the correct shoes, please check with the Dance Alliance faculty before your dancer wears them. Shoes that have been worn will not be accepted as a return. This shoe list is to ensure that we achieve a uniform and cohesive look onstage; consider it part of the costume. Dancers are allowed to wear shoes from a previous year in class. By the Spring Concert, however, everyone is required to have the proper shoes from the shoe list.

NEW CLASSES THIS SEASON: We are very excited to have added some new class options to our schedule this season: Dance Basics for High Schoolers, Jazz Review and Tap Review. Dance Basics for High Schoolers is geared toward high school individuals that are interested in learning movement basics. The goal of this course is to assist high school individuals that are new to dance movement in developing skills that would be beneficial for high school musicals, show choir and other high school activities that involve types of choreographed movement. Our Jazz Review and Tap Review classes run for 8 weeks, 9/6 - 10/25, and are geared toward helping individuals that are attempting to take a Jazz or Tap class that is slightly above their current technical level. Jazz Review and Tap Review are to be taken in conjunction with a class on the Dance Alliance schedule in the corresponding technique. The Jazz Review and Tap Review are also open to dancers that have consistently been attending classes at Dance Alliance but would like to have structured time to work on certain technical aspects of either discipline.

<u>DARC SUMMER PERFORMANCES:</u> Members of our Dance Alliance Repertory Company (DARC) performed at the Saline Summerfest earlier this month. Their high-energy performance was enjoyed by a very receptive audience. Many thanks to Maria Ternes for her assistance with the event and a heartfelt thank you to the DARC dancers that participated. Your performance was truly impressive!

STUDIO MAINTENANCE: We thank you in advance for your efforts in keeping the studio well maintained. We understand that there will always be unavoidable wear and tear but a little consideration goes a long way in keeping things nice for everyone. Please explain to your children that they should not pick the paint off the walls nor jump on the furniture. Also, parents, please keep an eye on the younger siblings in the lobbies. There has been some studio destruction the last several seasons that could have been avoided with a little supervision. Thank you again for that little extra attention. We truly appreciate it!

<u>PARKING:</u> In the past, there have been some complaints about parking. Please be careful not to block other cars when parking and try to avoid parking in front of other businesses such as Trinity Day Care and the Village Party Store. Also, be sure to avoid making a third row on the south side of the building by the Trinity Day Care. We are aware that the parking lot gets quite busy at times and truly appreciate your cooperation with this matter. Thank you for your consideration.

NUTCRACKER AUDITIONS: Auditions were held for our 20th anniversary production of the Nutcracker on Wednesday, August 23, 2017. Dance Alliance ballet students age 7 and up were encouraged to audition. The performances will be on December 9th and 10th at the Saline High School Auditorium. Be looking for our Nutcracker performance reminder postcard in the mail in late November/early December with concert ticket information. If your dancer is interested in participating in the Nutcracker production but missed the auditions, please call the office immediately at 734.429.9599. We are looking forward to another magical holiday production.

STUDIO OPEN HOUSE: Our studio open house is August 29th and 30th from 5:00pm - 9:00pm. Feel free to come by and visit.

STUDIO INFORMATION: We utilize newsletters (such as this one) to cover necessary studio information throughout the dance season. These newsletter often contain vital studio information so please be sure to read them carefully. For the most up-to-date information, we also utilize social media for additional reminders of upcoming events and studio news. Studio events and class cancellations will be posted on the home page of our website, www.dancealliancesaline.com, and on facebook. "Like" our page and follow us at www.facebook.com/DanceAllianceSaline. When classes are canceled due to weather, we will change the announcement on the studio phone answering machine to additionally announce the cancellation.

## **CALENDAR REMINDERS:**

08/23/17

09/05/17

08/29/17 & 08/30/17

09/15/17	Fall Tuition due
10/31/17	Happy Halloween! Studio closed
11/21/17 - 11/26/17	Thanksgiving Break. Studio closed
12/09/17 - 12/10/17	Nutcracker Dress Rehearsal and Performance weekend
12/18/17	Holiday Break begins. Studio closed
01/08/18	Classes resume
01/15/18	MLK Jr. Day. Studio open, dance classes as usual
01/20/18	End of 1st semester
02/01/18	Tuition due for 2nd semester
03/26/18 - 04/01/18	Spring Break. Studio closed
05/19/18	Matinee Dress Rehearsal, 8:00am
05/19/18	Evening Dress Rehearsal, 10:30am
05/19/18	Dance Alliance Spring Concerts, 3:00pm and 7:00pm
05/20/18	Dance Alliance Spring Concerts, 1:00pm and 4:00pm

Nutcracker Auditions

Classes begin

Studio open house. 5:00pm - 9:00pm

Adam and I hope that everyone has had a superb summer and that you are all able to fully enjoy these final remaining days. We look forward to seeing everyone very soon!

Until then, Slaam & Lisa