

January 2010

Music Recital

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All music students are invited to participate in our music recital held in June. This includes preschool music, piano, voice and guitar. It is optional, but is a nice way for our students to show their families what they have accomplished in the year.

This month, a short questionnaire will be distributed asking who will be participating and approximately how many guests they will have. This information is extremely important to help us plan our venue and length of program. It will also help the instructors plan the pieces for the students. We know your number of guests is just an estimate but we want to be sure we have enough space for everyone to be comfortable.

The date has been tentatively set for Saturday, June 19 but will depend on venue availability. We are planning to hold it at Our Lady College in Algiers once again.

Please return the survey to your music instructor by January 31.

Classes will be held on Monday, January 18 (MLK Day).

Happy Birthday January

Gracie B	Blake L	Jasmin C
Oscha C	Madison D	Zoe D
Emily M	Madison S	Ashlyn H
Sarah S	Dominique D	Aiden M
Sydni W	Alyssa G	Leanna R
	Zoe P	Ashley D

Dance Revue Book Info Meeting

Along with this newsletter, dancers in the revue will have papers containing details for selling ads and putting pictures in our annual dance revue book. The book is a wonderful keepsake for your children & we hope you will all participate. The papers are very detailed & can be very overwhelming. For that reason, and since we have so many new parents, we will hold an informational meeting to review the details. Please come if you have any questions or are unsure of how selling ads work, especially how they can get your free pictures in the book. It is not just for new parents nor for those in the contest. We will discuss the papers plus how picture weekend will be run.

Marrero - Wednesday, January 13 @ 6:45pm

Harvey - Saturday, January 16 @ 10:00am

All Revue Book information (ads & pictures) are due by Wednesday, March 3. Revue Book forms must be turned in during your child's class beginning **Thursday, February 25 - Wednesday, March 3**. If your child is absent from class, March 3 is the last day these ads and pictures are accepted. Hours for March 3 at Harvey are 4-7pm; hours for March 3 at Marrero are 6:30-8pm. No forms are accepted after this date.

Upcoming Dates:

- ✓ Jan 9 - 3rd Revue Payment Due
- ✓ Jan 13 - Marrero Revue Book Info Mtg @6:45pm
- ✓ Jan 16 - Harvey Revue Book Info Mtg @10am
- ✓ Feb 11-17 - Mardi Gras Holidays - no classes

2175 Lapalco Blvd.
Harvey, LA 70058
491-1674

2201 Barataria Blvd.
Marrero, LA 70072
390-2552

We're on the web!
www.CreativeDanceStudio.com

Dance Costumes

We have started receiving costumes and will have all costumes in by the end of February. In some case we embellish costumes, so you might see us trying them on the children before we add rhinestones or trim. Costumes will begin distribution after the third revue payment which is due on 1/09/09. Parents must come into the studio to sign for costumes. At that time you should check for all pieces and let the desk know if something is missing. We have a very small window of time to contact the manufactures for missing items. ONCE YOU LEAVE THE STUDIO, WE ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR MISSING PIECES OR SOILED COSTUMES.

Please try them on as soon as you get home. In most cases we size them larger to allow for growth. If you need minor alterations, we have someone that can do them for you. But please wait until we get closer to pictures to allow for growth.

Also, stage tights are included with your revue fee. Please put these aside and only use them for pictures and the revue. They are part of the costume and we require all students to have matching tights for the stage. The tights may not all be in when we give out costumes but they will be in before pictures.

Read the following FAQs and let us know if you have any questions.

Dance Costume FAQ's

Why are costumes ordered so early?

Most companies do not stock costumes, but make them to our order. This can take 6-12 weeks. We take pictures in March so we must have all costumes received by the end of February.

How do you size the dancers?

In October we measure all students' bust, waist, hips and girth. We add 1-2" for growth, especially for our younger dancers. Each costume company has it's own size chart. We select the size mostly based on girth (body length) since generally fabric does not stretch up & down, but side to side. The next most important measurement is hips. If a student is on the high end of the chart, we will probably size them up. We would rather the costumes be too big than too small.

Do I need to sew?

Most costumes arrive assembled and in many cases, we attach pieces as possible. It is always smart to hand stitch some things in place or double secure straps. For the stage, some pieces should be pinned in place, such as skirts or tutus so they don't move around or fall down.

Are costumes custom made?

No, costumes are made to fit a size pattern, such as a girth of 38-40" (and corresponding bust, hips, and waist measurements). A custom made costume would entail the company making the costumes to each child's measurements. While some companies do this, it's extremely costly and not practical for us.

What if my costume doesn't fit?

Immediately let us take a look. Costumes too small must be exchanged immediately. Costumes too large can be taken in, but remember there's still several months of growing to come. We can temporarily make adjustments for loose costumes for pictures, but usually they are grown into by the show.

How does a size exchange work?

The studio must get a RA # from the costume company. Most companies also charge an exchange fee or restocking fee. Plus shipping must be paid both ways. It can be very expensive. For that reason, we take care in sizing big knowing we can always take in a costume. If it's our fault, we will pay those fees. If it's the company's fault they will pay. If it's just your preference, you will pay. We have never needed a size exchange except for costume company's errors.

How do we care for our costumes?

Never allow your children to play in dance costumes before the show. All costumes should be stored on a hanger in a plastic bag for protection. Hang your tutus upside down to help them fluff. For your convenience, the Studio delivers all costumes on hangers with plastic garment bag coverings. Never iron. Never wash or dry in a machine. Hang them in a steamy bathroom to remove wrinkles.