DANCE with ME by AMBER MARIE

Handbook for Recital

June 1, 2 & 3, 2018
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INTRODUCTION

The opportunity to perform in a recital is an exciting, empowering and confidence-building part of the training process. This is where we love to watch our students learn about the theatre, rehearsals, and teamwork while they enjoy the opportunity to share their skills in a professionally run production. Recitals are a wonderful way for students to showcase the results of their hard work and for family and friends to join in the pride of their achievement. We love giving all students the chance to perform for their family and friends in this supportive and fun environment and encourage even our youngest and newest performers to be involved.

QUICK REFERENCE INFORMATION

Address: 219 East Division, Sparta MI 49345
Studio Phone Number: 616 887-2407
Amber’s Cell Number: 616 890-7039
Edna’s Cell Number: 231 638-7460
Email Address: dancewithmebyambermarie@gmail.com
Website: dancewithmebyambermarie.com

RECITAL INFORMATION

Address: Sparta High School Auditorium
475 West Spartan Drive
Sparta MI
Recital Dates: Friday, June 1, 6:00 pm
Saturday, June 2, 10:00 am, 2:00 pm, 6:00 pm
Sunday, June 3, 2:00 pm
GENERAL INFORMATION

Attendance
It is vital that students do not miss any of their scheduled classes. If your child is sick or absent from class for any reason, please be sure to let us know. It is very important for each student to attend all classes so they can learn the steps and their places in their routines. They need to spend their practice time together with their classmates working on their routines so they can feel confident and look amazing at the recital!

Accounts
Please note that, unfortunately, any families with unpaid tuition or costume fees will be unable to participate in our recital.

Costumes
To keep costs at a minimum, we have set a flat rate of $60 for each costume - unless a higher priced costume has been agreed on. We require one costume for each class, i.e. a tap/ballet combo class would have one costume. Special circumstances may necessitate purchasing more than one costume, but that information will be given to parents before any costume is ordered.

Costumes must be paid for in full before the end of October. One pair of tights must be purchased with the costume at cost of $10. **There are no “extra” costumes or tights, so be sure to keep yours safe.**
PICTURE DAYS

We are very excited to have our fabulous Ms. Nikki from Nikole’s Photography taking our class and individual pictures here at the studio. There is a scheduled time for EACH class to have their pictures taken.

Photo day for ALL Hairspray! cast members will be Wednesday, January 17. This time is reserved for Hairspray! cast members ONLY. There are no retake picture days!

Photo day for individual classes will be on their class days - Wednesday, March 21, Thursday, March 22, Monday, March 26 and Tuesday, March 27.

Out of respect for our photographer, we are asking that parents DO NOT take cell phone pictures during the picture process.

Ms. Nikki will have CDs available for purchase. This year the prices are a little different. Because of the amount of pictures involved, if your student has 1 or 2 classes, a CD is $25. If you have another child dancing in 1 or 2 classes, the additional CD is $15. If your student is dancing in 3 or more classes, a CD is $40, and additional family dancing in 3 or more classes CDs are $20. Payment is required the day of pictures and you will receive the CD as soon as she can get it completed. You then have the capability of printing whatever pictures you want.

Please be aware that there are NO RETAKE DATES. Unfortunately, if your child is unable to attend their Picture Day, they will need to wait until next year for their next opportunity.
TICKETS

Ticket Sales Start Monday, April 16, **ON LINE**.

If you do not have access to a computer, one will be available at the studio for you to order your tickets, but **YOU** will need to follow the easy step-by-step instructions to do so, and the upcharge will automatically be added.

**ALL SEATS ARE RESERVED.** This means you will be able to print a numbered ticket that indicates what seat you will have at that recital performance. You need to have a ticket for **EVERY** performance you attend. If you do not wish to enjoy multiple performances, you may drop your child off at the Sign-In Table (discussed later in this booklet) and pick her/him up after the entire performance, or you may volunteer to work backstage.

To ensure our dancers get to perform and show off their hard work to a full audience, we have kept ticket prices **VERY REASONABLE**. Adult tickets are $8 and children’s ticket (ages 3 - 18) are $6 - **plus** a small upcharge for ordering online.

If you decide to wait and purchase tickets at the door, the prices increase to $10 for adults and $8 for children. Tickets will be **STILL BE PURCHASED ONLINE** - **and the upcharge will be added**. However, you will not receive a ticket—just a seat number. We cannot guarantee that large parties will be able to sit together if tickets are not purchased in advance.

We do not charge for children under 2 that will be sitting on a lap. We do ask that you consider our dancers and other audience members when bringing young children to watch. If they become loud, distressed or disturb any other audience members, please take them outside to the entrance area to let off steam and then return to enjoy the rest of the show.
REHEARSALS

Here are Dance with Me by Amber Marie, dress and technical rehearsals are a SUPER important part of preparing for our recitals. This is where we get to see the costumes working on stage in a group to really compliment the dances your children have been working so hard on throughout the year. It gives us a chance to make any adjustments and ensure that everyone has time to get ready between their dances.

Even more importantly, it gives the stars of our show a chance to get up and rehearse on the big stage - a very different environment than they are used to within the studio walls! They can overcome some of the jitters that may hit when the bright lights come on and really prepare themselves for the show ahead.

Dress Rehearsals

Classes

Dress rehearsals for classes will be held at the Sparta High School Auditorium, 475 West Spartan Drive, on Tuesday, May 29, and Wednesday, May 30. Specific times will be published for each class closer to the actual dates. Parents are to accompany their students to the backstage band room, where they will wait with their child until their time to go onstage. Parents are responsible for their children - not the staff of DWM. NO PARENTS ARE TO GO INTO THE AUDITORIUM TO WATCH. They are to stay with their students until their class practice is over and then they are free to leave. Please be sure to come with your costume and make up on, hair done, and proper dance shoes. Make up is very important as stage lights will really wash out dancers!! If you miss your child’s stage time, there is no other rehearsal time for them. They will just have to go to recital without the practice.
Hairspray! Rehearsals

This year we will have a full day rehearsal at Sparta High School Auditorium on Saturday, May 12, from 9 - 3. **ALL CAST MEMBERS NEED TO BE THERE!**

There will also be a rehearsal at the Sparta High School Auditorium on Wednesday, May 16, from 5 - 9. **ALL CAST MEMBERS NEED TO BE THERE!!**

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**VOLUNTEERS**

**WE LOVE OUR VOLUNTEERS!!!** In order for our rehearsals and recital performances to run smoothly, we **NEED VOLUNTEERS!** We have volunteers that assist backstage keeping groups together, helping to change shoes, helping students change costumes, getting groups to the stage on time, and a multitude of other things!! This is an alternative to watching a performance. However, you need to know, when you are working backstage you may or may not be able to see your child dance. That is why we give you the choice of watching one performance and working a different performance.

Starting in April, we will have a Volunteer List at the reception desk where you can sign up for whatever time you have available. If you just want to do one performance - great! If you want to help at more than one performance - FANTASTIC!!

We could also use volunteers during our rehearsal times, however, remember that you would still be responsible for your student during that time as well.
RECITAL

Recital Times and Location

Our recitals will be held at the Sparta High School Auditorium, 475 West Spartan Drive, Sparta. You will be informed before April which performances your student will be dancing. Students need to arrive 30 minutes before their scheduled recital, with their costume(s) - including tights, hair done, make-up, and proper shoes for each dance. Items they need to bring - rather than wear - can be brought in a clothes basket WITH THEIR NAME ON IT. Proper shoes are: PINK ballet slippers, BLACK tap shoes, and BLACK jazz shoes.

Drop Off Procedures

As always, the safety of our dance family is our #1 priority. If your student is under 10, you need to sign them in at the double doors off the entrance hallway at the school. The person who signs them in MUST be the person who signs the child out at the END of the recital. If your child is over 10, they can go through the double doors to the back - alone. ONLY VOLUNTEERS AND STAFF MEMBERS can go to the back stage area. We will have volunteers at the double doors to help your child get to the appropriate place and to assist them if they have anything to carry. NO student is to leave the backstage area during the recital performances!

Tickets

Parents may enter the auditorium 15 minutes before the beginning of the recital. ALL SEATS ARE RESERVED! Those with tickets may enter the auditorium as soon as the doors open. (Procedure to purchase tickets on page 6.)
**Videos and Flowers**

This year, as in the past, there will be individuals offering you the opportunity to purchase videos and/or flowers. These are parents of dancers that are doing this, and NOT staff members.

**Recital Program**

We are having five performances of our recital this year - one at 6:00 pm on Friday, June 1, three - 10:00 am, 2:00 pm, and 6:00 pm on Saturday, June 2, and one at 2:00 pm on Sunday, June 3. Each student will participate in at least two of the five performances. (Actual performance times will be published before April.) We **attempt** to have multiple family members dance in the same show - **HOWEVER**, as you can imagine, with over 200 students, this is a monumental endeavor!!! Therefore, we cannot guarantee that every dance your child is performing will be in the same recital performance that a different family member will be in. Please do not ask us to change our program.

**During the Programs**

Please feel free to video tape, take pictures, clap, and just enjoy each and every performance that you attend. Our students have worked for an entire year to show you their very best, and feedback from the audience is our way to show our appreciation for their hard work and talent!!

Please remember, explicit language, inappropriate attire, offensive clothing and criminal behavior will not be tolerated. Consuming alcohol and smoking are **not** permitted.