

RECITAL GUIDE



Dear Parents & Students,

For the past 15 years, Spiral Dance has provided students with an exciting opportunity through its June recital. It's a rite of passage for youngsters, a chance to shine in front of family and friends.

The recital offers our students a professionally directed performance that allows them to present to their families and friends the results of a year's hard work, dedication, and progress.

A big part of the dance training process includes learning through performance. This experience helps to build self-esteem, self-assurance, and contributes to a sense of confidence. Performance opportunities can help prepare some students for a possible career in dance, and also contribute to children's success in non-dance activities. The onstage experience can result in better in-school presentations, improved social skills, and strong interview skills for future college or job opportunities. The rehearsal process is a tremendous learning experience as well. It helps children develop memory retention skills, as well as an opportunity to learn the positive aspects of working as a team.

Commitment to the recital process is a team collaboration. We've created this pamphlet in an effort to clarify what we

expect from you and your child. If you have any questions after reading through this pamphlet, please do not hesitate to call us @ 604-541-2800 or email admin@spiraldance.ca



Recital Updates

As of May 1, 2008 the Picture, Dress Rehearsal, and Show schedules will be posted on the office wall and the Spiral Dance website. Make it a priority to fill out this information on your Lifeline to Year End Recital form, which will be sent home that week. It is our goal to make the recital experience organized and exciting for all involved. It's a team effort; students, their parents, the teachers, and the director are all key players in the success of the show.

Home Study

To ensure that the students feel confident about their performance, we ask parents and guardians to encourage them to rehearse their recital choreography on a regular basis. A copy of your child's dance music is available from the teacher if the student brings them a blank CD or Tape.

Costumes

We spend many hours determining the correct costumes for each class. They are always age-appropriate and of the highest quality possible and included are all accessories (hats, gloves, etc.)

- **Alterations**—Although rarely needed, any alterations will be the sole responsibility of the student/parent after costumes have been distributed. Please contact Spiral Dance for recommended dressmakers.
- **Distribution**—Costumes will be distributed when all outstanding balances for the season are paid in full. To ensure that there are no costume problems, students should not wear their costumes, accessories, or tights prior to the photo session, dress rehearsal, or performance.
- **Costume Expense**—The estimated cost of costumes is \$65 for child sizes and \$75 for adult sizes. Accessories, such as headpieces or gloves, are included in the cost of the costume. Tights and shoes are not included.
- **Costume Care**—We recommend that your child's name be placed on all costumes, shoes, accessories, and tights. Place costumes in a garment bag with your child's name on the outside. Pack accessories in a clear plastic bag marked with your child's name. Hats should be stored in a hatbox or similar container to prevent damage. Press all cotton fabric costumes prior to the dress rehearsal and the performance. **Caution:** many dance costumes are made from nylon materials, to get wrinkles out, place in dryer on low setting. Please do not put

- your costumes in the washing machine; if you wish you may dry clean them after the recital.
- **Tights**—to ensure that there are no discrepancies in colour and style; students are required to have the correct colour of tights as prescribed by their teacher. *All Ballet #'s will need Mondor Classic Pink tights. All Jazz #'s with skirts will need Mondor Suntan or Black Footed Tights (Style #310).* Tights are available from dance wear stores. Please purchase new tights for the recital, and do not wear or wash them before the dress rehearsal or performance. (Note: Having a second pair of tights offers students and parents a great sense of security.)

Hair & Make-Up

All female students are required to wear make-up for the recital: red lipstick, blush, eye shadow, and mascara. For the boys, a little blush works well.

Uniform hairstyles are required. Each class will have a specific hairstyle prescribed by the teacher.

Pre-Planning

The recital is not just a one-day activity. Gather all costumes, accessories, shoes, and make-up several days in advance so you'll know if something is missing or is not right. Make a checklist of your child's routines, listing their costume, tights, shoes, and any accessories, and refer to it to make sure you have all your supplies before going to the theatre. Bring extra hair gel, hair nets, bobby pins, and hairspray. Other handy extras include:

- **Baby wipes/Shout wipes** (to fix makeup mistakes or wash hands)
- **Baby powder** (for itchy costumes)
- **Safety pins** (for emergency costume repairs)
- **Clear nail polish** (to repair minor holes or runs in tights)
- **Band-Aids** (the "invisible" kind)



Rehearsal

The dress rehearsal allows the students to become familiar with the auditorium surroundings and feel comfortable with their performance, costume(s), and being onstage. Lighting, music cues, and all other logistics for an organized and professional performance are rehearsed so that the students make the best impression possible. **Participation in the dress rehearsal is MANDATORY. There are no exceptions!**

We run an organized and timely dress rehearsal; your help with the process will guarantee a professional production. Please arrive at least 20 minutes prior to your call time. Students may arrive in their first performance costume or may change in the dressing room.

- *Finale*– Please ask teacher for Finale procedure.
- *Dressing-room etiquette*–Students must respect other students' space and property in the dressing rooms. The students will spend more time in the dressing rooms than onstage, so please do your best to keep them organized and clean.
- *Dress-rehearsal guests*–One parent or guardian may accompany each student to the dress rehearsal. Please, no siblings!
- *Dress-rehearsal drop-off and pickup*–Parents or guardians should bring students to their dressing rooms, where they will be checked in and placed under supervision of their class mom(s) or teacher. Parents or guardians must remain in the auditorium until their children have been dismissed. When a class has completed its performance, the class mom will bring the group out to the hall outside the auditorium to be picked up. Parents are not allowed in the dressing rooms after the children have been checked in for the rehearsal.
- *Video and photography*–Parents and guardians may videotape their children at the dress rehearsal. We ask that you do not use flash photography as it can be dangerous for the dancers. Due to the large number of cameras, no electrical outlets will be available, so be sure your batteries are fully charged.

This year for the first time we will have a professional photographer at dress rehearsal and recital! Prints will be available for purchase in the lobby after your child's rehearsal. *Please note: No video cameras or flash photography will



be allowed in the auditorium at the recital.

Auditorium Rules

No eating, drinking, or smoking is allowed in the auditorium. Dancers will remain in the dressing rooms with their class moms during dress rehearsal and the recital when they are not onstage.

Backstage

Family members and friends do not belong backstage or in the dressing rooms during rehearsals or the recital. The same applies during intermission and after the show. There is a lot of backstage activity in a limited space, and dressing rooms are a private area. Please remind your family and guests to be respectful of these areas. Those who wish to greet a performer after the show or present flowers should do so in the lobby.

Recital Volunteer Information

Anyone interested in volunteering to help backstage is welcome. There will be an orientation for all volunteers, and all must abide by the policies set forth by Spiral Dance. The recital week is a hectic experience; all volunteers must work in a cooperative manner at all times. Our backstage managers' work very hard to put a system in place that works; we ask that all volunteers rely on their experience and follow their instructions. All volunteers will receive an identification badge at the dress rehearsal, which must be worn in the theatre at all times. Please do not bring guests, including children, while you are volunteering.

- *Class moms (for classes 7 years and under)*–Class mothers are needed for each class to supervise the dancers. They do not need a recital ticket and will be able to watch their children perform from backstage. Class moms must ensure that each child in her care is safe and accounted for. They are responsible for making sure that each child is in the proper costume, has the proper accessories and shoes, and is backstage at the appropriate time. They are also responsible for seeing that all the children return to their appointed dressing room after their performance. It's great to have volunteers for both the dress rehearsal and the show. During their class' performances, room mothers leave the students at the stage door with their teacher and watch the dance from back stage. Only dancers and assistants will be allowed in the wings.

Recital Photos

Class photos will be taken at Spiral Dance. Please confirm your child's time on the updated schedule posted in the studio. **All students are required to be present for their class picture. There are no exceptions.** After the group photo shoot, students head upstairs to have solo portraits. **There no obligation to purchase photos.** Please arrive at least 20 minutes before your child's scheduled time, since photo shoots tend to run ahead of schedule.

Props

All props are the property of Spiral Dance and are to be returned to the backstage prop master after the performance. Props include such items as canes, parasols, beach balls, etc.

Recital Tickets

Tickets for the Year End Show are sold through the Bell Center for TI Performing Arts box office; they can be ordered over the phone at (607) 507-6355 or in person. (Take a look at the seating chart and other information online at www.bellperformingartscentre.com.) Adult tickets are \$15 each; students and seniors are \$12 each. The first day of ticket sales is Tuesday June 3, 2008

PICTURE DAY:

SUNDAY MAY 25, 2008 (10:00 – 4:30)

DRESS REHEARSAL:

FRIDAY JUNE 6, 2008 (2:30-10:00)

SHOW DATES: JUNE 17, 18, 19 7 pm

(Please arrive no later than 6 pm to theatre on show days)

