



Holly Hughes Dance Academy Inc.

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Winter/Spring Newsletter 2020

Thought for the Month

Open your eyes, pay attention & live each day to the fullest

Upcoming Holidays

March Break

The studio will be closed Monday March 16 to Sunday March 22, 2020.

Easter

The studio will be open on Saturday April 11 over the Easter weekend. The studio is closed on Friday April 10 and Monday April 13, 2020.

May Long Weekend

The studio will be closed on Monday May 18, 2020.

Winter Footwear

Parents and dancers; please continue to remove all outdoor shoes and place them neatly on the mats before passing through the waiting room area. This is to help protect all dance shoes! Dancers, please neatly put your outdoor shoes against the wall on the boot trays to help keep the pathway clear. Coats can be hung up on the coat rack or put in a locker. Thank you for your continued help during the winter season.



Inclement Weather

In the event of predicted bad winter weather and the studio is required to close an announcement will be on Magic 106.1 cancellation listings as well as on the studio answering machine, Instagram and Facebook.

Accounts & Secretary Hours

Parents should note that accounts outstanding for lesson fees, private lessons or any other billed statement must be paid before **Saturday April 25, 2020**. This is also the last day that the office will accept cheques as a form of payment for the balance of the year.

Costumes will be held in the office until your account is paid in full.

Please remember that lesson payments must be paid by the 1st of each month. Accounts not paid by the end of the month will incur a 15% service charge as stated in the Registration Newsletter.

Automatic Payments (credit card & direct payment)

Please ensure your account is set up for automatic payments through your Visa or Master Card, direct payments through your bank account or via post-dated cheques.

Competitive Dance Program

Please come support our comp teams over our 4 competitions this spring! We will be competing February 29 & March 1 in Niagara Falls, March 5 & 6 in Guelph, March 26-28 in Niagara Falls & April 2-5 in Vaughan. Schedules will be available on the studio Instagram/Facebook page prior to each competition. We would LOVE to see our dance family cheering our dancers on!

Auditions for our 2020/2021 comp teams will be on Saturday April 18th for dancers age 6-17. More information will be available after March Break.

Dancers interested should begin to prepare a 60 second solo piece of their own choreography and let your teacher know you are interested! We encourage anyone interested in being part of one of our competitive teams to audition at this time as there will not be any later audition dates.

Summer Camp – July 2020

Our summer dance camp will be running July 6-10, 2020 for children aged 4-11 from 9am-4pm! Register and pay before April 1st and receive a 5% discount. Non-dancers are welcome and encouraged to register! Please see our dance camp flyer for more information.

Summer Conditioning Classes

Conditioning classes are one of the most beneficial forms of dance training to improve your overall technique, style and flexibility. These classes will run on Wednesday and Thursday evenings the weeks of August 5/6, 12/13 & 26/27. Any dancer aged 6 to 20 are welcome to attend any number of these classes.

It is mandatory for competitive dancers to attend a minimum of 2 of these classes before returning to comp & rec classes in September.

2020 Dance Registration

Pre-registration for fall 2020 classes can be done at anytime by leaving your name and phone number with an office secretary. Early June registration will take place at the studio on Wednesday June 10 & Thursday June 11 from 6-8pm and on Saturday June 13 from 9-11am. A 5% discount will be available in June for accounts paid in full.

August registration dates will follow.

36th Annual Dance Recital



Costumes

Costumes will be handed out in the beginning of May. Your costume will not be given out unless your account is paid in full. Information on costume credits or balances will be given prior to handout week.

Tickets

All tickets (reserved seating) - \$30.00 (inc. HST & River Run Box Office fees).

Tickets for our 36th Annual Dance Recital will go on sale on **Friday May 1, 2020** beginning at **11am** in person, online or over the phone. Sales will be brisk for the first 30-45 minutes of the sale – please expect wait times. All tickets will be sold on a first-come first-serve basis. Over the past few years there have been many unsold tickets still available for each performance and therefore we do not predict any sell-out shows (ie: we do not see a chance that parents will be unable to get tickets). For best seating selection please get your tickets early.

Everyone entering the theatre must have a ticket. Children under 1 may sit on their parents lap without a ticket, however please be mindful of others watching the recital if they begin to fuss. Dancers who are only dancing in one-half of the recital and wish to sit in the audience for the half they are not dancing in must have a ticket.

Regular River Run Box Office hours are Monday – Saturday, 11am-6pm. The Box Office can be contacted at 519-763-3000 or online at www.riverrun.ca

*Tips for online buyers: Get ready before tickets go on sale. Make sure your User ID and Password are working. Go to riverrun.ca/boxoffice and **Login** to your existing customer account, or **Signup** to create a new one. **CHECK THE SHOPPING CART CAREFULLY.** If two buyers select the same seats at the same time, the seats will only make it to one shopping cart - this can come down to a fraction of a second! If your seats don't make it to your shopping cart, return to the floor plan and try again. More online tips direct from the River Run will be posted on the office window prior to ticket sales.*

Dress Rehearsal

Every student must participate in a dress rehearsal at the River Run Centre on Monday June 1, Tuesday June 2 & Wednesday June 3, 2020. Your dancer will be expected to participate in 1, 2 or 3 of these rehearsals depending on what routine they are dancing in. Every dancer, regardless of age, is expected to be in full costume, hair and make-up for each dress rehearsal.

Parents; your child is your responsibility during rehearsal.

Each year we are only able to conduct open dress rehearsals if the following rules conditions are followed by parents and dancers of all ages:

- One (1) parent/guardian per dancer is allowed in the auditorium to video or photograph during rehearsal. Absolutely no non-dancing siblings, friends or extra family members will be admitted.
- No food or drink is allowed in the auditorium & sit only in areas permitted by the River Run.
- Be respectful of those videotaping with the volume of your voices and cheers
- Respect River Run staff and volunteers as well as studio volunteers. Bullying, rudeness or bad behaviour by dancers or parents will not be tolerated and you will be asked to leave the premises.

Recital

We always try to arrange our recital program to accommodate as many families as possible. Your child will be informed in mid-late April 2020 for which day(s) they will perform and of their rehearsal days & time. All students performing in the Thursday June 4 and Friday June 5 recitals are required to meet at the River Run Centre between 6:45pm and 7:00pm, as these shows commence at 7:30pm sharp. All students performing in the Saturday June 6 recital are required to meet at the River Run between 12:45pm and 1:00pm, as this show commences at 1:30pm sharp. All dancers should arrive at the River Run with their hair and make-up completely done. Younger dancers should arrive with their costume on with a large t-shirt or night-coat covering it.

Backstage during Recital

During each recital, only dancers and parent volunteers are permitted in the backstage & dressing room areas. For children aged 10 and under, parents must sign in their dancer(s) at the backstage door at which point one of our volunteers will take them backstage. **You may pick up your dancer at intermission or at the end of the show only.** The backstage doors will be locked other than these times and only opened for emergencies. Please do not leave your seat during the performance as a courtesy to the other audience members as well as our dancers on stage. Any dancer regardless of age, who chooses to leave the backstage area during intermission, will not be permitted to come backstage again and therefore will forfeit the right to dance in the second half of the show.

A specific newsletter with more details on Rehearsal and Recital procedures, rules and information will follow.

In conclusion, with your support and continued cooperation I look forward to our 36th Annual Dance Recital with high hopes of another excellent performance!

Holly Hughes