



## Spring Performance Information Packet

**Saturday, May 21 at 2 pm & 4 pm**

**Sunday, May 22 at 12 pm & 2 pm**

**Show information for your family is listed below.**

- **THIS PACKET has information necessary ONLY for those dancers performing in Show 3, 4, 6 and 7.** If you have another child performing in the other performances, please refer to the BLUE performance packet.
- This packet includes everything you need to know about preparing for our Spring Performance! There's information inside about Tickets, Costumes, Rehearsals, Videos, Pictures, Hair and Make-up, etc.
- Watch for our video series emails as we approach our spring performances that will help make sure you have a great recital season!

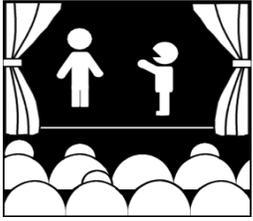
Show Information for your Family:

# The purpose of the Spring Performance:



- As performance time draws near and things get hectic, it is helpful to remember why we go through all of this every year; in order to give our dancers the opportunity to perform. Dance is a performing art and no dance education can truly be complete without the performance experience.
- In addition to reasons associated with dance training, performing is an unforgettable experience regardless of the performer's age. Your children will remember their performances vividly and proudly for the rest of their lives.
- The performance allows every child to feel special and to be a star in the eyes of parents, siblings, grandparents, friends and most importantly, themselves. It can be reassuring to remember these points when you are racing home from work in rush hour traffic to get your dancer to dress rehearsal on time.

## About our Performance Space:



We are pleased to announce that this year's performance will once again be held at Madison College's Norman Mitby Theater.

The Mitby has a large stage with an excellent dance surface, roomy and clean dressing areas, plenty of parking, and a large auditorium.

The Mitby is located at Madison College (Truax campus). The address is 1701 Wright Street in Madison.

## What will happen if we can't make a rehearsal?

Attending each of these rehearsals is extremely important. Missing a rehearsal can make a dancer feel less confident and become more nervous. In order to make sure your dancer doesn't miss anything and feels as confident as possible come performance time, please make sure they can attend all rehearsals.

If something comes up and you absolutely must miss one, notify the desk so they can tell your dancer's teacher.

## What will happen at each rehearsal?

Each rehearsal has different goals, all leading up to our ultimate goal—a smooth, polished, fun performance. It is important that dancers be prepared to stay for the entire rehearsal for the show(s) they are in just in case we need to run a dance again.

**\*\*Never leave until your show has been dismissed.\*\***

All rehearsals will be busy events. It is wise to prepare a young dancer for the larger number of people and to help them find the rehearsal room or backstage entrance. Let them know that although their teacher will be busy rehearsing other classes, the other teachers are there to help. Your positive attitude will rub off on your child and make the whole experience even better for him or her.

# Costume Distribution

If the costume companies cooperate with us, we will distribute costumes IN CLASS during the week of April 25<sup>th</sup>. Teachers will try on the costumes with the kids to ensure a good fit and then send them home that week.

If your account is current, you will be given your costume to take home at this time. Keep them in a safe place (we could tell stories...)

## Goals & Format of Each Rehearsal:

### Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>

*Where: A Step Above Dance Academy*

*Attire: regular dance clothing*

Show 3	9:00 – 10:00 am
Show 4	10:00 – 11:00 am
Show 6	11:00 – Noon
Show 7	Noon – 1:00 pm

### Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup>

*Where: A Step Above Dance Academy*

*Attire: Full costume, hair & make up*

Show 3	5:00-6:00 pm
Show 4	6:00-7:00 pm
Show 6	7:00-8:00 pm
Show 7	8:00-9:00 pm

### Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup>

*Where: Norman Mitby Theater*

*Attire: Full costume, hair & make up*

Show 3	5:00-6:00 pm
Show 4	6:00-7:00 pm
Show 6	7:00-8:00 pm
Show 7	8:00-9:00 pm

### Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>

*Where: Norman Mitby Theater*

*Attire: Full costume, hair & make up*

Show 3	Arrive at 1:15 pm
Show 4	Arrive at 3:15 pm

### Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>

*Where: Norman Mitby Theater*

*Attire: Full costume, hair & make up*

Show 6	Arrive at 11:15 am
Show 7	Arrive at 1:15 pm

Picture Day! Dancers need to arrive at the studio in costume (including the correct tights and accessories), with hair and make-up done.

The proofs of your dancer's photos will then be sent to you via email by the photographer and you may choose to order enlargements. Class photos are hung in our hallway "gallery" so they may be seen in years to come.

Picture taking often takes longer than the rehearsal does, and the line occasionally gets backed up. We will do everything possible to get the dancers finished on time, but please be patient if the photographers should fall behind.

Any questions you may have regarding your photo should be addressed to

Theater Dress Rehearsal! Dancers arrive at the theater in full costume, hair and make-up so that any problems can be addressed. Dancers should find their dressing rooms and be ready to go at least 10 minutes before the scheduled show time.

We will run through each show twice—please do not leave until your show has been dismissed.

**In order for our actual performance to run smoothly, it is important for our parent backstage volunteers to participate in this rehearsal. This is also their dress rehearsal! Please meet backstage.**

Spring Performance time! Dancers should arrive at the backstage entrance and check in. Only parent volunteers will be allowed backstage.

Dancers should arrive in full costume with hair and makeup done.

Dancers will stay backstage for entire show. Dancers will not be dismissed until the show is over. Please send only one adult to pick up your dancer to avoid congestion in the hallway.

\*Doors will open 30 minutes prior to the start of the show. Each show will start promptly on time so please be sure to be on time.

# Costume Information:



- Costumes will be distributed in class the week of April 25.
- Each dancer will have a labeled garment bag, hanger, and tights.
- We will do major alterations for costumes but please understand that we are not ordering custom made costumes. Costumes will fit differently on each child which is to be expected. You may always do any minor alterations yourself if you wish.

## Costume Tips:

- **LABEL EVERYTHING.** There will be many dancers in the dressing room that have similar shoes and the same costumes. Please label your dancers things with their names. It also helps to talk to your dancer about making sure they put their belongings back into their own bags instead of leaving them on the floor.
- **NO UNDERWEAR.** Underwear looks awful under costumes and should not be worn. Nude strapped bras or a nude leotard should be worn by older girls who need them—ask your teacher if you have a costume that presents a “bra problem” for suggestions on what kind won’t show. We have nude leotards for purchase at the desk.
- **TUTUS:** Tutus are worn around the *hips*, not the waist.
- **GLASSES:** Because of the lights, it’s best that dancers take their glasses off to perform. If they absolutely cannot see without them, it is better to wear them.
- **JEWELRY:** Nothing but freshly pierced ears. Make sure you take off watches, necklaces, bracelets, earrings, and anything else that dangles, moves or is large enough to be distracting. It’s best to leave these things at home so they won’t get lost or taken.
- **NAIL POLISH:** No colored nail polish will be allowed. We strive for a professional looking show and to achieve this, all dancers need to look “the same.”
- **SHOES:** Check shoes carefully before dress rehearsal to make sure elastics are sewn in tightly and that jazz shoelaces are not on the verge of breaking. Before going onstage, dancers should check to make sure ballet bows are tucked in and jazz shoelaces are doubled tied.
- **COSTUME COVER UPS:** Dancers will be required to stay backstage for the entire show that they are in. However, if they will be seated in the audience in their costume for any other shows, please make sure that your child has some article of clothing that can cover or hide their costume (an oversized button-down shirt works well for this). This not only helps your child protect their performance costume, it also protects the Mitby chairs from getting glitter all over them!
- Please send dancers dressed in their first costume with their tights and shoes on. Please keep their cover ups and street shoes to help limit what they need to keep track of. If they are in multiple dances, please put all of their things in their garment bags so that we have them in one place.

## Let’s talk about tights...

All tights will be included with your costume.

Tights must remain in good condition with no holes. If you need to purchase a new pair, your last day to do so will be Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup>. Our office will be closed the rest of the week.

# How to make sure your dancer looks their best on stage:



## Hair Requirements:

Because of the high angle of stage lighting, dancers must pull their bangs back (gel and hair spray). Leaving bangs loose will create shadows over their faces making dancers look “eye-less”.

All dancers, including boys, should use gel or hair spray to keep back hair and tame any strays to avoid too much movement while they dance which can be distracting.

All dancers with long enough hair will be wearing a bun for the spring performance. Please look for our bun tutorial video that will be emailed out. Dancers who have shorter hair should pull back and secure with bobby pins as much as they can. (Feel free to talk to your teachers for any guidelines or suggestions.)

Most dances will have some sort of hairpiece. This year we will be putting all hair pieces on the right side of the bun.

## Make Up Requirements:

Even the littlest ones need some make-up. Stage lighting is very harsh and can make dancers’ faces, especially a fair-skinned blonde, look featureless. Watch for our makeup tutorial video that will be emailed!



### Girls:

Girls should wear base, lipstick, blush, and eye shadow at a minimum. Make sure your lipstick is not light pink; darker shades work best. Steer clear of frosted lipsticks. *Color stay style lipstick is amazing and won't wear off.* Eye shadow should be brown, pink, lavender, peach, or other neutral shades—virtually anything but blue. Older girls can add mascara and eyeliner. Fair girls should use eyebrow pencil.

### Boys:

Boys should wear at least a little blush. Fair boys should use eyebrow pencil.

If you have questions, ask your child’s teacher for suggestions. Although it’s hard, try to keep in mind that if your young child would look normal walking down the street, she/he probably doesn’t have enough make-up for stage!

**Please do not add any extra glitter to your dancer’s hair, body, face or costume. Not only does it make your dancer look sweaty on stage, the Mitby strictly forbids any extra glitter. Glitter is extremely hard to get out of carpet and the chairs so please respect their rule.**

## Spring Performance Digital Downloads

Video of our spring performances will be captured by MR VIDEO. It is a wonderful keepsake for years to come!

Our performance fee includes a Digital Download of each show your dancer performs in. Digital Downloads will be emailed out in June sometime.

If you prefer a DVD hard copy, you will have the option to purchase this through MR Video directly.

# We need your help!

Our performances would not run as smooth as they do without our Parent Volunteers!

Helping out for the spring performance is a great way to be involved in your child's performance without having to buy a ticket for both shows and it gives your dancer the feeling that their performance is important enough for you to be a part of it. It really is a lot of fun to be a part of the backstage action and it helps all the dancers immensely.

There are two ways to help at our spring performances.

## **Ushering**

8 ushers are needed for each performance to collect tickets, hand out programs, and help people find their seats. Ushers need to be available at the theater 1 hour prior to the show starting. The theater manager will give you some instructions and assign your duties before opening the doors. **Ushers will be able to watch the show.**

# Ticket Sale Information

The Mitby continues to require we use their system to sell tickets. **Tickets will go on sale on Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am.** We will be emailing a link for tickets sales one week prior to when they go on sale with more instructions. Tickets are only available online until the day of the show.

**All seats in the theater will be reserved seating only.** The main floor of the Mitby auditorium is a very well-designed space, affording clear views of the stage from all areas. Balcony seating will be opened only if it is needed.

Because all seats are reserved and because the studio must pay for every seat in the theater, it is necessary that everyone, including dancers, have a ticket if they plan to sit in the audience for any of the performances other than the ones they are in. *Children over the age of 7 are not allowed to sit on parents' laps in order to ensure all audience member have a great view of the show. (Your dancer's head should not be taller than your own.)*

Tickets are \$15 per ticket online and the Mitby has a \$1 fee per ticket. Tickets will be \$17 per ticket at the door. All ticket purchases are non-refundable. Families who have performers in more than one show will receive an email with instructions on how to get a discount one week prior to ticket sales. Tickets will be available at the door prior to each show if seats are still available.

Dancers are required to stay backstage for the entire show and we will play a movie in the dressing room. We will have other entertainment as well for dancers while they are backstage.

