

Dear Parents and Dancers,

We hope you are enjoying your holiday vacations and will be ready to return to classes in full swing beginning **Saturday, January 5th**!

Our 11th Annual Holiday Showcase was a *HUGE* success and we thank everyone who participated as well as those who came to see the performances! We were very fortunate to have the weather cooperate for us on Saturday, December 15th during this season of unpredictable Wisconsin weather! Parents, you did an absolutely amazing job with everything from costuming your dancers to bringing them to their rehearsals! You all worked together and stayed positive and enthusiastic! Thank you again to Emma Dresen, Nicole Patterson and Barb Pergande, and all of the amazing volunteers who helped make the rehearsals and shows run so smoothly. We are all excited and looking forward to working with you again in the future as we plan our June recitals and rehearsals!

A portion of the profits from our 11th Annual Holiday Showcase was donated to the Ronald McDonald House of Southeastern Wisconsin.

To order a DVD or Blue-Ray of the performances, please fill out and return an order form with full payment to the front desk. Each DVD or Blu-Ray includes both the 2pm & 6pm performances AND the video clip of pictures set to music highlighting preparations for the showcase! DVDs and Blu-Rays are priced at \$40.00 each. Full payment must accompany your order. Orders will be taken through Saturday, January 12th. Any orders received after January 12th, between January 14th and February 9th, will be charged a \$5 late fee. Late orders received after February 9th will be charged a \$10 late fee. Get your DVD and Blu-Ray orders in by January 12th!

DVDs and Blu-Rays will be ready for pick up on Monday, February 11th, 2019.

If you haven't picked up your Holiday Showcase t-shirt, it is available at the front desk.

IMPORTANT INFO CONCERNING BACKSTAGE VOLUNTEERS FOR OUR JUNE RECITALS – We are so thankful and extremely appreciative of all of our parent volunteers who generously donate their time during our December Holiday Showcase day and during our June recital week each dance season. As you can imagine, we need to have backstage dressing rooms adequately staffed to take great care of all of the dancers, especially those youngest dancers who need lots of help with trips to the bathroom, costume changing and general attention. We had an amazing group of parents backstage helping with the Holiday Showcase and hope you will volunteer for the June recitals as well. **We will need lots of volunteers for June so please keep us in mind when the time comes for volunteering!**

RECITAL COSTUMES – The costume orders are complete and most classes were shown a picture of their recital costume prior to our holiday break. **You will be receiving a 2019 Recital Shoe Style & Color information sheet during the week beginning January 14th that lists the shoe requirements for each class for the June recital.** The 2019 Recital Shoe Style & Color information sheet will also be conveniently available on our YDA app.

IMPORTANT – Please note the shoes pictured in the recital costume book are not necessarily the style and/or color chosen for your dancer's class. Please refer to the 2019 Recital Shoe & Color information sheet for the required shoe style and color of your dancer's class when it becomes available beginning January 14th. **PLEASE ORDER ALL SHOES BY EARLY APRIL!** We encounter problems with shoes on backorder every year for those who wait too long to place their recital shoe order.

RECITAL SHOES – If you only need to change your dancer's shoe color, most can be dyed (wait until just before recital pictures in May). If you need a completely different style of shoe than what your dancer already has and you do not wish to order a brand new pair, you may post a shoe request on the bulletin board in between the boys and girls dressing rooms. State the shoe style, color and approximate size you need. Be sure to include your name and telephone number on the card as well. You may also post if you have used shoes as well. Do not wait until the last minute! Now is the time to try to sell or buy used shoes! Note: Please avoid putting your dancer in a position where they have the incorrect shoes. Please follow the shoe requirements to achieve a uniform look for the recital dance.

NEW THIS YEAR – RECITAL MUSIC – All Young Dance families will be receiving an email with their dancer's recital music. You will be able to listen to the music via Dropbox. Emails will be sent out no later than Friday, January 18th.

MONTHLY TUITION – January tuition is due this week SATURDAY, JANUARY 5TH THROUGH FRIDAY, JANUARY 11TH, 2019. Any payment made after Saturday, January 11th is considered late and will require a \$5.00 per week late fee. The winner of the \$50 YDA Gift Certificate for December is *Miles Dunk*! Congratulations, *Miles*! Don't forget to get your tuition payment in by January 11th to be eligible for our \$50 Gift Certificate drawing for February!

UPCOMING DANCE CONVENTION – If you are interested in attending the New York City Dance Alliance dance convention in Rosemont, IL on February 9th & 10th, you must register at the front desk by Saturday, January 12th. A registration form can be found attached with this email and also at the front desk. Conventions are open to all YDA students age 7 & older. There is also an opportunity for 5-7 year olds to attend convention classes in a program through NYCDA called “Ready, Set, Dance”. Pick-up more information at the front desk today! Dance conventions are a great way to provide our dancers with a chance to take classes with professionals from all over the country. It is also a way for parents to observe their young dancers in a competitive dance environment and therefore help to assess their level of interest in the “sport” of dance.

INDIVIDUAL CLASS RECITAL PERFORMANCES – In late March you will receive a schedule of when each class will perform in the recitals, June 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 13th, 14th and 15th, 2019. Classes may perform in anywhere between 3 and 7 of the shows. Our audiences are getting larger every year and in order for your guests to see all of your children together during one performance, it is necessary that your dancer’s classes perform in at least three shows.

You do not need to attend more than one show as parents in the audience. You may drop your dancer off backstage with their assigned dance-sitter or stay backstage and be a volunteer. We will be asking for volunteers to help out backstage at a later date. ALL DANCERS ARE EXPECTED TO PERFORM IN ALL PERFORMANCES FOR WHICH THEY ARE SCHEDULED so you need to reserve ALL show dates until the list is complete in the middle of March.

RECITAL TICKETS – This year we are again planning a ticket lottery to avoid any lines for purchasing recital tickets. Recital ticket sales will be held on Saturday, April 27th. More details will follow in the upcoming Newsletters. Recital ticket cost is \$15.00 per ticket for all shows. For more ticket information, please refer to our studio brochure.

LOST AND FOUND – Our lost & found will be emptied and all items will be donated after Saturday, January 12th. Please check the lost and found this week upon returning to classes. Classes begin again on Saturday, January 5th.

SNOW CLOSINGS – Just a reminder... As it states in our studio brochure, the studio will be closed and no classes will be held when the Oak Creek public schools close due to the weather. It is by judgment of the owner to close the studio due to inclement weather on Saturdays or during after school hours. If you are in doubt as to whether classes are being held, please call the studio for a recorded message or check on our website, www.youngdance.biz. No refunds will be given for classes canceled due to the weather. Dancers may attend a make-up class upon request. In addition, we are registered with Fox 6 and their Storm Team, so watch for our possible closing on TVs Channel 6 or www.fox6now.com.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS – Our spring Parent Observation Week is Monday, April 1st through Saturday, April 6th. Looking forward to having you all in the classrooms in April!

AS A REMINDER...dancers may eat in the lobby area ONLY, not the dressing rooms or hallways. Thank you for helping to keep the studio clean and pest free!

Thank you & Happy New Year!
Sandy and Staff