



Dear Parents,

It's almost recital week!!!! We are VERY EXCITED!!! Below you will find 4 pages full of information regarding picture nights, the dress rehearsal, the recital, and our summer programs. It can be very confusing, so please ask if you need clarification.

Picture Days with Fred's Photography are Tuesday and Wednesday. Please arrive 15 minutes before your child's scheduled time and make sure your child's hair is in a bun. If you need help, please come extra early so we can assist. We will be converting the small upstairs studio into a change room in order to make some extra space. Once your child is finished with their pictures, a teacher will let you know that they are finished and you are free to go. Pictures may be purchased at the recital... it is hard to wait to see the photos of our handsome, beautiful, and talented dancers!!!

Congratulations to our **performance group!** We have finished our 2nd competition and our students have danced so well. We are very excited for our final competition this coming weekend! We hope you will enjoy watching some of their numbers in the recital. If your child is interested in auditioning for performance group for next year, the audition times and date is below. Students audition by date of birth and should wear a bodysuit and dance shoes.

Performance Group Auditions Times – **May 25th**: Students should arrive 15 minutes early in order to warm themselves up.

Students born 2011-2010 – 5-5:45pm

Students born 2009-2006 – 5:45-6:30pm

Students born 2005-2003 – 6:45-7:30pm

Students born 2002-1999 – 7:45-8:30pm

There is a \$10 audition fee.

Recital tickets are available starting tomorrow at pictures. They will also be available at the dress rehearsal and before the recitals. They are **\$15 for adults and seniors and \$12 for children ages 6-12** (5 and under get in free) and you will need to let us know which show you will be attending when you purchase the tickets, as they are specific to each show. Your dancer does not need a ticket as he/she will be backstage for the entire show.

Once again, our recitals are being **PROFESSIONALLY VIDEOTAPED by Miko Productions**. Dvds can be ordered in the atrium at the dress rehearsal and at the recital, and must be prepaid by cash or cheque. Unfortunately, late orders cannot be accepted. They are \$25 for 1 show or \$40 for 2 shows.

PLEASE REFRAIN FROM TAKING PERSONAL VIDEO OR PICTURES DURING THE RECITAL. Not only is this extremely distracting to the dancers on the stage, but it is also annoying to surrounding audience members. Thank you in advance for helping to make our recital enjoyable to everyone involved.

The **recitals** will begin at **1:30pm and 5:30pm SHARP!** The doors will open 30 minutes in advance and we do not have assigned seating. Your dancer will also need to arrive to their assigned change rooms 30 minutes early as well. If you would like help in preparing your child's hair in a ballet bun, please come 45 minutes early and **BRING YOUR OWN HAIR SUPPLIES** (brush, comb, gel, bobby

pins, elastic, and hair net). Also, please remember to remove your child's jewellery before the recital, especially all EARRINGS! Please also make sure to remove your child's nail polish.

All **Ballet costumes** are to be **returned** immediately following the recital. Please place your child's costume back in the bin with their name and class on it, and sign that you have returned it. Hip Hop, Tap, Lyrical, Musical Theatre, Acro, and Jazz costumes are yours to keep!

Our **recital is held at Forest City Community Church** in Lambeth/London at 3725 Bostwick Rd. This is our third recital at this venue and we are VERY excited to have the use of such a beautiful facility. They do have a couple of **rules** that we need to respect. First, there is to be NO glitter of any kind used by the dancers. This includes spray, rub, or sprinkle on glitter, but excludes glitter already on the costumes. Second, this is a no smoking facility. Third, there is a designated area for food and snacks on the north side of the atrium outside of the auditorium. There are many tables and chairs set up here for your dancer's comfort. Water however, is allowed anywhere, including in the auditorium and change rooms. Fourth, there is no alcohol allowed on the property. Violation of this rule will result in us being immediately removed from the facility. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Dress Rehearsal on Friday, May 13th @ Forest City Community Church – 3725 Bostwick Rd.

Students are to be in costume. Please arrive 15 minutes early and meet in the atrium (there are couches and chairs here for parents to wait). Teachers will call the students from there. There are 2 dressing rooms booked for our dancers to change in and out of costume, as well as many bathrooms. You will also be shown your child's dressing room for the next day's recital. This is where you will drop them off on Saturday. **Please note that parents are not to watch the dress rehearsal.**

During the recital, our dancers are to remain back stage in their change rooms. They are able to watch the recital live in their rooms and are provided with water and snacks. For our littlest dancers, Step Above hires 2 ECE's from the Early Learning Centre to take great care of our students and to entertain them with puzzles, colouring, crafts, and of course, to provide them with a snack. Please do not pick up your child from their assigned rooms until after the recital is finished. Also, we have a sign in/sign out program in place which parents will need to use for the safety of our children.

I am attaching the draft of the recital program to this email, just in case you haven't received it!

Our **dance season** will conclude for the year with the recital. If you are interested in summer camp, please pick up a brochure in the waiting area, or at the recital. You can also print it out from the website. Students who register in full for summer camp by the recital will receive a free Step Above t-shirt

For the first time, we will be offering a SUMMER mini session. You can register your child for these classes by emailing in the registration form and etransferring the registration fee, or by dropping off the registration form and a cheque in our mail box. Classes will run on Monday evenings from June 6th – July 25th. For the entire session, classes are \$80 for the 30 minute classes and \$90 for the 45 minutes classes, including HST.

5-5:30pm Ballet (ages 3&4)*age by Dec. 31st, 2016

5:30-6:00 Acro (ages 4&5) *

6-6:30 Ballet (ages 5&6) *

6:30-7:15 Jazz (ages 6-8)*

7:15-8:00 Acro (ages 6-8)*

PLEASE email me if you have any questions or are confused about any of the information above. While this is a super busy time at Step Above, it is also a very exciting one for our dancers!

Best Regards,
Miss Jacqueline and the Step Above Staff

End of Year Common Parent Questions

Should my child wear makeup to pictures and the recital?

This is completely up to you, as the parent. You may wish to put some light makeup on your child (blush, lipstick, mascara), but this is your choice.

My child has bangs. What do I do with them when I put her hair in a bun?

Bangs need to be gelled back into the hairline in order to achieve a perfect ballet bun.

Can my child wear nail polish, earrings, or a watch to the recital?

NO!

My child takes Hip Hop and Tap. Can she wear a pony tail to the recital?

All of our dancers need to have their hair in a bun, regardless of the dance form that they are taking.

I ordered a DVD of the recital. When can I pick it up?

Dvd's are available for pickup at the studio during our summer office hours (WEDNESDAY EVENING FROM 6-8pm). They will be available any time after July 1st.

I am planning on purchasing tickets, flowers, pictures, and dvds at the recital. What forms of payment are accepted? Fred's Photography accepts cash or credit card. Tickets and dvds may be purchased using cash or cheque, and flowers and water may be purchased using cash only.

What will my child be doing during the recital?

The students will be backstage for the entire recital. They will be watching a live feed of the recital as well as participating in activities. PLEASE DO NOT COME BACKSTAGE AT INTERMISSION TO VISIT YOUR CHILD. While you are enjoying a break during intermission, everyone backstage is not!!! We are busily preparing for the second half of the recital.

How long is the intermission?

The intermission is 15 minutes long.

How long is the recital?

Between 2.25 and 2.5 hours (including intermission) in length.

Am I able to take pictures or video of my child during the recital?

NO! This is very distracting for other parents and the dancers onstage. Please remain in your seat throughout the recital, as you would for any classical concert. We also have a contract with Miko Productions our videographer which states that they have the rights to videotape our recitals.