

ROSEMARY'S SCHOOL OF DANCE EDUCATION

2016-2017 Dance Season Student Handbook

About This Handbook

Welcome to the 2016-17 dance season here at **Rosemary's School of Dance Education**. Enclosed you will find all information needed for the entire year. We believe that our success comes as a result of providing solid dance training and quality service, along with an underlying belief in the strength of our organization. We have created this handbook to offer our dancers and their parents a clear understanding of their commitments and responsibility. We are looking forward to another great year of accomplishments by our students!

- Dates and/or expenses listed in this handbook are subject to change. Please check the bulletin board each week for updates.

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The following additional forms are available on our website at www.rosemarysdance.com:

- ◆ Costume Form – Due December 1st 2016
- ◆ Calendar for 2016-2017 Dance Season
- ◆ RSDE Logo Order Forms – Due October 1st 2016 and February 1st 2017

❖ **Understanding Dance Education**

As a parent, the financial support of your student is important, but of equal—perhaps even greater—value is your emotional support. Encourage your child to be the best that he or she can be without regard to what others may achieve. Dance is an individual art form; each child needs to achieve at a pace that's comfortable for him or her. No two students will progress at the same rate, even if they experience the exact same training. It's important to encourage the children to focus on themselves, give their all, and be satisfied with their own accomplishments.

Dance education encompasses far more than technique or the steps your children will learn. We believe the discipline of dance training gives young people a better understanding of commitment by offering them the chance to learn, experience the spirit of teamwork, and understand what hard work can accomplish. Our goal is to educate the minds, bodies, and souls of our students, to teach them the skills needed for a successful life, whether or not they stay involved in dance.

❖ **Class or Choreography Placement**

The school faculty meets regularly to discuss the students' progress and/or placement. It is our policy to offer appropriate opportunities to every child. Placement decisions are derived from many years of teaching experience. Often a child is placed in a particular group or class where he or she will feel confident, in order to promote the development of self-esteem. Some dancers who are placed in a higher level become discouraged, only to lose their passion for dance. Others respond to the challenge of being in a class with dancers who are more proficient by pushing themselves to work harder. Placement is highly individual and the factors that go into the decision are complex. Please see the school's director if you have questions or concerns about your child's placement.

❖ **Do's and Don'ts**

Some parents may compare their child's progress, class or choreography placement to that of others in the program. Watch for this behavior in your children as well, and encourage them to focus on their own accomplishments. Looking to others for inspiration is a good thing; however, a negative focus or comparison distracts from the energy that could be focused on becoming a stronger dancer. In addition, speaking negatively about your child's teachers, fellow dancers, or other parents in front of your child—or other students—could result in problems far beyond your original concerns. Often children will react to their parents in a way that imitates the parent's behavior with other adults or authority figures.

Children learn important lessons from their teachers and parents, acquiring important behavior patterns through their example. Our school's faculty takes that responsibility seriously. It's our philosophy to encourage our students to feel, think, and act respectfully to their peers, the adults in their lives, and themselves.

If you have questions or concerns about your child's dance education, don't panic—and please don't talk only with other parents when questions arise. Make an appointment to speak directly to your child's teachers or the director of the school. Please conduct all communication through the school office rather than approaching your child's teacher or the director between or during classes or calling them at home.

If you do request a conference, please listen carefully to what your child's teachers have to say. They spend a significant amount of time with your child and can offer expertise in the field of dance education.

❖ Student Conduct

All students are expected to be on their best behavior during class as well as in the dressing and waiting areas. No student should be left more than 15 minutes before or after their scheduled class. Restrooms should be used in-between classes only. All persons involved with the studio are expected to conduct themselves properly and in a civil manner. There are many students coming and going from the studios at all times. Please be careful not to leave personal belongings in the building. The doors are locked after the last class of the day and not reopened until the next scheduled class.

❖ For Dancers and Parents

Rosemary's School of Dance and/or staff members are not responsible for any damage claims, injuries or loss of property while at the studio and/or sponsored events.

❖ Attendance

Attendance is necessary to progress in dance training at any age or level. If absenteeism is frequent it is at the instructor's discretion whether to allow participation in the Annual Revue. This is only fair to those students who attend regularly and are keeping up with the class progression. Attendance is a consideration for a student's proper placement and can affect progression in levels.

❖ Dress Code Requirements

Proper dress attire is to be worn during ALL classes. It is absolutely necessary that the proper attire and shoes are worn. An instructor cannot observe the movement of students unless such proper attire is worn. Appearance should always be in a neat and clean fashion. Hair must be neatly fixed away from the face. Dangling bracelets, necklaces, and earrings are never allowed during classes.

Dress Code:

- Any style **SOLID Black or Pink** leotard with any neutral color tights (white, black, tan, pink).
- Black jazz pants, capri's or shorts may be worn in Jazz and Tap classes for all levels.
- A Ballet skirt may be worn for Ballet classes.
- Hip Hop classes may wear any comfortable clothing – no jeans or pajamas.

❖ Shoes

Young Dancer Division

- Ballet: Pink
- Tap: U-buckle black
- Jazz: Black slip-on or tie
- Hip Hop: Clean Sneakers (any kind) *Recital sneaker info. will be included with costumes
- Modern: Dance Paws or Foot Undeez

Main and Adult Dance Division

- Ballet: Pink
- Tap: Black slip-on or tie
- Jazz: Black slip-on or tie
- Hip Hop: Clean Sneakers (any kind) *Recital sneaker info. will be given to students
- Modern: Dance Paws or Foot Undeez

❖Pointe Class

Once a student completes a full level of primary ballet it is at the instructor's discretion if the student is ready for pointe work. If so, they may take a pre-pointe class. This class must be completed before being placed into a regular pointe class. Pre-Pointe does use Pointe shoes but does not participate in the Annual Revue.

❖The 16th Annual Student Showcase (for the Dance Company)

The 16th Annual Student Showcase will be held in December at St. Andrew's School in Barrington. Check the Dance Company bulletin board and website for more information. All new solos, duos and trios will be performing segments of their routines along with the 2016-17 Dance Company Production. Please come and support your fellow classmates. All are welcome! Tickets go on sale on **November 1st, 2016**. Seats are not reserved. All tickets are \$10 in advance \$13 at the door. The Dance Company is available for the serious student who wishes to further their dance education. Bethany for more information about becoming a member of the Dance Company. More information will be posted on our website.

❖Tuition and Expense Policy

Tuition rates are available on our website and via your customer portal. Detailed instructions on how to access your account will be emailed. There is a \$10 registration fee for new and current students (\$5 per additional student) due when registering for classes. Please see our tuition and expense guide for additional information. This year our Recital will be held on Saturday, June 10th and Friday, June 16th, 2017 at the Providence Performing Arts Center.

❖Annual Revue

It is our honor and privilege to announce that the 2017 Annual Revue, or Recital, will be held on **Saturday, June 10th and Friday June 16th at THE PROVIDENCE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER!** The success of our school and recent growth has allowed us to give our students the experience of a lifetime! We are the first dance studio in Rhode Island to offer this great opportunity to their students. We are so pleased to share this with you! Below you will find some more information about the Recital. It is imperative that parents and students read all information thoroughly.

More PPAC Recital Information...

- We will have three separate performances. Two on Saturday, June 10th and one on Friday June 16th. You will be dancing in either Show A, Show B or Show C.
- Dress Rehearsal for all Young Dancer Levels 1-4 (30 minute students) will be held at the studio during your regular classes approximately one-two weeks before the show. Specific details to follow.
- Block Rehearsal for all Young Dancer Levels 5-8 (40-45 minute students) and the Main/Adult Dance Divisions will be held at the Providence Performing Arts Center on one evening the week before the show. PPAC is unable to schedule our Rehearsal day until later in the season. More information will be sent to you as soon as possible.
- Ticket procedures : Since we are at such a large facility, all students receive free admission into the auditorium. Adult tickets will be \$18 in advance and \$20 at the door. Children 12 and under and senior tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. Everyone entering PPAC will need to be a student or ticket holder. PPAC ushers will not allow non-ticket holders to be in the building. Small children are not able to sit on an adult's lap.

One learns to perform by performing. The Recital is to demonstrate talent and is part of the training experience. The Recital aims to develop the student's poise, confidence, pride, and also to increase their knowledge and appreciation of the Arts. Since there is training and discipline involved we attempt to create a professional attitude. All is done to make this a pleasant and worthwhile experience for you and your child.

❖ Awards

Awards at the Recital are presented to students who have taken **5** or more years of dance training. Awards for first through fourth year students will be given in class at the end of the dance season. A list will be posted in the waiting room after Winter Break. It is the student's responsibility to be sure their name appears on an award list. A trophy for 5 years and up will not be ordered for anyone that is not on the list.

❖ Costumes

Costume Payments:

The 42nd Annual Revue will take place on Saturday, June 10th and Friday, June 16th, 2017. In order to ensure costumes are ordered on time, costume payments are due no later than December 1st. You may make payment installments at anytime. (*Pre-Pointe does not perform in the Annual Revue and Hip Hop classes at the Main Dancer Level do not purchase a costume*) Please complete the costume form and return to the office prior to December 1st. A costume will not be ordered unless a payment has been made.

Total cost for costumes (each class performs a separate routine in the Recital): Young Dancer Level 1-4 \$53.00 ; Young Dancer Level 5-8 \$60.00 ; Main and Adult Dance Divisions \$70.00.

AS STATED ON REGISTRATION FORM: In order to participate in the Recital all tuition and costumes must be paid in full. Costumes will not be ordered unless tuition is current and payment is received. All costumes ordered after the deadline are not guaranteed by the Recital and are subject to an additional shipping fee of \$10.00 per costume.

❖ Recital Schedule

Rehearsal: TBA. In-studio Dress Rehearsal for all levels. Blocking Rehearsal at PPAC for YD 6+

Recital: Saturday, June 10th 2016 and Friday June 16th, 2016 at Providence Performing Arts Center.

- ❑ **Costumes:** correct shoes and proper make-up must be worn at both the rehearsal and the performances. Label all costumes, pieces and shoes. Lost articles may be identified easily if well marked. **Do not** wear costumes prior to the Dress Rehearsal. Keep them away from extreme light and heat. Please check to make sure no undergarments are visible at the rehearsal and performance. Please follow the explanation sheets that will be provided with your costumes.

Recital Check-List

The following is some helpful ideas of what to bring along with you to the Recital:

_____ Hair Brush

_____ Tissues

_____ Comb

_____ Make-Up, Remover

_____ Clips, Bobby Pins

_____ Hair Spray, Gel

_____ Hair Elastics

_____ Needle/ Thread

_____ Name is written in all costume accessories and shoes.

_____ First Aid

_____ Costumes, Headpieces, Tights and Shoes.

_____ Safety Pins

❖ Tickets

- ❑ Ticket order forms will be sent home in the early Spring!
- ❑ **THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS OF EXCHANGES**
- ❑ **FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEO ARE PORHIBITED DURING THE PERFORMANCES. VIDEO AND PICTURE MAY BE TAKEN DURING THE DRESS AND BLOCK REHEARSAL ONLY.**

❖ **Class Observation**

We have installed cameras in each studio for observation from the waiting areas. Cameras will be turned on during the first classes of September, November, January, and March. Parents may observe the students' progress in class during these times only.

❖ **Vacations**

We **WILL** have dance on the following holidays: Election Day, Veterans Day; and Martin Luther King Day. The Calendar lists all studio closings. It is posted on our website to print and save, or a hardcopy is available in all waiting areas.

❖ **Hazardous Weather**

Hazardous Weather will result in the cancellation of classes. The message service at the studio will announce all class cancellations at least 1 hour prior to the scheduled class time. Cancellations and delays will also be posted on Facebook, our website and usually Channel 10, or you may visit Turnto10.com. Make-up classes will be held during vacations if possible. Notices for class make-ups will be posted on the bulletin boards.

❖ **Contact Information**

Thanks for joining us for another year here at Rosemary's. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please feel free to contact the office. We are looking forward to another wonderful year with our students. Thanks!

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