

## *2026 Spring Recital - November Packet*

### **GENERAL INFO/EXPECTATIONS**

- PLEASE READ PACKET CLOSELY 2-3 TIMES! I know it is a lot.
- COMMUNICATION IS KEY!
  - Check email/junk daily, social media, and text alerts.
    - If you are not receiving these things, let us know!!
  - Things can change due to unforeseen circumstances between this packet and next.
- All final themes, costumes, music, and recital-related things will be decided by the YMCA Dance Coordinator, Natalia Cannon.
- “On time” means DRESSED with CORRECT shoes, hair, etc at the listed times. **Ready to dance at your scheduled time**, not pulling up in the parking lot at your scheduled time. If you miss rehearsals, your child does NOT participate unless illness (doc note required) or other situations beyond your control arise.
- All rehearsals and performances are at the Glema Mahr Center for the Arts.
- All Dance With Me, Creative Movement, and Combo classes will have 2 routines: a ballet and hip hop number.
- Acro will NOT have a routine / costume; however we will have an exhibition on skills.
- If you have family members who are helping you in any way, please make sure they are also aware of the rules.
- **YOU DO NOT HAVE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE RECITAL.** However, if you choose to do it, all the requirements and expectations must be followed.
- Due to costuming, you may NOT change classes in the Spring semester. Please make sure your class time works for you the remainder of the year.

### **DATES: EXACT REHEARSAL & PERFORMANCE TIMES WILL BE SHARED CLOSER TO TIME.**

- **GENERAL OUTLINE:** **Block off May 12-16th**
  - Potential Informal Rehearsal Dates: 12th-14th
  - Potential Dress Rehearsal Dates: May 13th-15th
  - Potential Recital Dates: May 15th-16th
- **Informal Rehearsals:**
  - Dance With Me & Creative Movement will NOT have an informal rehearsal time slot, only dress rehearsals.

- All other classes will have a mandatory informal rehearsal time slot for 30 minutes-1 hour on one of the above dates.
- Wear ALL BLACK classwear. NO COSTUMES.
- **Dress Rehearsals:**
  - Dancers should arrive in their first costume, in full hair and makeup, like they would for the recital. Bring all needed costume items.
  - Anticipate a LONGER dress rehearsal with 2-3 run-throughs per dance.
  - Dancers may check out after their LAST routine finishes onstage.
  - I DO NOT KNOW WHEN IT WILL END...expect up to 3 hours total.
- **RECITALS:**
  - Same as dress rehearsals, except: 1 performance of each routine & children are NOT allowed to be checked out after their last performance. Everyone stays the duration of the show, awards at the end of each show.
  - We have so many dancers & classes, we must have two shows. I will do my best to get each family on the same show, but it is going to be impossible with 20+ families with siblings and kids who take multiple classes. Be prepared to attend all rehearsal dates and shows.

### **COSTUMES: COSTUME FEE DUE BY 12/19/25**

- Each class will have its own costume. The only exceptions are: tap/jazz, ballet/lyrical will have the SAME costume for their age groups (7-9yr, 9-11yr, 12yr+).
- Any family paying for multiple costumes (due to siblings OR a child with multiple classes), may pay 50% of costume fees up front. The remaining balance will be due by 2/13/26, make payments as needed until the final due date.
- **COSTUME FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE.**
  - If your child chooses to quit after costumes have been ordered, the costume will still be distributed to you.
- **COST ESTIMATES:**
  - Dance With Me, Creative Movement, Combo, 6-8yr Ballet:
    - XSC-LC: \$60+tax
    - XLC-XXLC: \$65+tax
  - 9yr+ Ballet, Pointe, Lyrical:
    - XSC-LC: \$75+tax

- XLC-XXLC, AS-AL: \$80+tax
  - XLA-3XLA: \$85+tax
- Jazz, Acro, Tap, Musical Theater, Hip Hop
  - XSC-LC: \$80+tax
  - XLC-XXLC, SA-LA: \$85+tax
  - XLA-3XLA: \$90+tax
- Costumes will be distributed after all students have tried on, exchanges made, and after all tuition balances have been paid.
- Take care of all accessories! We can't order individual items if lost.
- MALE DANCERS NEED TO SEE MRS. NATALIA FOR ALL COSTUMING.

### **OTHER COSTUME NEEDS**

- Tights: color TBD in March packet
- Shoes:
  - All ballet classes, including Dance With Me, Creative Movement, & Combos:
    - Ballet Pink Slippers
  - All Jazz, Musical Theater, Acro, and Lyrical classes:
    - Jazz shoes. Colors TBD in March packet (most likely tan).
  - Hip Hop Classes, including Dance With Me, Creative Movement and Combos:
    - any mostly black tennis shoes. No specific style or brand.
    - Wear BLACK socks with your shoes.
- Recital t-shirts
  - **Required** for Dance With Me, Creative Movement, and Combos.
    - Recital t-shirt and black leggings will be their hip hop outfit.

### **RECITAL T-SHIRTS – ORDERS DUE BY 3/13/26**

- T-shirts are optional for all members except Dance With Me, Creative Movement, Combo kids, and closing number participants.
- Adults may also place an order.

- COST - \$15 plus tax (\$15.90). **Payment is due up front.**
- Recital t-shirts come in YXS-YXL, AS-AXL. \*Larger than AXL will incur an extra \$5.

### **RECITAL HAIR & APPEARANCE**

- TBD in March packet.

### **OTHER APPEARANCE DETAILS**

- Rhinestone earrings may be worn. NO OTHER JEWELRY ALLOWED!
  - Performance rhinestone earrings are usually available at Sally's.
- Makeup is OK, but nothing crazy unless otherwise directed.
- No panties worn under tights (older students may wear NUDE undergarments who are performing multiple dances, but we should NOT see your undies onstage!!)
- All undergarments should match outer layers of costume or be hidden. No bra straps showing, crazy color undergarments, etc. Older girls need to get an appropriate undergarment ahead of time.
- Strings in ballet shoes should be knotted, cut to an inch in length, & tucked in.
- NO LONG FINGERNAILS, even before we perform. Long fingernails are not good to practice in at the studio! They are distracting, but also have the potential to scratch each other during rehearsals!
- No nail polish, except clear or French manicure. Crazy colors will be removed backstage.

### **BACKSTAGE EXPECTATIONS**

- No one backstage, except volunteer parents, after drop-off. 5 minute limit – get in & out quickly!
  - Prepare young participants for this separation!
  - (1) Dance With Me female parent/guardian will be required to stay backstage with their child.
- Children may bring entertainment that will NOT alter the appearance of the costume.
  - Not responsible for lost items!
  - We provide crayons and coloring books backstage.
- Room assignments will be posted closer to recital time, on the website.
- Organize costume attire in a garment bag so that volunteers can easily help change your child.
  - Older ones should practice at home how to keep their things organized in their bags.

- Write your child's name in everything: costumes, shoes, tights, t-shirts, etc.
- ALL STUDENTS HAVE TO BE CHECKED OUT **BY AN ADULT** FROM ALL REHEARSALS & SHOWS.
- Girls have to get used to changing in front of each other. Please prepare them! There is limited privacy.
- Any male participants will be backstage, but will have a separate waiting & changing area away from the female participants.
- **NO OTHER MALES BACKSTAGE. We have teenage girls backstage changing!!**  
LET DADS OR GRANDDADS KNOW WE WILL NOT ALLOW THEM ACCESS BACKSTAGE!

### **PARENT VOLUNTEERS:**

- We require backstage "dance moms." Beware....it is organized chaos.
- ALL PARENT VOLUNTEERS WILL BE NEEDED AT THE DRESS REHEARSAL AND RECITAL YOUR CHILD IS IN!
- Volunteers will be needed to help: changing students' costumes, hair, potty breaks if needed, keeping everyone quiet backstage, escorting children to and from the stage, etc.
- You may be assigned to a room that is not your child's, based on how many volunteers we get. You have to be willing to help anyone!
- You do not have to buy a recital ticket, since you will not occupy a seat.
  - You may watch your child on the wings of the stage or sit in one of the reserved seats in the front row for parent volunteers.
- Volunteers will receive a free recital t-shirt. Let us know if you want it for you or for your child!

### **REHEARSAL & RECITAL RULES**

- Everyone participating in the recital must attend ALL assigned theater practices.
- BE ON TIME
  - Every year, students get cut from the recital for failure to show up when they are supposed to.
- All rehearsals are closed. Only dancers, teachers, and **one guardian**/student allowed in the audience!
  - If you have other children who are NOT participants, they are NOT allowed in the auditorium. We apologize for the inconvenience.

- If in the audience, absolutely no distractions or noise.
  - Silence cell phones, no phone calls taken inside the rehearsals, no loud conversations.
- No food or drink (except water) may be consumed while in costumes.
- No food or drink in the auditorium. Water may be consumed in other rehearsal areas.
- **Please make sure your child eats before rehearsals & the recital performances.**
- Spectators must give their full attention and respect to ALL performers!
- PLEASE RESPECT THE GLEMA FACILITY, YMCA VOLUNTEERS, & YMCA DANCE STAFF!
- All outstanding balances MUST be paid by mid April. If unpaid, your child will not be allowed to participate in the recital.
- FAILURE TO FOLLOW RULES MAY RESULT IN BEING ASKED TO LEAVE OR DISMISSING CHILD FROM PARTICIPATION IN THE RECITAL.

### **RECITAL DVD'S:**

Looking into a videographer, but not set in stone yet.

### **PERSONAL PHOTO & VIDEO**

- No videos taken during rehearsals.
- Any personal photography/videography may NOT interfere with audience viewing (including, but not limited to: raising up equipment over head, standing up, etc) If you must do these things to get the shot you want, please move to the back/side of the audience BEFORE the dances begin, so that everyone can view the dances clearly.
  - NO LARGE TABLETS (iPads, Notebooks, etc)!
  - NO FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY!

### **PROFESSIONAL RECITAL PHOTOS**

More info in the March packet, but we will schedule a professional photographer on site.

### **TICKETS**

- Online sales only.
- COST:
  - TBD: \$20/ticket
  - There will be a discount offered if you buy tickets to both shows.
- Ticket sales will start the last two weeks before the recital.