

### Classes

#### **My daughter is only 3, may I sit in class with her?**

We encourage parents to observe from one of our large viewing windows. Your daughter is more likely to participate if you are not in the room with her. However, we want her to feel comfortable knowing that you are near so let her know that you are 'right outside'. If at any point your daughter decides she needs you, the teacher will come get you.

#### **My son is an extremely independent 4-year old, do I need to stay at the studio?**

We prefer for parents of children in our preschool classes to stay at the studio. If your son needs to use the restroom, you are near to accompany him. If you do need to leave the studio, please let the teacher know so if an issue does arise we can handle it accordingly.

#### **What is observation week?**

We have at least one observation week each semester. Observation week is when parents, grandparents, and other very important family members come into class to observe a class and their dancer. Be sure to bring your camera!

#### **Why does my child need to remove their street shoes before entering class?**

Unfortunately no matter how hard we try our street shoes pick up dirt. Any dirt that comes onto the dance floors is very rough on our dance floors and ultimately on the dancers' shoes.

#### **My child has taken dance at a different studio, how do I determine which level is appropriate for her?**

Please contact our office for guidance in placement. Your dancer may participate in a free trial class to help determine if the level of the class is a match for her abilities.

#### **Does a dancer have to be on the performing company to enroll in advanced classes?**

No. Our advanced classes are open to all students who are at that level of ability. Members of our performing company are in many of the advanced classes. Our schedule does include AIM classes. These 'classes' are the scheduled weekly practice for that AIM number.

#### **When can I begin Pointe classes?**

We are very protective of our dancers' health not only today, but also in the future. There is an ongoing evaluation of a dancers readiness for Pointe based on many different factors. While teachers understand the thrill of reaching this milestone, it is very important that each dancer receives an accurate assessment of the student's ability to advance to this level.

### Recital

#### **Do the children have the opportunity to practice before the recital?**

After practicing the recital choreography in class, we have a dress rehearsal at the studio about a month before the recital. At the studio rehearsal, in addition to practicing the number, class photographs are taken (picture forms will be available at that time). The second dress rehearsal at Ruth Eckerd Hall is the week before the recital.

#### **How do you ensure the safety of my child at Ruth Eckerd Hall? The facility is so large!**



##### **FOR OUR PRESCHOOL & COMBO CLASSES:**

- (1) Each class has a back-stage Mom who is with the children at all times.
- (2) Each student wears a class specific name tag. (For example: Class 1 tags are butterflies, Class 2 tags are suns; etc.) The child keeps his/her nametag on at ALL times, except when performing on stage. The backstage Mom removes the tags immediately before the students go on stage; the tags are put back on when the students come off stage.
- (3) When picking up, we release only a few classes at a time so that we can ensure that each child goes with his/her parent. We strongly encourage the pick-up parent to be the person we see each week at dance class.



##### **FOR YOUNGER STUDENTS:**

- (1) Each class has a back-stage Mom who is with the children at all times. This Mom also assists students who are dancing in multiple numbers and may need assistance.
- (2) When picking up, we release only a few classes at a time so that we can ensure that each child goes with his/her parent. We strongly encourage the pick-up parent to be the person we see each week at dance class.

If your family has a special circumstance, please contact Cindy Woods, our office manager.