

Chantal's Dance Academy



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COMPETITIVE DANCE SEASON 2009-2010

CLASSES/REHEARSALS

If a dancer is unable to maintain a strong commitment in terms of class/rehearsal attendance or is having difficulty keeping up with choreography and competition expectations, the dancer will be removed from that group number. However, he/she will be considered again for competition in another year.

Classes/Rehearsals are mandatory and if you find your dancer has a conflict, please advise the teacher as soon as possible. Because so much choreography is included in a single class/rehearsal, it is up to each dancer to catch up on his/her own. Please make arrangements for a fellow dancer to assist before the next practice.

Birthday parties and sleepovers are NOT valid reasons for missing classes/rehearsals. When choreographing for a group of dancers, it is very difficult for each of them when someone is missing. It is difficult rehearsing with blank spots and attempting to leave room for a missing dancer.

Please remember that participating in a group dance means that everyone must make the effort at all times and not just when it is convenient. Dancers are to be in the building well ahead of class time and ready for class beforehand, including being warmed up. Teachers should not have to go looking for dancers. We urge ALL parents to note the class/rehearsal times for their dancers and make whatever arrangements are necessary to have them at the studio promptly. In addition, please ensure that your dancer is picked up immediately after class/rehearsal, particularly if they are participating in the last one of the day.

All dancers are encouraged to practice each routine at home in the same way you would practice for a piano lesson. Fifteen or twenty minutes of home rehearsal a day will make a tremendous improvement. Each dancer should have a CD containing the music for each number in which they are competing. Please bring a blank CD into the office marked with your dancer's name, music titles and if possible the name of the choreographer/teacher. The appropriate music will be burned and returned as quickly as possible for the dancer to pick up.

As the dates for competition approach, it may be necessary to hold additional rehearsals on Saturday and/or Sunday to ensure that routines are perfected. You will be given sufficient notice if this is the case and your dancer will be expected to attend.

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE FOR SOLOS, DUETS AND TRIOS

If a dancer has been selected to participate in a solo, duet or trio, a very special opportunity has been provided to them. Not everyone is given this particular opportunity and you should discuss this commitment with your dancer. A list will be posted on the notice board by the end of September. Classes should start by November & fees for Solos/Duets/Trios need to be handed in BEFORE students start their classes.

Schedules for these classes have been very carefully created with an attempt to work with everyone's dance timetables. Please be aware that timing is important and there is virtually no room for changes. These classes finish at the end of 15 classes total.

COMPETITION LOCATIONS AND DATES

Our dancers will be participating in four competitions this year. Some of the competitions will not include all numbers but the details will be decided at a later date. Please keep all dates free and available for all possibilities. Final schedules usually arrive about 10 days before a competition and are streamlined for our studio immediately. You will receive your own copy of each with the pertinent information. Please be aware that there can be last minute time changes.

As usual, some of our dancers will be competing against each other this year and we remind you to continue to help foster a sense of good sportsmanship in your dancer and urge her/him to provide encouragement and support to fellow dancers and other competitors.

Parents and dancers are also reminded that a dancer should be on site and ready to perform (i.e. warmed up, costumed, make up done and appropriate hairstyle) no less than one hour before the scheduled performance time. There are always changes to the schedule we are provided with, and we have no control over such amendments. Our best course of action is to be ready and prepared. All dancers are encouraged to come early and cheer on their fellow teammates.

The competition dates and times for the 2008-2009 season are tentatively scheduled as follows:

1. **STARCATCHERS- Ajax - J Clarke Richardson Theatre**
March 26th to March 28th
2. **Markham- Breakthru Dance Challenge Inc.**
April 10-11
3. **Blue Mountain Resort/Collingwood- Fever Int. Dance Championships**
April 22-25
4. **???to be confirmed??-Peterborough- Luv 2 Dance- May 13-16**

Please check the dates above and if your dancer is not able to participate in any one of the above, please advise the office in writing immediately as entry registration is completed now. If your dancer is part of a group, please remember that the choreography is designed to include each dancer at all times. If someone drops out at

the last minute, or even some time in advance, it is extremely difficult to re-choreograph, and may necessitate everyone missing a competition. This is not fair to any of our dancers or their teachers, all of whom work extremely hard to perfect each number.

Volunteers handle group accommodation arrangements quite successfully for some out-of-town competitions and you will be provided with details once these arrangements have been finalized. You are, of course, under no obligation to use this accommodation.

COSTUME, MAKE-UP AND HAIR INFORMATION

The information that follows with respect to costumes, hairstyles and make-up is very important. Please note that grooming is adjudicated along with the actual dance and performance.

REQUIREMENTS

ALL COMPETITION STUDENTS MUST HAVE A JEWELLERY SET & COMPETITIVE TEAM JACKET & PANTS. \$50 Jewellery & \$110 Team Jacket & Pants plus taxes. See office to order.

COSTUMES

Costumes will be designed for each number to suit the selection of music and the dancer(s).

Great care should be taken with respect to all costumes. Plastic cleaners' bags do not provide sufficient protection for costumes. Costume garment bags and dance tote bags with the C.D.A. logo may be ordered. These items compliment the C.D.A. Jacket that each dancer is required to wear to all competitions - when arriving at a competition, during award ceremonies and upon leaving the competition. It can also be used as a cover-up for snack time during competitions. No food or drinks should be eaten while a dancer is in costume and definitely not backstage.

Please ensure that your dancer has his/her costumes when leaving home. Please check and double-check before they leave. Make certain that all pieces of each costume are accounted for and that the appropriate shoes, tights, jewelry, hair accessories and props are included. You and your dancer are responsible for this. If a piece of costume or prop is left behind, every dancer must go on without that particular item. There are NO EXTRA pieces! Be sure you have an extra pair of tights packed in case of an emergency.

Every dancer should have a **sewing kit** containing: scissors, needles, assorted threads, assorted safety pins, and extra elastic if warranted.

Every dancer should have a **first aid kit**, which includes; skin toned Band-Aids, tensor wrap, mini-ice pack, and extra tampons (if applicable). The tensor wraps and ice packs have come in handy many, many times. Also, clear nail polish may be used to repair tights when there is no time to change. Static guard and nail polish remover pads are also necessary items to have.

All tap dancers should have a screwdriver on hand that fits their taps.

A fine system has been implemented and \$5.00 will be charged to any dancer who is missing part of a costume, shoes, etc., and to any dancer who leaves belongings behind at a competition; there is no room for negotiation. Dressing rooms will be checked regularly during and after a competition. Lost items are usually brought back to C.D.A.. Funds collected are always given back to the collective group of dancers and included in our annual fundraising efforts. Parents are encouraged to have dancers pay these fines themselves.

HAIR

For the most part, part on the right and straight low ponytail will be required for our dancers. Please note that bangs are not permitted and will have to be pinned/gelled back. Each dancer should arrive at a competition in the appropriate hairstyle for the first number they are in. You will need; hairbrush, comb, long and short hairpins, hairspray, elastics, hair- nets for buns, gel or spray gel. Please purchase a supply of these items for your dancer. Do not rely on other dancers to supply these items.

MAKE UP

The following make-up is required for each competition. Please do not use other colour choices, as they are ineffective on stage. All dancers in a group number are supposed to look alike.

All of the following items may be purchased at Shoppers Drug Mart. If sold out, the store will gladly place an order for you. We will have packages available for sale at the front desk containing all the required make up. (Volunteers are needed to assemble these).

Lipstick:

Blush:

Eye shadow:

Foundation:

Eyelashes:

For hygienic reasons, please do not share make-up.

Most theatres do not have sufficient lighting or mirror space available for make-up application. Please include a mirror in your makeup case.

Please note that no nail polish, watches or jewelry may be worn on stage (including pierced earrings) unless part of the costume.

HAIR AND MAKE-UP DEMONSTRATION

A demonstration for hair and make-up will be scheduled closer to competition time. Please note that ATTENDANCE will be MANDATORY for ALL competitive dancers. We suggest those parents of new competitors and of all dancers under the age of twelve also attend.

This demonstration and practice period should last approximately an hour. Dancers should arrive with all required make-up, hair accessories and related paraphernalia in an appropriate carryall. This includes eyelashes and glue so that application practice may occur.

GALA 2009

The C.D.A. Annual Gala Performance date will be announced. This is an extremely special event for each of our dancers and a great deal of time and effort is required to organize this. All competition numbers will be performing that evening.

We urge you to invite family and friends to attend this special performance. If you are a first-year parent, please take the time to discuss this event with other parents or your dancer's teacher. The entertainment is excellent and it will give you an opportunity to see how our dancers progress through various levels.

Tickets are approx. \$25 each & include your dinner at Glenway! More detailed information will be provided to you in the New Year. Volunteers are always welcome to help out.

PICTURE DAY May 12th, 2009 DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED

Competition photographs will be taken at the studio during regular photo day. Please be prepared as competitive students usually have more costumes & changes than other students. The date will be announced well in advance- it will be in MAY! Both a solo and a group photograph will be taken of each dancer in each particular number. We urge you to have your dancer attend.

There is no obligation to anyone and there is no pressure to purchase these photos. However, it is nice to have everyone available for a group picture and it is for this reason that attendance is encouraged.

As you know, many group photographs appear in the studio and it is unfortunate when someone is missing and that particular group photo is displayed.

SNACKS

If you do not provide your dancer with food and drinks for rehearsals, please make sure to give them some extra change so that they may purchase a bottle of water. Hydration is very important when exercising. Please remember the CDA is a peanut free zone.

COMMUNICATION

It is important to check the bulletin board regularly; this is still our most efficient way of communicating important information to all our families. To the best of our ability, we also send home the latest newsletter and other notes with each dancer. We will continue to post the most important notes on the front door for our "drive-by" parents, but please come in and visit. E-mail is also being used effectively for communicating important information to our competitive families. Whenever you have any questions or comments you are encouraged to speak with Jennifer at the front desk.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS TO KEEP HANDY

C.D.A. PARENT COMMITTEE 2009-10 MEMBERS:

Chair: Chantal (905) 252-8277 cdadance@rogers.com

Chair of Fund-Raising:

(Need Volunteers!!!)

Senior Parent Rep.:

El/Sr Parent Rep.:

Intermediate Parent Rep.:

Junior Parent Rep.:

New Parent Liaison:

List of Competitive Team & Parents 2009/2010