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MARSHALLTOWN YMCA-YWCA

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YMCA-YWCA SCHOOL OF DANCE: THE DANCE KONNECTION 2020-2021 NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2020 SOUTE NEWS

Classes are still open for enrollment, contact us today!!! Limited space available!

!!!!Please read the entire news letter. There is a lot of information included in all the monthly news letters and if you just skim you will miss something!!!!

Newsletters will be emailed at least once a month. Sometimes we will email additional things that come up during the dance month. All information will also be posted on our web site www.thedancekonnection.com.

Remember to check our web site. www.thedancekonnection.com. We will be updating it regularly. You can also check us out on Facebook if you are registered. Just search for The Dance Konnection! and The Dance Konnection business page, Twitter The Dance Konnection @TheDKdance & on Instagram @thedancekonnection

Feel free to email me with questions or concerns. You may email me at the studio email: thedancekonnection@gmail.com I may use either one to send you correspondence. If you need to call the office the number is 641-752-8658 ext. 304. Our main source of communication is by email. If you are not receiving emails and would like to, please contact the dance office and we will add you to our list. If you know of someone who is not receiving emails from us let them know that they may also call the office to be added to the list. We also have a studio group message system, if you would be interested in receiving these text messages email the dance office for the link.

Remind- If you would like to receive reminder information (workshops, weather, etc,) by text message please follow these steps to enroll to be put on the text list. You will not be able to respond to the text message. Website Instructions: www.remind.com/join/ next enter @thedancek (the @ sign is already there, so just enter thedancek, with no spaces) you will then be prompted to enter your phone number that you wish to receive the text message too, include your area code. You will receive a text message from remind which will include a code that you will need to enter to validate that the number you entered is correct. If you would rather you can download the remind app on your phone and then the above instructions. It is very easy to do!!! You can not respond to these text messages @thedanceko

Some clarifications: Reminder that all monthly payments for dance classes that your student is taking that are paid to the Marshalltown YMCA-YWCA are now on a monthly auto pay system and will be drafted from the

Dates To Remember:

September 7- No Dance-
Happy Labor Day!!!

November 1- 1st Costume Payment DUE

November 25-29 No Dance -
Thanksgiving Break

December 6-Christmas Extravaganza

December 14-17 -Christmas Parties in Class

December 21-Jan 3- No Dance -
Merry Christmas

January 4-Classes Resume

January 15-Final Costume Payment DUE

February 11- Tights/
Accessories Forms and Money DUE

TBA-Dance Pictures

April 24-Tentatively- KaMotion Recital & Acro Demonstration

May 7 & 8- Recital

account (checking, savings or credit card) that you provided when you turned in your dance registration sheet. If you have not turned in your account information for monthly drafting please contact Ashley Woodruff immediately at 641-752-8658 ext 302 or email ashley.nelson@ymca-ywca.org. If you choose to pay for the entire dance year in full that needs to be done the first week of dance please contact Ashley Woodruff at 641-752-8658 or email ashley.nelson@ymca-ywca.org.

The YMCA YWCA will only offer scheduled payments for Youth Programming. All payments must now be drafted from a checking, savings, or credit card account. Dance tuition payments are due on the first of each month unless paid in full at the start of classes. An electronic method of billing must be completed and returned in order to attend. Accounts must be kept current in order to attend dance classes at the Y. A \$30 service charge will be applied to accounts for any returned payments due to nonsufficient funds. Participants will be notified at the time of returns. Participants have 30 days to take care of any returned payments and NSF fees. If past due balances and fees are not paid after 60 days, participants will be dropped from dance classes. It is the card/account holder's responsibility to inform the Y of any changes in billing methods

All other payments need to be brought to the dance office that is located outside the studios upstairs at the Cultural Center by dancers only or you may pay online through your parent portal. **These payments are for EVERYTHING BUT tuition. (shoes, costumes, accessories, gifts, etc.) These payments need to be made out to "The Dance Konnection".**

The Dance Konnection **does** send out statements on the 1st of each month. If the balance of your account is not paid in full, a late fee of 3% will be charged on the 20th of each month. We accept cash or checks or you can make a payment through your parent portal.

PLEASE NOTE If you have questions about shoes, dancewear, payments, statements, etc. you will HAVE to wait until someone is in the dance office to help you. Please don't interrupt the dance classes. Once the attention is lured away from the teacher it is very hard to get the students to focus again. Thank you for your cooperation.

Ka-Motion If you are a member of Ka-Motion 1 or 2 you need to purchase pom poms for each dancer. You can purchase these through your Dance Konnection parent portal.

Shoes are coming in daily. Please have your dancer check with the dance office. There are no refunds only exchanges.

Christmas Show- We are still planning on having a Christmas show on Sunday December 6th, but we do not know in what capacity. We will keep you posted as we know more.

Christmas Show t-shirt.... We will soon have order forms for t-shirts available in the waiting area of the studio and on the website with our Christmas show logo on them. Just a WARNING!!!! They will be due when they are due and **not a day later**. I will not be ordering extras. So get them in early. I will be ordering them the day after they are due. These places are very busy around Christmas so we are on a limited time table. \$1.00 from each t-shirt sold will be given to a charity that the Christmas Show Committee will choose. We will let you know which charity has been selected after the decision is made. So what a great way to give plus you get a cute shirt too!!! You will be able to purchase your Christmas t shirts using either

September Birthdays:

Alexis Hughlette
Haley Reid
Kaitlyn Beare
Amelia Deeter
Myla Johnson
Estelle Halsted
Sophia Stone
Olivia Aker
Clara Schiebel
Elijah Blanchard
Adysen Lander
Zayda Woodbury
Camille Ceren
Jade Mauseth
Kinnley Smith
Makenzie Carrillo
Bia Benson
Emma Kuhlert
Lucy Morley
Quinn Flack
Bellamy Bauder
Georgia Eicher
Ava Kusserow
Alexander Ohrt
Siena Blayer
Sadie Sawyer
Spencer Peck

Parent/Tot Class: This class is geared towards toddlers, 18 months to 3 year olds, and the special adult in his or her life. It is designed to help students feel comfortable learning in a group setting. Activities will include dance games, playing instruments, and singing songs while having fun together. Learn new and creative ways to enjoy music and dance. This class will be in three 6 week sessions

Please keep on the lookout for days and times to be posted as to when these classes will begin.

***\$35.00 per session for those registering for all three sessions up front.**

PARENT PORTAL INFORMATION!!! You have each been emailed individually a parent portal, if you have not received this via email please email the office and we can resend it to you. On the parent portal you can see what you owe on your Dance Konnection account (NOT the Y for regular classes), order shoes/dance wear on line, your dancers attendance in class, see your DK statements, add another parent or contact to your account/ update your information (such as address or phone number), add a photo of your dancer to their profile so the teacher knows exactly what they look like, teachers may share class notes or homework for your dancer. You can still order shoes and dance wear. If you order through our on line store you will have to pay via pay pal or stripe. Which you can pay with your credit card or pay pal account but it will be via pay pal. There is a 3.78% convenience fee added to on line orders. Plus if you order the incorrect item and/or size you will be charged a \$10.00 restocking fee. So if you are unsure order in the office!!! You can also order shoes and dancewear on our 2nd online store which is www.shopnimbly.com/thedancekonnection

Costume Deposit Policy-Reminder: Per your signed registration paperwork below are the following costume deposit changes. **Primary classes; preschool & elementary Ballet & tap combination classes have a one time \$75 (plus tax), total due will be \$80.25 on November 1st. Dancers in any leveled classes (1-9) dancers taking more than one leveled class have a \$100 deposit due November 1st with remaining balance due on January 15th.** Dancers taking only one leveled class have an \$80 deposit due November 1st with the remaining balance due January 15th. **All costume fees are non-refundable.**

Reminder All Dancers must have their hair in bun or pony tail. All shoes must have their names in them. No gum or candy in the dance room. You must follow the dress code for your classes. Please take your little dancers to the restroom before they come to dance class.

Dance Journals- We started doing this program last year with some of the dancers and it was a great success. We are now asking that all Jazz 1-9, Ballet 1-5, Pointe 1-4, and Tap 1-7 dancers to have a "Dance" journal in their dance bags and a pen. We use them to write choreography, words of encouragement, thoughts, goals all sorts of things. It helps the dancers remember steps and be uplifted when they may have had a rough rehearsal. You can use an old notebook, a diary or a journal. They can decorate them. They can glue pictures of dancers or anything dance on them. It is also a great remembrance to look back on their dance year. We are starting it this coming week, so throw a journal and pen in their dance bags.

Communication Devices- We know this may be obvious but we need to remind everyone that we do not allow dancers to have Gizmos, Apple watches, ipods, cellphones or any other communication devices in the dance rooms while their classes are being held. These items are a huge interruption/distraction to the entire class and also to the instructors. We are asking that all devices are kept out of the dance rooms and are kept in dance bags. If instructors see that these devices are in the dance rooms they will be collected by the instructors and will be kept until

September Birthdays cont.

Georgia Eicher

Ava Kusserow

Alexander Ohrt

Siena Blayer

Sadie Sawyer

may bring your dancer into the building and take them to the studio their class is in. No siblings allowed in the building during drop off and pick up unless they are heading to class also. Once the dancer is in the studio you MUST leave the building and wait in your car or outside. You may come back into the building-wearing your mask and pick up your dancer at the END of class.

2. MASK are required in the common areas of the building by our dancers. So dancers need to have a mask on when coming into the building, leaving the building and when moving for studio to studio and Acro. Please remind your dancers of this. Also if we are at the barre or can not maintain 6ft apart your dancer will be asked to put a mask on. So please make sure they have one. Also dancers HAVE to be able to put masks on and off by themselves. So practicing with them is a good idea. We will have disposable masks available in the office for dancers who forget but they are a \$1.00 and will be charged to your DK account. Also make sure they have a baggie to put them in. They do not want their mask to smell like stinky dance shoes because it's floating around in their dance bags. If you wish for your dancer to wear their mask the whole class please make that wish very clear with them so they know your rule. But if the dancer needs a "mask" break all they need to do is ask the teacher and we will direct them into an area in the studio so they can lower their mask and take a breath or 2.

3. There will be a Y employee to take dancers temp. as they arrive in the studio. So they MUST stop and get their temp. taken. It's also a good idea for you the parent to take their temp before they arrive to the Y. If anyone has a Temp of 100.3 and above they will not be able to come into the building.

4. There is Hand Sanitizer All over the building! We have wall mounted dispensers outside of Studio 1/2 and Studio 4. All the studios will have bottles available for the dancers to use. But it's also a good idea the dancers have some of their own in their dance bags. We will remind them to use it but please reinforce this with your dancers also. And HAND WASHING with soap and water is always the best!

5. Older dancers that have several classes during the night are fine to stay within the building if they have a short break between classes. Please just remind your dancers they need to wear their masks if they are in the lobby/hallways and to keep 6ft distance from other dancers where possible.

6. No street shoes allow(this is not a new rule this is a reminder) in the actual studios. Only dance shoes!!! Also reminder to wipe them down and sanitize them after each use. So it's a good idea for your dancers to have some wipes in their bag to do that. Hey the best case scenery is that their dance bag may not smell AWFUL this year!!!

7. Dancers need to come dressed and ready for class. Also all 3-4, 4-5, 5-6, 7-8 yr old Ballet and Tap combo classes will start with TAP shoes on. So their ballet shoes need to be in their bag.

8. All water fountains are off limits at this time to drink from. So please have dancers bring their own full water bottles. The vending machines do have some water bottles and the office will have some to sell.

9. The only classes allowed to bring their bags into the studios will be 3-4,4-5,5-6,7-8 Combo classes. All other classes must have their bags in the hallways BUT they must be separated from other dancers belongings. Please also remind your dancers of this.

10. CHECK IN on the portal. We have added a CHECK IN on your parents portal and we are asking that you log in and fill it out each day your dancer come to the studio. You only have to do it once a day. It has a list of questions about COVID/Wellness. If you do it it will help with contact tracing on our end.

11. Dancewear and shoe pick up. Most of the items have arrived if you ordered them -except Kamotion uniforms-the Registration nights. If you ordered online through our parent portal after registration days those items are in route. We have a few items backordered. We will try on the shoes etc on your dancer when they arrive into the studio their first nights of dance. If you ordered in our Nimble Store I do believe they give you a notice when it should arrive at your homes.

12. We will doing added Cleaning and sanitizing just like we did this summer. Cleaning the floors in the studios between each group/class of dancers. If we use any shared equipments it will also be cleaned after class. The dancers will wipe down the barres before and after they use them. The Y cleans and sanitizes the whole building each night. Also please remind your dancers they do not have to TOUCH everything. LOL I know in my house I harp this all the time when we are out in public. "I don't think you need to touch the wall as you are walking by". LOL! We have Lysol Spray and Clorox wipes available if your dancer noticed OPPSS! I just touched that. Just ask a teacher for one or the office. We would be happy to get them one.

13. Pick up and Drop off dancers. Dancers should not be dropped off for classes more than 10 minutes early. And Please be here promptly when their class is over so they are not waiting here at the Y.

14. Any dancer that donated Clorox wipes and or lysol spray to the studio this first week of dance. Their name will

16. We now have an addition feature. You can pay your DK bill on your parent portal. YEAH!!! We still take checks and cash(you will need to call and Tanya can pop down and grab it from you or your dancer can drop it off at the office) but if you wish to pay it through the portal you will either go through stripe or pay pal and you can use your credit card. We added this because you can not come into the office at this time and pay your DK bills. But please note there is a processing fee. As a friendly reminder the DK does not handle your regular tuition for classes. That is through the Y. But we handle EVERYTHING else!

17. At this time we will not be allowing dancers to bring in Birthday TREAT!!! I know BOOOOO!!!! But if your dancer lets us know we will definitely make sure it's a special day for them!!!

18. Please remind dancers if they are eating supper here at the studio between classes that they can not and should not share food or drinks.

19. If your dancer is not feeling well and they are not coming to class, has been exposed or tested positive for Covid. Please contact the office right away. And if you want to Zoom because of this you must let the office know 2 hours prior to their class so we can make sure the teacher is notified and will log on to the zoom. All zoom links are located in your parent portal. They are not activated unless we know we need to. Also Zoom is only for our dancers who are not returning to in person classes at this time and have made prior arrangements with Miss Kimi. Or your dancer is sick and still wishes to take part in class. Or if you are quarantining. Or if you have been exposed and are doing your due diligence until you have been tested and have gotten a negative test back. Zoom is not for if you missed class or are on vacation and you want to Zoom. Treat it like you normally would. If you miss class because you are on vacation in "normal" time that means you miss class. Or if you are running late and think well we will just go home and ask for a zoom link. No you are just late and you missed class. Normal Make up policies will be taken for normal reasons.

20. The staff is so excited for our dancers to be back in the studio dancing. We are committed to make the most of this dance year for our dancers and our selves. We will be friendly reminding the dancers about masks, social distancing, hand sanitizing and cleaning. But we are going to make this year as NORMAL as we can and have fun. We want to get our dancers back into their pre-lock down shape both mentally and physically. We want them to feel safe and loved in their "home away from home".

21. If you are in Kamotion until we get your cheer shoes in please bring a different pair of tennis shoes to wear inside the studio.

22.PBT make sure you bring your own equipment and cleaning products as stated in your own separate email you received a few weeks ago.

23. Acro. if you are using your own Acro. Islands please remember to clean them top and bottom before and after you enter or leave studio 5. Also remember to clean your bare feet with the wipes in the studio or bring your own.

24. We have a NEW studio space. Studio 5. Where All of our Acro. Classes have been moved too. It is right next to Studio 4.

25. Please note that if we get "shut down" again or we have classes that have to quarantine we will be still holding classes either by Zoom or we will send video. Until we can open up again. We will be maneuvering our way through this year. We are praying for the year to go as smooth as possible and for everyone to stay healthy!

National Honors Society for Dance Arts– The National Honor Society for Dance Arts™ (NHSDA) is a program of the National Dance Education Organization. This is for high schoolers who are interested in the new opportunity.

Student Benefits:

Recognition of their artistic merit, academic achievement, and leadership throughout their educational experience. Certificates at each level of induction, opportunity to receive the gold Honor Pin and wear the blue and white Honor Cord and/or Medallion at graduation.

Mentorship from Chapter Sponsor and networking with peers

Leadership and development opportunities within their NHSDA Chapter, as they can assist the Chapter Sponsor with Chapter administration, record keeping, fundraising, and event planning

The National Honor Society for Dance Arts is run on an institutional basis. Chapters are set up at individual schools, and only students who are enrolled at that school may apply for induction.

Individual students, not enrolled at a school that hosts a current NHSDA Chapter, are not eligible for induction.

***There will be a parent and student informational meeting on Sunday September 13th at 4:30 pm.**

Adult Classes: We will offering adult dance classes beginning Sunday September 20th, times will vary. These adult

Competition Team Tryouts– We will be holding DKSTARZ Competition Team tryouts on Sunday September 13th. We will be doing things a bit different this year. We will be having you sign up for the time slots for your dancers age group in groups of 4-5. You must sign your dancer up for their correct age group. If you have not already notified the dance office please do so to be put on the list to audition this year, I need to know this no later than Tuesday September 8th. On Wednesday September 9th you will be sent a dropbox with the choreography you will need to learn and perform for the Sunday September 13th audition. You will need to perform all 3 combos and will be doing this in your audition groups. We are not asking for perfection, but we want for you to practice/work on the combos and be as prepared as possible prior to attending auditions. The cost is \$25.00 per dancer to audition, returning competition team members that will be auditioning will not need to pay the audition fee this year. Anyone auditioning will be sent a Sign Up Genius link to sign up for an audition time slot. An email with general information will be sent out to all the people who have signed up already and to everyone who has notified the dance office by Tuesday September 8th that you would like to audition. Mini dancer's ages 4-6 year old– DKStarlets will audition on Sunday September 13th from 12:00-12:30 pm, no dropbox will be sent out at all, mini dancer's will learn their combos the day they come to auditions.