



MSD NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

THANKSGIVING BREAK: The studio will be closed Wednesday, November 27th through Sunday, December 1st for Thanksgiving. Classes will resume Monday, December 2nd.

CHRISTMAS/HOLIDAY BREAK: The studio will be closed Friday, December 20th through Friday, January 3rd for Christmas. Classes will resume Sunday, January 5th. Holiday gifts for dancers will be distributed to each dancer the last week before the break.

SNOW DAYS/BAD WEATHER: As winter approaches, we may need to cancel classes due to bad weather. Classes will be canceled no later than 2:00 pm. Call the studio for an outgoing message. MSD will post canceled classes on Facebook and the website. Please make sure that you have Liked "Marias Dance" for Facebook updates. We will also send emails to those families. Finally, PLEASE make sure your child knows what to do after school if classes are canceled. There will be no one at the studio. As the weather gets bad we would like to remind you that street shoes are **NOT** allowed on the dance floors. Please leave all boots on the boot trays provided in the main lobby. This will make it easier to keep the floors dry and safe for everyone. We have installed coat hooks, as well as cubbies in both lobbies. Please make sure all jackets & coats are hung up, and all dance and book bags placed in the cubbies. This should provide more seating for everyone. Also, please let the receptionist know if it is getting icy outside. They try to keep a watch on it but sometimes they don't realize the weather is getting bad.

Past Due Tuition: January tuition is due by the 1st. The mail will be collected over the break so be sure to get your tuition in on time. Dancers with a past due balance of 2 or more months tuition will not be permitted to attend dance class until their account is up to date. If they show up for class, they will be directed to remain in the lobby. This policy will be strictly enforced. If you have any questions or concerns, please direct them to Carrie or Maria.

COSTUMES AND COSTUME BALANCES: Recital costumes have been selected by each instructor. A book is available with a picture of each costume and a breakdown of the cost. Prices vary according to style and size. All costumes deposits are due at this time. The balance of each costume will be added to the account of each student/family the first week of December. A \$10.00 late fee will be added to all outstanding costume balances MONTHLY, beginning December 31, 2019.

As of December 1st, if you have any outstanding balance from either September or October, MSD will not order a costume on your behalf. If you pay your tuition up to date at a later time, we will order a costume for you. There will be additional fees for shipping & handling, and we cannot guarantee delivery for the June recitals.

We encourage parents to review their child's measurements and use the size charts provided in the costume book. **ALL COSTUME SIZE REQUESTS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 1ST.** If no costume size requests are received, MSD staff will fit the costume on behalf of the dancer based on their girth. Costumes will be ordered December 15th. They are made to order and cannot be canceled once the order is placed. **ALL ALTERATIONS ARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PARENTS.**

SPRING CLASSES: Maria's School of Dance will again be offering spring dance classes. Classes will run April/May more details will be available in the January newsletter.

RECITAL SHOES & TIGHTS: With the exception of Miss Jenn's Pre Pointe and Advanced Pointe ballet classes, all recital tights **MUST BE PURCHASED THROUGH MARIA'S SCHOOL OF DANCE**. Specific colors and styles will be listed for each class in the costume book. You may purchase these at any time. However, you must have them for rehearsal and recital. Required shoes will also be listed in the book. We require dancers to be in their correct shoes by January 1st. It is important that dancers learn to move comfortably in their shoes **PRIOR** to performance time. If you are looking for jazz shoes, lyrical shoes, ballet slippers or hip hop shoes, check out the used shoe bins at the desk. Correct dance shoes can also be found at MK Dancewear in Lansing and Dancewear Gallery in Milford..

****Miss Jenn's Pointe ballet classes are required to wear: Prima Soft Convertible Seamed Ballet Tights. You can purchase these at Dancewear Gallery or on line. All other ballet classes will be required to wear ballet tights purchased through MSD.**

25TH ANNIVERSARY OPENER / CLOSER 2020: Opener this year will be "Sing Sing Sing" and closer will be "One" from A Chorus Line. Dancers that sign up will be in **BOTH** the opener and closer. Dancers can no longer sign up for one or the other. The fee is \$50 per dancers, \$80 for two family members, or \$100 per family of 3 or more. For those of you that don't know, Sing Sing Sing has always been Maria's favorite song of all time. If students have been around long enough, they are most likely going to dance to Sing Sing Sing at least once! (Some have been "stuck" dancing to it 3 times!) Because it is a special year, we will be ordering actual recital costumes for this. Dancers will wear the same costume for both dances but accessories will be added to the costume for the closer. Students **MUST** be signed up by December 1st in order to guarantee a costume.

CALLING ALL MSD ALUMI: An Alumni dance will be performing in all 3 shows! We are looking for as many former MSD dancers as possible so spread the word!!! Rehearsals will be last couple of weeks before recital. We will also send videos of choreography to dancers out of state. There will be a full rehearsal at the studio Sunday, June 7th and then at dress rehearsal Monday, June 8th. This will allow those from out of town only having to come for the week. Watch for more information and please spread the word!!!

STUDIO HOURS: The desk is open Monday through Thursday 2:30pm – 8:30pm. Please make sure all business is conducted during those hours. This will free our staff to straighten up the studio and prepare for the next day's classes. Also, we have many instructors with long drives home, and require them to leave the studios along with other staff for safety.

STUDIO DANCEWEAR, TEE SHIRTS AND BAGS: You may have noticed samples of new custom studio wear hanging around the studio. These are great pieces, priced well and would make great Christmas gifts! Orders must be received before the Thanksgiving break to assure a Holiday delivery. We have sample sizes available, inquire at the desk.