

## NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER



**THANKSGIVING BREAK:** The studio will be closed Wednesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> through Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup> for Thanksgiving. Classes will resume Monday, November 28<sup>th</sup>.



**CHRISTMAS/HOLIDAY BREAK:** The studio will be closed Thursday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> through Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> for Christmas. Classes will resume Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup>. Holiday gifts for dancers will be distributed to each dancer the last week before the break.

**NEED CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS???** We will have a new online store through Sports and Apparel soon. In the meantime, feel free to stop in at their store just across Fowlerville Road. They have our new jacket designs (as the old one is discontinued) and dance bags to choose from. They can also put the MSD and DE logos on anything you choose.

**SNOW DAYS/BAD WEATHER:** As winter approaches, we may need to cancel classes due to bad weather. If we are going to cancel the entire day, we try to do it no later than 2:00 pm. However, sometimes a storm comes in while classes are in session, in this instance we will send an email out and start making calls. Call the studio for an outgoing message. MSD will also post canceled classes on Facebook. 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, as there will be no one at the studio. As the winter weather arrives, 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 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. **Please let the receptionist know if it is getting icy outside.** They try to keep a watch on it, but sometimes they do not realize the weather is worsening.

**Past Due Tuition:** January tuition is due by the 1<sup>st</sup>. 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 Connie or Maria.

**COSTUMES:** Recital costumes have been selected by each instructor. A book is available with a picture of each costume. All costume fees are due December 1<sup>st</sup>. These fees will automatically come out of your account if you have autopay. A \$10.00 late fee will be added to all outstanding costume balances MONTHLY, beginning December 31, 2022. **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 1<sup>ST</sup>.** 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 15<sup>th</sup>. 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 Ms. Jenn's 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 Dancy Pantz in Okemos.

\*\*Ms Jenn's Pointe ballet classes (Grades 3-6) are required to wear: Prima Soft Convertible Seamed Ballet Tights. You can purchase these on line at [www.prima-soft.com](http://www.prima-soft.com). All other ballet classes will be required to wear ballet tights purchased through MSD.

**OPENER / CLOSER 2023:** This year's Opener will be "Be Our Guest" and Closer will be "High School Musical". Dancers who sign up will be in **BOTH** the Opener and Closer. The fee is \$50 per dancers, \$80 for two family members, or \$100 per family of 3 or more. Dancers will wear the same costume for both dances. **Students MUST** be signed up by December 1st in order to guarantee a costume.

**Opener Costume:** White costume (shown in costume book), tan tights, tan jazz shoes.

**Closer Costume:** White leotard from the opener costume, black leggings, black jazz shoes, and some red accents to be decided at rehearsals.

**STUDIO HOURS:** The desk is open Monday through Thursday 2:30pm – 8:30pm, Fridays 3:30-6:30pm, and Saturdays 9:00am-12:30pm. 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 they are required to leave the studio with other staff for safety.