

February 25, 2019

Dear Parents:

We are having a fabulous year at The Dance Foundation, and our students are looking forward to the opportunity to showcase their growth as dancers. Teachers and students in our 3-year-old through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade dance classes are now preparing for our spring performance, ***The Enchanted Library*** by *Blakely Cottle*. This is an original story, created just for our students! The purpose of this culminating event is to celebrate each student's growth during the year in dance. This letter explains the logistics of photo call, the dress rehearsal and performance to help everything run smoothly.

The performance fee covers the cost of their costume, which dancers keep, as well as the production and theatre expenses. The recital is free for all to attend; no tickets are required. TDF is a non-profit with extensive work in the community; we raise funds for that work through your purchases of recital photographs, invitations, bouquets, and DVDs. These items are optional.

<b>CAST LIST</b>
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Cast lists are enclosed in this mailing. Please check the cast list carefully for the spelling of your child's name, and to confirm their recital time. Your child's class is in either **Cast A, B, or C**. If your child's name is not spelled correctly or is not listed and you plan for him/her to be in the recital, PLEASE NOTIFY THE DANCE FOUNDATION BEFORE MARCH 10<sup>TH</sup> at 870-0073!

<b>COSTUME INSTRUCTIONS</b>
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***YOU MAY PICK UP YOUR CHILD'S COSTUME AT THE DANCE FOUNDATION BEGINNING FEBRUARY 25 OR 20 MINUTES BEFORE YOUR PHOTO CALL TIME DURING THE WEEK OF MARCH 11-16. THEY WILL NOT BE HANDED OUT IN CLASS.*** This is to ensure that costumes and accessories arrive home safely. **Information on your photo call time is included in this packet.**

- Please note if there are any minor adjustments that you need to make (i.e. the straps are slightly too loose and need to be sewn shorter). Please make minor alterations at home.
- Look to see if there is a clip or bow pinned to the side of the costume for your child's hair. Students ages 3 or 4 should wear their hair pulled back in a style that is comfortable for them. Students in kindergarten or first grade should wear their hair in a bun.
- Consider if your child needs new tights or shoes. We have these available in our dancewear shop for sale, for your convenience. Girls need to wear pink tights and pink ballet shoes and boys need black ballet shoes.

Please, do not let your child play in his/her costume before the recital. Costumes can be difficult to clean or replace if something happens.

**DRESS REHEARSALS:****Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at the Alabama Theatre***1811 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave North, Downtown Birmingham.***CAST A** Rehearsal – 9:00am (Arrive at 8:45am)**CAST B** Rehearsal – 11:15am (Arrive at 11:00am)**CAST C** Rehearsal – 1:30pm (Arrive at 1:15pm)

Students should arrive in costume at the stage door located on 18<sup>th</sup> street between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenues North, downtown Birmingham.

- TDF staff will be at the door if you wish to drop your dancer off with TDF staff and then park your car – but **every dancer must have a parent or designated adult stay with them during rehearsal**. Everyone enters through the stage door for dress rehearsals.
- **Please do not allow children to get on the stage until they are called up!** After some brief announcements, we will call dancers up by class onto the stage. First, we will rehearse the finale all together and then run the show from the beginning.
- After your child has finished their class dance, they will be dismissed and you may take them home.

**PERFORMANCES:****Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at the Alabama Theatre***1811 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave North, Downtown Birmingham.***CAST A** Show time – 1:00pm (Arrive at 12:30pm)**CAST B** Show time – 3:15pm (Arrive at 2:45pm)**CAST C** Show time – 5:30pm (Arrive at 5:00pm)

- It is extremely important that all students arrive **in costume and stage ready** at the stage door assigned time and **no earlier**. The recitals run back to back and TDF staff will not be available to receive your child before their scheduled arrival time.
- Parents and family must enter the theatre through the *main entrance* on 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue North, around the corner from the stage door.
- All performers will remain backstage until the entire recital is over, which will last just over an hour. You will be given instructions at dress rehearsal on how to retrieve your child after the recital.

**LAST CLASSES**

The week after recital will be the last classes for the school year which ends Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>. The last class is a celebration of all that your dancer has learned and a wonderful chance to reflect with them on performing in the recital. Parents are invited to join us for this class and take pictures if they like. We are excited about the performances and look forward to having you with us!

Sincerely,

Rachael Inman  
Artistic Director

Blakely Cottle  
Program Director, infant-2<sup>nd</sup> grade dance classes

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