



# *Grand River Academy of Dance*

## **RECITAL NEWSLETTER**

Everything you need to know about this year's Recital, Dress Rehearsal and Photo Day

### GRAD...Goes to the Movies



# Dress Rehearsal

Technical and Dress Rehearsals allow us to program all of the stage, lighting and sound cues for a smooth running show. It allows the dancers to familiarize themselves with the performance space and show order for a confident performance. The rehearsals need to be in show order so there is no confusion with the number of technical cues or quick costume changes. Therefore, attendance at the Dress Rehearsal is mandatory.

Parents are not permitted in the theatre for the Dress Rehearsal. We like to keep your child's performance a surprise for Recital Day!!

## When is my child's Dress Rehearsal?

Dress Rehearsal dates and times are as follows:

Wednesday June 6<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 pm – Mini Show Dress Rehearsal

Thursday June 7<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 pm – Big Show Dress Rehearsal

**\*\*\*Please arrive 1 hour before your rehearsal time**

The following levels will participate in the **WEDNESDAY Rehearsal**

Ballet Level 1, 2, 3, Mini

The following levels will participate in the **THURSDAY Rehearsal**

Ballet Level 4, 5, Voc. Jr., Int., Sr., Adult

**\*\*\*If your child is in a Mini/Jr. Split, they will be in the Jr-Adult Show\*\*\***

If you are unsure which level your child is in, please ask your child's teacher, or Miss Laura.

# When is the Recital?

GRAD will be performing in three different shows. Show times are as follows:

Friday June 8<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 pm – Big Show (#1)

Saturday June 9<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00 pm – Mini Show

Saturday June 9<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 pm – Big Show (#2)

# When does my child perform?

If your child is in Ballet Level 1, 2, 3, Mini your child will perform in **one show**.

Saturday June 9<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00

**\*\*\*Please arrive 1 hour before the performance time**

If your child is in Ballet Level 4, 5, Voc. Jr., Int., Sr., Adult, your child will perform in **TWO** shows. They are as follows:

Friday June 8<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 pm

**And**

Saturday June 9<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 pm

**\*\*\*Please arrive 1 hour before the performance time**

**\*\*\*If your child is in a Mini/Jr. Split, they will be in the Jr-Adult Show\*\*\***

\*\*\*If you are unsure which level your child is in, please ask your child's teacher, or Miss Laura.\*\*\*

# Where is the Dress Rehearsal and Recital Held?

The Dress Rehearsal and Recital are **both** held at Wilfrid Laurier University Theatre at 75 University Ave West Waterloo ON.

When you arrive at the theatre, enter off Hazel Ave. The parking is free after 4:30pm, in the **White student Lots**.

When you arrive, you will enter the theatre, our team will be there to greet you, and escort your dancer to their change room. You can then go around to the front to find your seat...or if it is dress rehearsal you can drop off and come back to that door to pick up.

**NOTE: Unless you are a parent volunteer, you must leave your child at the door.**

# When and Where do I pick up my child's costume?

Costumes will be available for pick up during regular studio hours at the studio the week of **May 21<sup>st</sup> – May 26<sup>th</sup>**. In order to keep costume prices as low as possible we have ordered your child a costume in a standard size that comes the closest to your child's measurements instead of having each costume custom made. We have made every effort to alter the costumes as needed free of charge as the price of the costumes does not include alterations. You are responsible for any additional alterations you feel are required.

Monday costumes will be handed out on Monday, Tuesday ones on Tuesday...For example: if you have a class on Monday and Saturday, you will have to wait until Saturday to get your Saturday costume.

Your account must be paid up to date prior to receiving the costume. This includes your May 28<sup>th</sup> payment (if you are not on auto pay) as well as your costume balance.

# Is there any additional information I need about my child's costume or accessories?

Costumes are just a small part of the performance ensemble. In addition to the costume itself your child's teacher has identified tights, shoes and hairstyles for their dance(s). This will be handed out in the coming weeks.

## Tights/Shoes

Please ensure that tights are clean and run free. Make sure that elastics (if applicable) are sewn securely to the dancer's shoes and that they are clean.

## Hairstyles

All dancers must have their bangs gelled back off of their face, unless their teacher has made a specific request. Bangs shade a dancer's face on stage. Hairstyles should be neat and tidy to accentuate the dancer's face. Messy buns or ponytails will be distracting to the dancer and the audience. Please ensure only bobby pins and hair colour elastics are used – no hair bands, barrettes etc. unless it is part of the costume.

## Make-up

Stage make-up should be worn on all dancers so that the audience can see their faces. The strong bright lights will tend to wash out the dancers faces if make-up is not applied

Younger students need to wear a little blush, light coloured eye shadow and pink lipstick so their faces will be seen. Please apply make up at home. Sharing of make-up is not recommended.

## Jewellery

To maintain a uniform look among the dancers and to avoid reflection from the lights, jewellery is not permitted (unless it is part of the costume). If the dancer has stud earrings that cannot be removed, please cover them with flesh toned band-aids.

## Other costume related information

Character oriented band aids, temporary tattoos and nail polish are not permitted on the dancer for the performance or the photos. Please remember toe nails should not have nail polish either as some dances are performed in bare feet or open toed dance shoes

# How should I store my child's costume prior to Photo Day and the Recital?

Please do not allow your child to wear their costume before photo day or the show. If anything were to happen to the costume, there is not much time to repair and replacing the costume is impossible.

Please do not allow your child to eat or drink while wearing their costume. The fabrics stain easily. Water is permitted, but please be careful as water stains are also a possibility.

Please do not wash your child's costume. The fabrics may fade causing your child's costume to be different than everyone else. Once the show is over, the costume is yours to keep.

# How should my child be dressed when I drop them off for the Rehearsal and the Recital?

**Please have your child dressed in their costume, hairstyle and make-up for the first dance they will perform in the show.** If you are not sure which dance is first, please ask your child's teacher, they will be able to consult the program and let you know.

You will be receiving a note in the coming weeks indicating the hairstyle and accessories required for your child's dance. If you come to the recital and your child is not dressed, they will need to change in the change room with a parent volunteer. **Parents who are not signed up to be a volunteer are not permitted in the change room.**

Please make sure your child's name is on their bags, costumes, shoes, tights and any other items you send in with your child. Items will get mixed up and having a name on them makes it a lot easier for us to return things to their rightful owner.

# What happens when I drop off my child for the Rehearsal and Recital?

Please do not drop your child off at the door and leave. GRAD has a sign in and sign out policy for **ALL** performances and the rehearsals. You or a designated adult are required to accompany your child to the change room and sign your name that they have been dropped off and are now under GRAD's supervision. You are also required to come back to the Drop off Doors and sign your child out so that we know they have been picked up by the right person and are safely on their way home. This ensures your child's safety. Parents who have signed up to be a supervisor in the Change Rooms are permitted in the change room. All other parents are not permitted in the change rooms. There are over 300 people in the change rooms and extra parents and children add confusion to the supervisors. Students that are 18 or older are permitted to sign themselves in and out. This does not mean that they are able to sign in and out any of their classmates that are under 18.

Please note that Males are not permitted in the girl's change room **at any time**. Male performers will change and wait in a different area of the theatre with a designated supervisor.

# What does my child do while he/she is waiting to perform?

Your child will be in the change room for the duration of the show or rehearsal. Please send your child with something to keep them busy. Books, homework, games and puzzles would be GRAD's recommendation. If you sent colouring books, please only send crayons to prevent any marker stains on costumes or the theatre.

If your child insists on bringing, cell phones, iPod's, iPads or other tablets, MP3 players, portable DVD players or portable gaming systems they are permitted in the change room, however, GRAD nor the Theatre will be held responsible for lost or stolen items. These types of items must be left in the change room while the students are performing on stage, so please keep that in mind.

# Can my child bring food and drinks into the Change room?

No. It is the policy of the theatre that food and drinks other than water are not permitted in the change room. **Food is not permitted in the Change room.** Food can stain the costumes if spilled and will create a large mess. You may send your child with water to drink, but only water as juices and pop will stain costumes if spilled and will make the floor sticky.

Please ensure your child has a good meal before coming to the rehearsal or recital.



# Does GRAD need Volunteers?

**ABSOLUTLY YES!!** The main reason GRAD`s productions run so smoothly is because of our parent volunteers. In order to mount a performance of this magnitude, we rely on parent volunteers to help us with many aspects of the production.

GRAD is in need of volunteers to help with the following: supervision of students during rehearsals, supervision of students in the change room during performances, backstage help during performances, show runners and quick change help.

Some of the feedback we have received from previous parent volunteers was that they had no idea how much work went into organizing rehearsals and backstage dressing rooms. GRAD`s primary concern during the production is that all of our students are safe, sufficiently supervised and accounted for, and that they enjoy their performance experience. It is our hope that families at GRAD will be able to contribute in some way to the performance. We really need and rely on your help!

Volunteer Sign-Up Sheets will be posted on the bulletin board at the studio at the beginning of May. Thank you in advance for volunteering your time and helping to make our production run smoothly!

About one week before the show, you will be contacted by a member of GRAD Staff with instructions for your job. Once you arrive at the theatre you will be given a volunteer package that explains your job in full.

# Where do I get Tickets?

Tickets are available with a link through **GRAD's WEBSITE** and are on sale as of April 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. Please note that tickets are sold on a first come first serve basis and **we are not able to reserve tickets for anyone under any circumstances**. You can purchase tickets online. A letter will be sent home with specific instructions to purchase tickets online. A link will be posted on our website at [www.grandriverdance.com](http://www.grandriverdance.com) under the Info for Dancers menu item and Recital Info.

Tickets are assigned seating and are sold first come first served. There is no limit on tickets however they are subject to availability. The theatre does not sell the tickets on our behalf, but we will be selling tickets online through a ticketing agency. There will be a small ticketing fee charged by the agency selling tickets on our behalf of \$2.50. So, the total cost of tickets will be \$27.50 for the Big show and \$24.50 for the mini show.

**Tickets are on sale Friday April 27th at 9:00 am**

# Am I allowed to take Photographs or Videos During the Show?

## Photographs

For the safety of our dancers, flash photography is **strictly prohibited** during the performance. You may take photos without your flash.

## Video

Video recording devices are also **strictly prohibited** during the performance to ensure the security and protect the privacy of the dancers and to adhere to copyright laws.

Since this is a public venue and **members of the public can buy tickets**, the ushers will be enforcing the no video rule. We cannot risk having people that do not know us or our students take videos of our kids and post them online without our permission or the permission of our parents. Again, our primary focus is the safety of our students.

## If I can't take a video, how will I remember this performance?

DVDs are available for purchase up until Tuesday June 12<sup>th</sup> at the studio. The DVDs are filmed and edited by a professional production company and are a fantastic keepsake of your child's performance. This year we will be selling DVDs as follows:

The Mini show will be available on it's own at a cost of \$30 plus HST

The Big show will be available on it's own at a cost of \$35 plus HST

A Set of both shows in one are available at a cost of \$40 plus HST

All DVDs will be available for pick up in July. The date for that will be announced at the recital!

# Will my child have their photograph taken in their costume?

Yes. PKG Photography will be onsite at GRAD **May 27<sup>th</sup>**. You will receive an order form and a schedule prior to the date. There is one order form for every dance your child is in. If you wish to order photographs, please fill out your form at home and take your form with you on picture day and hand it to the photographer. **GRAD does not take any photo orders or money.**

Please plan to come for the photos even if you choose to not purchase them as we would love to have all of our dancers included in our each of our class pictures!

Photos will be ready to be picked up in July. The date will be announced at the recital.

# Can I take my child out of the Change Room during intermission to watch the rest of the show?

No. All of our students will be brought on stage at the end of the show for our finale. During the finale, awards and scholarships are presented and we would hate for one of our winners to not be present to accept their award!

The DVD is available for purchase for your dancer to see the show.

## Can I purchase flowers for my dancer?

Yes. Roses will be available for purchase in the lobby. **NEW THIS YEAR!!!** Flowers can be pre-ordered when purchasing tickets online. Pre-order your flowers and choose your colour when you pick them up (subject to availability) You will need to present your ticket receipt to prove your purchase. Flowers are three roses (pink or red) with baby's breath wrapped in cellophane and tied with a ribbon.

## Can I buy a DVD or Pre-Register at the shows this year?

No. We will not be selling DVDs or taking pre-registering at the theater. We will however be having our final days of Pre-Registration after the shows on June 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> from 4-8 pm and will be taking Pre-registrations and DVD orders then.

**Pre-Registration is on NOW for the 2018-2019 Season.**

**Registrations will be taken in person at the studio until  
June 12<sup>th</sup>.**

**Remember you can save 5% if you register now and a space in the classes  
of your choice is guaranteed!**

**REGISTER TODAY!!!**



**Flowers &  
Refreshments**



Congratulate your dancer with a bouquet of  
beautiful pink or red roses after the show!

**\$10.00 per bouquet**

Buy in person at the show or  
order online in advance

The theatre has a vending machine for drinks. They  
are however not permitted inside the theatre.