

GRACE ACADEMY OF DANCE AND PERFORMING ARTS
(905) 338 – 0210
www.graceacademy.ca

FINAL NEWSLETTER/PRE-REGISTRATION

APRIL 30TH 2019

AS WE MOVE CLOSER TO SHOW WEEK WE ARE EXCITED TO HAVE THE DANCERS SHOWCASE ALL THAT THEY HAVE LEARNED! WE KNOW THAT ALL PARENTS WILL BE VERY PROUD!

If you have not yet volunteered – PLEASE DO! We are still in need of volunteers in many areas. If you have volunteered, you will receive an email confirming the dates and assigned roles in the coming weeks. Thank you in advance for helping to make the show a success!

SHOW REMINDERS

Please remember to refer to your Performance Handbooks and Show Letter #4 for all important details for “show week”, including rehearsal times. These can both be found online and on the studio bulletin board. If you would like a 2nd copy, please ask one of the teachers.

SHOW PHOTOGRAPHY

Video cameras and photography are NOT permitted in the theatre.

Anne-Marie May of Welcome Aboard Photography and Lesley Hugill will be photographing our dancers in action on stage at the dress rehearsal. Photos will be available for purchase from a specially created website, with a password. This will not be given to anyone other than Grace Academy families. Photos will be kept as archival record for the school and are occasionally used for advertising. If you did not sign a waiver of consent when registering, we will not use your child’s photo in any way.

Website details are as follows:

www.portraitsbywelcomeaboard.photostockplus.com

Please check with the studio for password.

Images from past years will also be available - please email us for passwords for any previous performances you may wish to order photos of!

Photos can be paid for easily online, as you view them, and DIGITAL DOWNLOADS are available. If you have any questions about photos from past performances, email Anne-Marie at info@portraitsbywelcomeaboard.com .

LEMONADE PARTY- SATURDAY, JUNE 8th 2019

Each year we are happy to invite all Grace Academy families to join us at the studio for lemonade and cookies. This year our party will be held on Saturday, June 8TH from 11am – 1pm. Drop by anytime to see a preview showing of our 'DANCING WITH THE SUPERSTARS' DVD. Enjoy cookies and lemonade, talk with friends and PRE-REGISTER! If possible, please let Miss Knapp know if you are planning to attend or if you would like to contribute by sending in cookies. (Because it is such a busy time – please call 905 338 – 0210 or email graceacademy@sympatico.ca)

COSTUMES – THANK YOU!

We are extremely grateful for the work of Valeri and Natasha from ESTA, Erica Gilby and Carolyn Den Elzen. These talented seamstresses have worked extremely hard to assist Miss Knapp with the design and construction of each costume. Thank you also to INSTEP ACTIVEWEAR for their assistance with all bodysuits worn in the show! We are looking forwards to seeing everything up on stage!

2019-2020 SEASON - IT IS TIME TO REGISTER!!

We continue to be extremely proud of our incredible students and are so happy to have all of you in our Grace Academy family! We are looking forward to having you all with us in our 2019-2020 season! At Grace Academy, we are proud to offer the finest in dance and theatrical training, where students are given opportunity to learn in an environment of artistic and technical excellence. As one of Oakville's only non-competitive studios, we are proud to offer an environment that is caring, and where dancers learn to be encouraging, supportive and respectful of each other. Age appropriate syllabus work, music and costuming is chosen with great care so that parents can always be assured of the very best for their child!

AS ALWAYS, WE ARE HIGHLY RECOMMENDING THAT ALL STUDENTS WHO PLAN TO RETURN SECURE THEIR SPOT BY PRE-REGISTERING.

All class preference (ie day/time choice) will be on a **first come, first served basis**. DO NOT DELAY REGISTERING IF YOU WANT A SPOT IN THE CLASS OF YOUR CHOICE!

NEW THIS YEAR! If you register for the new season prior to show week, your dancer will have an opportunity to spin our prize wheel and win a fun prize! As well, all dancers who are pre-registered by May 25th will be entered in a draw to win a \$100 gift card for Instep Activewear!

Our new fall timetable, and registration details can be found at the end of this newsletter. Below are details on some of the 'extra' programs (AND SOME NEW THIS YEAR!) that we offer, in addition to ballet, modern jazz, tap and hip hop!

JUNIOR HIP HOP - NEW THIS YEAR!

This year we will be offering our younger dancers (ages 6-9) a chance to experience a taste of hip hop! This class will run in 6 week sessions. Dancers may join for one or more during the year. This class will be energetic, fast paced and exciting, and will provide an intro into the world of hip hop dance. This group will not participate in the year end show, so dancers are encouraged to join one of our other programs as well.

WORKSHOP OPPORTUNITIES - NEW THIS YEAR!

Dancers will have the opportunity to register for 'mini sessions' in a variety of styles throughout the year. These short, 2- 4 week sessions will offer our dancers an opportunity for growth and development while exposing them to guest teachers and new work. Dancers will see contemporary dance, progressing ballet technique, musical theatre dance, creative choreography, and more offered to them! Watch for details!

INTER/ADV LEAPS AND TURNS!

We are excited to add this class back into our timetable! Dancers who are enrolled in Intermediate or Advanced level modern classes may add this into their schedule. This class will focus on flexibility, elevation and turning, and is an excellent addition to our senior dancer's training. Space will be limited!

THE SPIRIT MOVES CHRISTIAN DANCE COMPANY

The Spirit Moves will be entering its 20th season this coming September!! Using contemporary Christian worship music, dancers learn a large repertoire of choreography throughout the year. Practices are held every other Friday (with some exceptions) and dancers take part in worship services at approximately 4 churches during the year. We also present our own spring concert to fundraise for various local charities, and take part in Grace Academy's year end production. It is a fabulous opportunity for your dancer to learn about giving back to others and to share their talents in a way that brings joy to those around them. If you are interested in learning more, please speak to Miss Knapp.

PURE GRACE -PERFORMING COMPANY

Our performing company, Pure Grace, had another incredibly successful season this year! Dancers grew both technically and artistically and had the opportunity to perform in a variety of venues in and around our community.

Pure Grace is a non-competitive performance company. This is a wonderful way for dancers to enhance their performance skills, while increasing their technique and knowledge of a variety of dance styles!

Pure Grace is offered to the **serious dancer, who is committed to challenging themselves with new work, enhancing their technique, and performing at a high standard**. While this is a non-auditioned group, dancers must attend a minimum of 2 ballet classes and 1 modern class per week in order to participate. The group is open to dancers enrolled in grade 2 ballet and above, and will be sub-divided according to dance grade level.

There will be an opportunity to learn choreography at a fast pace, in a variety of styles. Guest choreographers will join with our regular teaching staff. Dancers will also have the chance to learn short solo or small group pieces. Performance opportunities beyond our year end performance will be offered.

Rehearsals will take place during the week (one hour per week-see attached timetable). All rehearsals will be mandatory. Additional practice time and solo/ small group work will be scheduled on various Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, throughout the year.

Space will be limited. If your dancer is interested, please speak to Miss Knapp to receive further details!

We hope that many of our dancers will consider this to be an incredible opportunity for growth - we are so proud of what our dancers have accomplished this past year and see an enormous change in them both technically and in performance standard.

MUSICAL THEATRE PROGRAM

We are extremely fortunate to have Natalie Spurrell as our vocal instructor for our musical theatre program (Bio can be found on our website). Natalie's high level of expertise ensures that your child will receive the best possible vocal instruction, while learning all aspects of musical theatre! You will find that other schools offer lip sync as their musical theatre instruction, or often focus on belting out songs with little technique and damaging young voices. We are proud to offer a real triple threat program that teaches excellent technique and performance!!

This program is open to dancers age 7 and above. Students must be taking one form of dance to attend this class, as we have found that dance training is extremely important in assisting the musical theatre students to learn their performance pieces.

ACTING!

Students with a passion for performing can once again add acting classes into their schedule! This program for ages 9-14 will explore basic acting technique, characterization, vocal skills and creative expression. It is an excellent addition to our musical theatre class! Space will be limited!

STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

We are always grateful for the help of our older students in the little ones' classes. Any students (age 12 and up) who would be interested in assisting with the junior classes next year are asked to speak to Miss Knapp - please check the timetable and let us know when you might be available. A volunteer schedule will be put together at the end of the summer, once registration is complete.

SUMMER CAMP

There are still places available in both of our summer camp weeks. Come out and enjoy a fun-filled week incorporating dance, musical theatre and crafts! Programs are available for ages 4 and up. If you would like more information please speak to Miss Knapp.

A REMINDER TO THOSE REGISTERED FOR THE CAMP – THE BALANCE OF FEES IS DUE JUNE 1ST.

LOST AND FOUND

Please check the change room for any clothing items that you may have misplaced! All items that have not been claimed by the last day of term will be given to charity.

FALL SCHEDULE/PRE-REGISTRATION

Our 2019-2020 promises to be filled with more wonderful days of dance! We are excited to add our workshop sessions and junior hip hop into our programs, along with our performing companies Pure Grace and The Spirit Moves!!

A proposed timetable for fall classes is now available to current families (subject to change based on registration). The correct class for your dancer is marked on the timetable. If you would like to add an additional subject please speak to Miss Knapp for the correct level.

Minimum age requirements:

Ballet – 3 years by September 1st 2019

Tap– 7 years by September 1st 2019 OR 3 years of dance at Grace Academy – at Miss Knapp's discretion

Musical Theatre – 7 years by September 1st 2019

All students must be taking one form of dance. Dancers will be divided based on age and dance level

Modern jazz – 6 years by January 31ST 2020 OR 2 years of ballet at Grace Academy

Junior Hip Hop - 6 years by September 1st 2019

Acting - Entering grade 4 in school in September 2019

- ALL STUDENTS wishing to take our regular hip hop program (grade 4 modern level and above) MUST also be attending the corresponding modern class

- Intermediate foundation ballet 1st year students must attend 2 classes of ballet per week in order to be considered for pointe work.

-Intermediate foundation ballet 2nd year students and above MUST be attending 2 regular ballet classes per week to work on pointe

-We recommend that students in grade 1 ballet 2nd year and above attend 2 classes per week in order to progress through the level in 1 year (please discuss this with Miss Knapp if you have questions). Students who do not attend twice a week will not necessarily be ready to move ahead to the next grade level. We HIGHLY RECOMMEND ATTENDANCE IN 2 CLASSES A WEEK IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE A GOOD STANDARD

-Musical theatre students must be taking at least one form of dance

- Those interested in The Spirit Moves Christian Dance Company Pure Grace Performing Company should speak to Miss Knapp

WE HIGHLY RECOMMEND PRE-REGISTRATION IN ALL PROGRAMS IN ORDER TO GUARANTEE A SPOT IN THE CLASS OF YOUR CHOICE. YOU WILL SEE THAT OUR TIMETABLE IS VERY FULL TO ACCOMMODATE OUR CURRENT STUDENTS. DO NOT MISS OUT!

TO SECURE YOUR PLACE:

-Please return the attached registration form along with a deposit of \$75 for each dancer.

-Forms may be returned to the Academy at 785 Pacific Road, Oakville ON L6L 6M3. They may also be handed in during final classes, or left with security at the theatre.

-Register by May 25th for a chance to spin our prize wheel and be entered into a draw to win a \$100 gift card to Instep Activewear!

Your deposit will be applied to your 1st term fees and is non-refundable. **If you decide to drop a course that you have pre-registered for, your \$75 deposit will cover this class and will not be deducted from your 1st term fees for other lessons.**

Once you have sent in your pre-registration, you will receive an email to inform you of fees owing and due dates. POST DATED CHEQUES SHOULD BE SENT INTO US UPON RECEIVING THIS INFORMATION.

Fall information packages will be sent out in July BY EMAIL. Do not hesitate to contact the Academy with any questions or concerns that you may have.

**** ADDITIONAL REGISTRATION FORMS CAN BE PRINTED FROM OUR WEBSITE www.graceacademy.ca (please fill out one form per dancer)