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Director: Debbie Sager

**(208) 322-8082** 11489 W. Fairview Avenue, Boise, Idaho 83713 [www.danceunlimitedstudios.com](http://www.danceunlimitedstudios.com)  
(Between 5-mile & Cloverdale, behind Pacific Patio & Spas) Meridian/West Boise location

## **End of November NEWSLETTER** **2009**

### 1. **December Schedule:**

Dec. 1-4: Classes, as usual.

Dec. 7-11: **Wear your costume to class.** Moms/Dads, please come into the first 5-10 minutes of class, so that we can instruct you re how your dancer needs to wear her hair, how costume accessories (hairpieces, etc.) are worn, and instructions re facial performance make-up and we will answer all of your questions. Obviously, if your costume hasn't arrived by then, your dancer will need to wear it to class the following week. Worst case: If your dancer's costume doesn't arrive in time to wear to class, he/she will have dress rehearsal for wearing it the first time. Those Moms/Dads will need to go into the first 5-10 minutes of class, during the last class before the recital, to make sure we're all on the same page re facial make-up and hair.

Dec. 9: Deadline for ordering flowers for your dancer. See #8 H below.

Dec. 14-17: Recital TICKETS will be sold in our studio store. Cost of tickets will depend on when and how you purchase them. See #4 below.

Studio Store Hours: Mon-Thurs. 5-8 pm.

Dec. 19: Christmas Dance Recitals. Held in the Brandt Center/Swayne Auditorium, on the campus of NNU in Nampa.

Dec. 21-Jan. 2: Christmas Vacation. No dance classes.

Jan. 4: Dance Classes Resume.

2. **Dance Accounts:** Dancers must be current in their dance lesson payments and costume payments, in order to perform in our Christmas Recital. Questions: Please contact our bookkeeper, Jana, at [jana\\_lindsay@msn.com](mailto:jana_lindsay@msn.com) (That's an \_ between her first and last names).

### 3. **Christmas Recital, Saturday, December 19:**

#### A. **About our recital:**

- We will have two Christmas Dance Recitals. Overall Schedule for Sat. Dec. 19  
**8:00-10:00 am:** Dress Rehearsal for first recital, at NNU. (Dancers should arrive ½ hour before their timeslot, then they can leave when their class has finished rehearsing. Please see dress rehearsal schedule to find your timeslot. The first 6 classes who are rehearsing do not need to arrive earlier than the start of the dress rehearsal.)  
**10:10-11:00 am:** Doors Open for first dance recital.  
**11:00 am – 1:00 pm:** First recital takes place. (The recital length will be approx. 1 ½ hrs. so this schedule will allow some buffer time.)  
**1:00-3:00 pm:** Dress Rehearsal for second recital, at NNU. (Dancers should arrive ½ hour before their timeslot, then they can leave when their class has finished rehearsing. Please

see dress rehearsal schedule to find your timeslot. The first 6 classes who are rehearsing do not need to arrive earlier than the start of the dress rehearsal.)

**3:00-4:00 pm:** Doors Open for second dance recital.

**4:00-5:30 pm:** Second recital takes place. (I anticipate a 1 ½ hr. performance.)

4. **TICKETS:** We will sell tickets 3 ways (see below). **Please note that ticket prices vary, depending on when/how you purchase them.**

(1) Sold in the studio, during the week of Dec. 14-17, Mon.–Thurs. 5-8 pm.

**COST:** If bought in the studio: Payment by cash or check: \$6 for ages 12 & up  
\$4 for ages 4-11.

Free for ages 3 & younger and for dancers who are in costume.

If bought in the studio: Payment by credit/debit card: \$7 for ages 12 & up  
\$5 for ages 4-11.

Free for ages 3 & younger and for dancers who are in costume.

(2) At NNU during dress rehearsal . **NOTE: We cannot accept credit/debit card payments for tickets at NNU.**

**COST:** \$8 for ages 12 & up.

\$6 for ages 4-11

Free for ages 3 & younger and for dancers who are in costume.

(3) At the door at NNU before/during the recital. **NOTE: We cannot accept credit/debit card payments for tickets at NNU.**

**COST:** \$8 for ages 12 & up.

\$6 for ages 4-11

Free for ages 3 & younger and for dancers who are in costume.

5. **Santa:** Santa will be available in the lobby at NNU, sitting next to the Christmas tree during both dress rehearsals. **BRING YOUR CAMERA** if you'd like to take a picture of your dancer with Santa. Please note: Santa will be available **ONLY** during dress rehearsals. You may want to visit Santa **AFTER** your dancer's timeslot during dress rehearsal and not before, since waiting in line or taking pictures, etc. could take longer than anticipated, thus your dancer might miss her/his rehearsal timeslot. *Dancers MUST be in dress rehearsal, in order to perform in the recital.*

6. **Help at Home:** Parents are welcome to come into dance class during the last 10 minutes, to video the dance so their dancer can practice at home. Stand in the back of the room and tape the teacher as she does the dance with the class. That way, when you get home, you have the music and the choreography on video, for your dancer to use in preparing for the recital. Taking dance is just like taking piano ~ each dancer needs to practice at home.

7. **Send a water bottle:** Your dancer is working hard. We don't have drinking fountains. Please send water bottles with her/him to class.

8. **Christmas Dance Recital Specifics:**

A. **Location:** See email attachment for directions. Brandt Center/Swayne Auditorium on The campus of NNU in Nampa. Allow at 45-60 minutes driving time to arrive.  
Dancers who are not in the dress rehearsal may not dance in the recital.

- B. **Time:** *Dancers are not required to be at dress rehearsal the entire time. Each class will have a 5 minute time slot in which to rehearse, and dancers in that class need to be in the auditorium, ready to line up backstage, 30 minutes prior to that time slot. Then, after that class rehearses, they can leave. For the recital, dancers who are in dances #1-6 will need to be backstage 30 minutes before the recital begins. All other dancers will need to come backstage 5 dances prior to their dance. See email attachment for the dress rehearsal schedules.*
- C. **Parking:** If the parking lot surrounding the Brandt Center is full, you can park all along Dewey Street (north side of Brandt Center) and make your way to the Johnson Sport Center's huge parking lot (about a 4 minute walk due west of the Brandt center on Dewey, in between 12<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>). Look for a huge gymnasium.
- D. **CHAPERONES:** We won't need backstage chaperones. INSTEAD, dancers will sit with their parents until the program is 5 dances prior to their dance, then dancers will go backstage, via the back doors of the auditorium. We'll explain the details at dress rehearsal.
- E. **Saving Seats:** The auditorium will be cleared out after dress rehearsal. No seats can be saved from dress rehearsal.
- F. **Video-taping:** We will not have a professional videographer for this performance. You are welcome to video the show, we ask only that you *remain seated to do so*. If you would like a close-up video, please do so at dress rehearsal.
- G. **Taking pictures:** You're welcome to take pictures of YOUR dancer while she/he is dancing, we ask only that you *remain seated to do so*. If you would like a close-up photo, please take it at dress rehearsal.
- H. **Flowers:** Flowers, to give to your dancer, will be available at the recital. (Purchase is optional.) For your convenience, and for a DISCOUNT, and for speedier pick-up, you can pre-order your flowers. Please see the attached order form. Orders are due by Wed. **Dec. 9.** There will also be flowers available for purchase at the recital, for those who don't participate in the pre-order, but the cost will be slightly higher and they ran out of flowers last year, so we recommend pre-ordering..
- I. **Facial Make-Up:** Bright stage lights "wash out" facial features, especially on blondes and fair skin. EVERY dancer should wear BRIGHT lipstick ~ red or pink to match the costume (it'll make the teeth look whiter and the smile look brighter), blush on the cheeks and as eye shadow, and mascara. If your dancer is old enough to handle it, eye liner is good ~ just don't start at the very inside of the eye, as that tends to "close" the eye. **Parents, bring extra make-up for touch-up, between dress rehearsal and the performance.** If your dancer has extremely blonde eyebrows, you may want to darken them a little with an eyebrow brush.
9. **Shoes & Tights Needed for Costume:** I've sent an email to each class with the specifics of shoes & tights needed. Please don't wait until the last minute to purchase these. We try to keep a large stock of tights and shoes, but if everyone waits until the last minute, there's no guarantee that we'll have your size in stock.

10. **Reminder:** NO PANTIES under costume (except under hip-hop pants). Panties leave unsightly lines under leotards/costumes. Tights serve the same purpose as panties. NO BARE MID-RIFFS ~ wear a black leotard or tank top if needed.

11. **How to wear your hair for performances:** My (Debbie's classes) and for most of the younger dancers: Unless your teacher indicates otherwise, hair should be worn in a high ponytail, slightly toward dancer's right (if you're standing behind your dancer, it's to her right. If you're looking at her from the front, it's to her left.) Curl, rat, tease the hair so it's BIG and spray with hair spray. For shorter hair, take the hair that's above the ears and put it into a ½ ponytail, and continue with the curling, etc. For really short hair, just make it fluffy.

**PARENTS:** Your dancer's instructor can go through the specifics when your dancer wears her costume to class ~ see item #1 "Dec. 7-11" on this newsletter.

12. **This is a "start":** It is quite early in the dance season to present a full-blown polished dance recital. BUT, we need a *starting point*, and this is it. Our Christmas Recital is a forum to provide your dancer with the opportunity to PERFORM on a stage, in front of an audience. **This is a teaching experience we cannot provide in the dance studio.** Dance is a *performing art* and we want to provide our dancers with several performing experiences. There is so much to be learned from performing on a stage in front of an audience: showmanship (looking at the audience, not at the dancer next to you, not at the floor, and smiling, etc.), composure (how to act/react if something doesn't go quite right during the dance ~ our motto is, "smile and just keep dancing!"), self confidence (wow, I danced in front of that *huge* audience!), growth in dance technique (parents you should see a huge difference in your dancer when you compare the Christmas Recital to the Spring Recital).

Getting ready for a dance recital is a busy time for everyone, not to mention that it's happening during the busy holiday season! To make this as smooth as possible for you and your dancer, if you have questions, please refer to the newsletters first, then send me an email with any unanswered questions you might have. I'm looking forward to a great performance! ☺

*Debbie*