



Dear Parents and Dancers,

We can feel the excitement mounting as dances are perfected and costumes are going home. We look forward to the Spring Concert. It is a fun and very busy time. We hope that it will not be too stressful and that the information contained here (and also emailed over the next few weeks) will answer your questions. Additionally, teachers' memos with class-specific instructions concerning costuming, makeup, rehearsals, etc. will be emailed to you. Do contact us if you have questions - 410-666-5710 / moveco@tmcdance.com.

Upcoming Important Dates (*details below*)

Week of April 24th -- sign-up sheet for Picture Day posted

Week of May 1st – Teachers will start handing out costumes

Sunday, May 7th at 9:00 AM – Concert ticket sales begin

Sunday, May 20th – Ensembles Performance at Maryvale

Sunday, May 21st - Picture Day

Saturday, May 27th - Monday, May 29th - Studio closed for Memorial Day Holiday

Tuesday, May 30th - Monday, June 5th - In-studio dress rehearsals

Sunday, June 4th - 2-4:30 pm Ballet rehearsal at the studio

Monday, June 5th - Last day of classes

Monday, June 5th – Saturday morning, June 10th – Dress Rehearsals at Goucher

Classes will be held at the studio as usual on Monday, June 5th even though Goucher rehearsals begin that day. Depending on the classes dancers are taking, it is possible to have both a class at the studio and a rehearsal at Goucher on June 5th.



Saturday, June 10th and Sunday, June 11th – Concert

Concert Dates and Times:

Our spring concert performances will be on Saturday, June 10th at 3:00 p.m. and Sunday, June 11th at 1:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. All performances and technical rehearsals will take place at Kraushaar Auditorium on the campus of Goucher College.

You will find the tentative program order for the three dance concerts June 10th and 11th on our web site: www.tmcdance.com. The concert days are definite; the order may change a bit.

Purchasing Tickets for the Concert:

Tickets to the concert will go on sale on-line Sunday, May 7th at 9:00 a.m. through our web site: www.tmcdance.com. (See the link entitled “Buy Tickets Now.”) The week before we will send information about how to buy the tickets and a pass code for accessing the web site. ****If your account is not paid through April, you will not be sent a pass code and so will not be permitted to purchase tickets to the concert until your account is in good standing.** We have been notifying families whose accounts are not current, but if you are not certain if your account is up to date, you can find out by logging in to the Parent Portal or sending us an email. If you have not received an email with ticket purchase information by noon on Friday, 5/5 and believe we have made a mistake, do give us a call - 410-666-5710. The ticket price is \$17.00 per ticket; seating is reserved. If you are unable to purchase the tickets on-line, you may buy them at the dance studio beginning Monday, May 8th.

We have never had a sold-out concert on the first day of ticket sales, but if you absolutely want to view the concert from a front and center seat, you should plan to purchase your tickets on Sunday, May 7th. In past years many tickets have been sold for each show the day tickets go on sale.

If you need to purchase handicapped seats, please contact the studio so that we can assist you with these arrangements.

Tickets will not be exchangeable or refundable so be certain you know the performance day and time you need tickets for before purchasing them. Children 4 and under may be admitted free of charge if they are sitting on the lap of an accompanying



adult.

Costumes:

Costumes are arriving and will be handed out during class beginning May 1st. Dancers have been trying on their costumes in class for fitting and to make sure that all accessories are included. Please be sure to keep all costumes and accessories in a safe place. It would be best if the dancers did not wear their costumes except to required rehearsals before the Concert. We do not receive extra accessories so lost headpieces, bows, etc. are impossible to replace. Sometimes the costumes will need to be shortened or shoulder straps stitched. If you would like directions about how to do this please ask at the office!

****If your account is overdue, your child will not be permitted to take their costume home until your account is in good standing.** Please send us an email moveco@tmcdance.com if you are unsure of your balance.

Purple T-shirts / Concert Finale:

At the conclusion of each show all performers of every level and genre gather together on stage for a final bow and finale. We ask that the dancers wear purple for the finale. Any purple t-shirt that you already own will be just fine, but if you'd like to purchase a Moving Company t-shirt, they are \$8 (plus tax) and will be available at the studio beginning in May.

We recognize that the concert is a long one. There are a lot of class offerings at the Moving Company Dance Center. Dance is a performance art and all of the dancers deserve a chance to perform on-stage in front of an enthusiastic audience. We hope that you will stay for the finale to cheer the fabulous dancers. Also, participating in the finale is a special experience for the dancers. There is great satisfaction and joy in finishing the concert all together.

Absences – Spring Break to the Concert:

It is very important for the dancers to be in class in the weeks prior to the performance. We want your children to shine the day of their performance. The confidence they'll have by knowing their dance perfectly is the only way that will happen. If a student has excessive absences (more than two in April and May) and does



not therefore know the dance, she/he may have to commit to additional rehearsals or may not be permitted to perform in the concert.

Picture Day:

If you would like to have your child photographed in his or her concert costume, Individual Picture Day is **Sunday, May 21st from 10:00 – 4:00**. This is a voluntary event. Starlight Photography will be at the studio to photograph dancers. In the past some parents have organized a class or group photo with friends; you may certainly do this. The sign-up sheet will be posted in the main studio hallway starting Monday, April 24th.

Volunteers:

If you are interested in volunteering on concert days, there will be a sign-up sheet on the left side of the long hallway beginning May 1st. After the concert we will reimburse volunteers by check for the cost of one ticket for each volunteer shift. Volunteers should purchase the tickets you want. Please stop in to sign up. We are so grateful for our volunteers. The show would absolutely not be possible without your help.

Rehearsals:

Sunday, June 4th - 2-4:30 pm Ballet rehearsal at the studio

Tuesday, May 30 through Monday, June 5th - In-studio dress rehearsals

Monday, June 5th – Saturday morning, June 10th – Dress Rehearsals at Goucher

Note: Classes will be held at the studio as usual on Monday, June 5th even though Goucher rehearsals begin that day. Depending on the classes dancers are taking, it is possible to have both a class at the studio and a rehearsal at Goucher on June 5th.



In Studio Dress Rehearsals:

Dancers should wear their costumes to class the week of **Tuesday, May 30 to Monday, June 5** (the last week of classes) for an in-studio dress rehearsal. Alterations to costumes should be complete by this week. Unless your child's teacher has specified makeup for these rehearsals, it is not necessary.

Performance Week Rehearsals at Goucher:

Posted on our web site is the on-stage technical rehearsal schedule.

So that we can stay on schedule your child must be at Goucher, dressed in costume with hair & makeup done & ready to dance, 20 minutes prior to their scheduled on stage time.

Rehearsals are Mon. 6/5 - Fri. 6/9 afternoons/evenings & Sat.6/10 in the morning.

You may watch the rehearsals and take on-stage photos and videos. Taking photos & videos during the performances is NOT permitted.

For Parents of Ballet Students

This is extra information about the ballet rehearsals before the concert.

For those of you who are new this year, the first half of the June 10 and 11 concerts is a full ballet. All students at the Ballet 2A level and above perform in all three concerts. Students at the Teen B, 2B, 1A and 1B levels perform in one of the three shows, Teen Ballet A performs in two shows. We started doing this a number of years ago so that our ballet students can experience being part of a full ballet. Older and younger dancers appear on stage together; younger dancers can see what they are working towards; senior dancers can be featured before they graduate, and it is a great artistic experience for the students and teachers alike. At the end of the ballet, every dancer participates in the ballet finale. It is an awesome sight! Because we have over 300 students taking ballet, as you can imagine, coordinating and producing the ballet requires extra rehearsals.



There are 3 rehearsals for every ballet student, two are at Goucher; one is in the studio. These are the required rehearsals:

1. **Sunday, June 4th from 2:00 to 4:30 at the Moving Company.** Dancers will learn the finale and practice transitions between the ballet scenes
2. **Monday, June 5 - Friday, June 9th in the evenings and Saturday, June 10 in the morning - Individual class rehearsals at Goucher.** Check the rehearsal schedule posted at the studio and on our web site.
3. **Saturday, June 10th from 11:30 to 12:30 at Goucher.** All ballet dancers will have one last practice of the finale before the shows.

We recognize that this is a heavy rehearsal **schedule** but we know that, because of this, your dancers will be much better prepared, more confident, relaxed, and happier as they approach their performance.

Planning for Concert Day

Dancers in ALL classes, levels 2A and above should be at the theater one and a half hours before the start of the show. Warm ups will begin on stage one hour before the show.

Dancers in Introduction to Dance, levels 1B, 1A, and 2B classes should be at the theater one hour before the start of the show (unless given other directions by your individual teacher). The hour will be used to warm up and learn the bow.

If your child will be arriving later than the 1-1/2 or one hour call time, please notify the teacher prior to performance week. If you have an emergency on the day of the show, call Lee's cell 410-935-9803. We would like to have current contact information for all parents with us at the theater so please update your information in the on-line parent portal: <http://www.tmcdance.com/>.

The concert is an exciting but long day. Please pack food and drink for your child – we recommend water and foods that do not spill or stain. We have dancers with severe allergies to tree nuts so **please do not send any foods containing nuts**. We also encourage the children to bring cards, books, paper, and colored pencils. Please no crayons or markers as they can ruin costumes. Also, please do not send your child to Goucher with valuable items (computer games, cell phone, I-pods, etc.) Sadly, in past years these items have disappeared. We will have cell phones available if students need to call you and will provide you with numbers to call should you need to get in touch with your student.



Pack all the things that your child will need in a bag, including all pieces of the costume and hair accessories (bobby pins, hair nets, etc.). We prefer dancers come to Goucher in their street clothes to protect their costumes. We encourage all parents to allow the teachers to assist the students with hair and make-up. Parents may stay in the dressing rooms until one half hour before the start of the show. Then we hope you will join your family to enjoy the show.

Concert Day

One and a half hours (2B and above) or 1 hour (Intro 3 and 4, 1B, 1A, and 2B) prior to the show's start, your child should report to Merrick Hall (adjacent to Kraushaar) to check in with the teachers. This is the backstage area for most of the dancers. Dancers enrolled in Intro to Dance 3 & 4 should also go to Merrick Hall first; we'll direct you to their backstage area from there.

The dancers and teachers have worked hard to create the Spring Concert. They are excited and proud to perform for you. We hope you will support all the dancers by watching the entire show. A finale and bow end each show; all the performers on stage together, members of our dance community, excited and proud as they finish the show and the year.

If your child absolutely must leave before the end of the show you must notify the teacher in writing and include the time and name of the person who will be picking up your child. Please use this option only in extreme situations as it is rude to the other parents and performers when people leave the auditorium early. To protect the children, we will not release them early without written notification.

****Flash photography and videotaping are NOT permitted during the show.** Dress rehearsal is a good opportunity to photograph or videotape your child. Please no flash photography however as it can disorient the dancers.

Please turn off or silence cell phones and please do not talk on the phone or send text messages during the concert.

At the end of the show, dancers under age 10 will not be permitted to leave Merrick Hall without a parent or other adult that they know. Teachers will be positioned at the door to ensure no younger dancer leaves without an adult. Men are not permitted to enter Merrick Hall.



In the Lobby

Tickets: Online ticket sales will end two hours prior to each performance. Tickets may be purchased in the lobby. Cash or checks only.

Photos & Videos: Jomar Productions videotapes the performances. You will be able to purchase CDs of the show. Contact Jomar directly if you have questions about the CDs, <http://www.jomarproductions.com>

A professional photographer will take still photos during the rehearsals and concerts and make them available to families. We will send an email with information as soon as they are ready.

Concessions: The Performance Companies will sell snacks and water during intermissions to help defray costs of their activities.

Flowers and Spirit Wear are available for purchase.

Our dancers have worked hard this year and are proud and excited to be performing for you. They (and we) could not do it without you. We could not thank you enough for your help and support throughout this year and for the special and very busy concert week.

Sincerely,

The Moving Company Dance Center