

Wainwright Dance Academy

May 2014 NEWSLETTER

CONTACT WDA

Please contact the board through email at info@wainwrightdanceacademy.com. We will attempt to address all emails quickly. We are using Facebook for distributing information only. It is not being monitored regularly for questions or concerns so please forward questions to the above email.

Parents are also welcome to attend the beginning of our monthly board meetings to ask questions or voice concerns and/or opinions. The executives are fellow parents working to do what is best for the academy as a whole, and we value your input. The next WDA Board Meeting is on Tuesday, June 3 at 7:00 pm.

President – Kari Walsh
Vice-President – Tamara Schwab
Secretary – Lora Miller
Treasurer – Heather Tesselaar
Facility Director – Tania Hope
Costume Director – Crystal Ferner
Festival/Recital Director – Maryke de Vos

Communications Director – Lori Steele
Fundraising Director – Jenifer Brophy
Member at Large – Deb Anderson
Member at Large – Denise Hughes
Member at Large – Kim Miller
Member at Large – Carina Fletcher

SPRING FUNDRAISERS

RAFFLE TICKETS FUNDRAISER – Please return the completed raffle tickets to the locked grey fundraising box in the foyer of the front studio by Sunday, May 4. The draw date is Saturday, May 10.

RECITAL RAFFLE TABLE DONATIONS:

We are still accepting donations to raffle at the Recital next weekend. If you or your company is interested in donating an item, please contact our Fundraising Director Jenifer Brophy at jbrophy@telus.net. Any and all donations are greatly appreciated!

RECITAL - DRESS REHEARSAL INFO

DRESS REHEARSAL:

Tuesday, May 6 – Dress Rehearsal from 5-9 pm (no supper break)

Everyone must participate in the Dress Rehearsal with the expectation that we will run through the entire program **with full hair and costume** (make up is not required) to ensure adequate change times between numbers. Traditionally this rehearsal will run late and through supper so please ensure your child is adequately provided for. Remember there is NO food or drink allowed in the theatre. The dancers are allowed to have a water bottle. Only dancers are allowed in the theatre during Dress Rehearsal, parents and others must remain outside. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

VOLUNTEER RECITAL JOBS:

At least one parent from each family MUST sign up for a volunteer job to help make the yearend recital successful. Please know that we cannot put on this production without the help of everyone and unfortunately **we still have many positions to fill**. If you have not signed up for a job as of yet, please do so at the dress rehearsal on Tuesday, May 6 at the Communiplex (look for two big blue poster boards in the lobby). If you have not signed up by then you will be contacted by a WDA Board member and notified of what your job will entail. Also, please make sure that you **HAVE NOT** signed up to work during the same performance that you have also purchased tickets to watch! It is not possible to be in two different places at the same time. Thanks in advance to all parents who have already signed up for a position! :)

Once you sign up and know which performance you are helping with, feel free to buy tickets and watch whichever or all of the other performances if you like.

TICKET SALES:

Remaining Recital Tickets are now available for purchase at Sprouts 'N Jabbers until May 8th at which time any remaining tickets will be sold at the door to the performance(s). Each ticket costs \$10.

SPRING RECITAL INFO

We are nearing the end of our dance year and the annual spring recital is only a week away. Please read on regarding details of our last big dance production for the 2013-2014 year.

There are Three Main Performances:

Friday, May 9 – Performance starts @ 6:30 pm

Saturday, May 10 – Performance starts @ 10:00 am

Saturday, May 10 – Performance starts @ 3:00 pm

***All WDA dancers will perform in all three of the above shows to showcase the dances they learned in each of their instructional classes.**

Sunday's Performance:

Sunday, May 11 – Performance starts @ 2:00 pm

***Only students who have taken private classes for solos, duets, trios, and small groups (4 dancers) will perform on Sunday.**

Dancers should be at the Communiplex **at least 30 minutes prior to show time** ready to perform **with full hair and make up completed before arrival**.

****The Opening Number will be performed by the Disney dancers.****

****The Grand Finale will include all of our WDA dancers.****

RECITAL INTERMISSION COOKIES & SQUARES:

All parents are kindly asked to donate **two dozen** cookies or squares. These snacks are for the audience members (NOT dancers) during intermissions. Please drop off the cookies/squares at the Communiplex kitchen on Friday, May 9 before the first performance.

BRAG TABLE:

There will be a “Brag Table” set up in the lobby of the Communiplex for the recital weekend to showcase our WDA dancers’ many accomplishments to our community, family, friends, and fellow WDA members. Feel free to bring down your child’s awards and trophies that were earned this year. Please label your item(s) clearly and be sure to pick them up after the last performance on Saturday, May 10. Thanks in advance for taking the time to contribute to this exhibit.

PHOTOGRAPHY DURING RECITAL:

There is no flash photography of any kind allowed in the theatre during the performances as it is very distracting and could cause an injury to an unsuspecting dancer.

Laura Smiley of *L Smiley Photography*, as well as her father, will be in attendance taking action shots while the dancers perform. There will be three opportunities to view and order the photos taken of your dancer(s) at the recital:

- Tuesday, May 20 at 7 pm (WDA Front Studio)
- Tuesday, May 27 at 7 pm during the Spring Registration meeting (WDA Front Studio).
- Private Appointments – Please contact Laura directly for a private viewing at 780-703-6456 or email her at lsmileyphotography@gmail.com.

SUPERVISION OF YOUNG DANCERS:

Please provide non-staining snacks and drinks for your child as they wait for their turn to perform at the recital. ****Because there are dancer(s) who have food allergies it is important when bringing food/snacks to avoid having peanuts/peanut products and to ensure that you are not distributing/sharing foods with anyone without the permission of his/her parent(s).****

A housecoat provides a good cover to keep costumes, tights, etc clean while children eat and play between dances.

You may also send coloring books (no markers), playing cards, movies, etc to keep your child(ren) entertained in the change room. Running around is prohibited as it exhausts the children, creates unnecessary noise, and increases the chance for unnecessary injuries.

Each of the younger dance groups (up to age 10) require constant supervision. **Please be sure that you (or another responsible adult) will be able to stay in the change room to help supervise your child(ren) and make sure all costumes, hair, and make up are ready before the children go on stage.**

RECITAL DRESSING ROOMS

The recital dressing rooms will be allocated as follows:

- Hall 1 – boys & girls aged 3 to 9 yrs (There are two bathrooms and changing screens will be set up for the privacy of older children if they require it. Feel free to bring your own screen should you prefer.)
- Fitness Studio – girls aged 10 to 14 yrs
- Meeting Room (with bathroom) – senior girls aged 15+
- Meeting Room (without bathroom) – all boys 10+

INSTRUCTORS' CORNER

DISNEY TRIP 2014:

The Disney trip is an independent dance opportunity that is being organized by Miss Sandy. Please refer to her for any questions, info, or details you may require.

DANCE EXAMS CANCELLED:

Unfortunately WDA has had to cancel the Ballet and Jazz Exams scheduled for June 2014 due to low registrations. WDA plans to offer the exams later this fall (hopefully in November). Details will be announced in upcoming newsletters and/or emails.

Families who have already submitted cheques to WDA for the exam fees and prep classes may choose to have the cheques put towards their future dance fees. Please email us back if you would like your cheques deposited and put towards next year's dance fees. If you do not make arrangements to pick up your cheques before May 1, 2014 the WDA treasurer will shred them.

SUMMER CLASSES:

Miss Sandy will be offering Ballet and Jazz classes over the summer months starting later in May and extending until the end of August. Please refer to the upcoming email with all of the pertinent details.

Miss Mack is also eager to offer Tap classes for the summer. If your dancer is interested in taking tap, please email and let us know as soon as possible at info@wainwrightdanceacademy.com so that arrangements can be made.

SUMMER CAMP:

There are two possible weeks being considered for a weeklong summer camp: August 11 – 15 **OR** August 18 – 22. There are various disciplines that will be offered by Miss Sandy, Miss Mack, Kasha Pinel as well as other special guests TBA. More info will be shared in upcoming emails once all decisions have been made.

FACILITIES

BENCHES FOR CHANGEROOMS:

WDA is in search of benches for the change rooms at the studio. It would be nice for our dancers to be able to sit on benches while changing instead of having to sit on the floor. It would be greatly appreciated if there are any parents who could donate benches that they no longer use at home.

REMINDERS:

Parents, please remind your dancers to place their shoes in the studio entrances on the provided shelves or neatly against the wall. Shoes left in front of the doors or at the base of the stairs can become a tripping hazard.

As always, please check the Lost and Found bins in both the front & back studios for your dancers' clothing, water bottles, shoes, etc.

SPRING REGISTRATION

As this year's dance season comes to a close we are now looking towards our next season. Our spring registration will be held **Tuesday, May 27th at 7 pm** in the front studio. There are discounts for registering early. The WDA is proud to be welcoming back all of our existing instructors (Miss Sandy, Miss Mack, Miss Kyla, and Miss Shay) for the 2014/2015 dance season except Miss Jesslyn Helmig. She will be moving on to the next stage of her life in a new city. We would like to thank Jesslyn for all her dedicated work with our hip hop students and wish her all the best in her future endeavors. We will miss you, Jesslyn!

I have attached some information on some of the different types of dance we offer for those looking at taking new classes for the upcoming year.

WDA DISCIPLINES

The WDA proudly offers many different disciplines of dance. If there is a dance that you are interested in taking, please contact us and we will do our best to put a class together.

***Require a WDA ballet class as a co-requisite.**

+Require WDA stretch class as a co-requisite for ages 8 and up.

BALLET+

These classes develop a sense of grace and fluidity through discipline and technique. Ballet is essential to the overall development of the dancer. Ballet classes are offered for **Ages 3 and up**.

Second Ballet is offered to students in level 3 (**age 9 and up**). The same material is covered in the second ballet class. Taking an additional Ballet class reinforces the material taught in the regular ballet classes and increases the technical strength of the dancer. It is highly encouraged for all students interested in taking Ballet exams. There is no costume or festival fee for 2nd ballet.

Pointe is offered within senior dance classes upon approval of the instructor. En pointe (pointe) means "on the tips of the toes" and is a part of classical ballet technique made possible by specially reinforced shoes called pointe shoes or toe shoes. It takes considerable strength in the feet, ankle, leg, knee, and abdomen to dance *en pointe*. Students must be at least 12 years of age before attempting pointe work because bones and growth plates in the feet are usually not fully hardened and developed prior to this age. Serious foot deformities can result from starting pointe too early even if the student is otherwise strong and skillful. Attempting to dance *en pointe* before the feet and toes are fully grown can cause career-ending damage that will prevent dancing *en pointe* for a lifetime

JAZZ*

There are numerous styles of jazz (Broadway, classical, and street jazz just to name a few) but all forms of jazz are a high energy and fun style of dancing that works to develop flexibility, strength, and style. **Ages 3 and up**.

TAP*

Tap is a rhythmic dance where the heels and toes of the dancer's shoes make a series of percussive sounds. **Ages 3 and up**.

LYRICAL/CONTEMPORARY*

These are very expressive forms of dance that combine elements of ballet and jazz. Many dancers enjoy lyrical/contemporary/modern because it allows more freedom of expression than most other forms of dance typically do. Modern is a style of dancing that is not as restricted as classical ballet. Movements are based on emotions and moods to express feelings in a more relaxed free style of dance. **Ages 7 and up.**

VARIETY (formally known as Musical Theatre)

Variety dance is exactly that, a variety of possibilities. In the past groups have done performances of “Monster Mash” and “Star Trekkin”. **Ages 5 and up.**

HIP HOP

Hip hop is a dance style primarily danced to hip hop music. This includes a wide variety of styles including popping, locking, and breaking. Hip Hop became popular during the 1970's. **Ages 3 and up.**

ACRO

Acro is a dance style that combines classic dance technique with acrobatic elements. Acro is currently a non-competitive class. Dancers will have an opportunity to show off their skills at the year-end recital. **Ages 10 and under.**

STRETCH

A class designed to increase flexibility and keep our dancers safe. Younger dancers and members of the public are also welcome to sign up. **Mandatory for ages 8 and up for all Ballet, Tap, and Jazz classes.**

RECREATIONAL COMBO – NEW THIS FALL

This class will allow dancers to try multiple dance forms in a non-competitive environment. This enables the dancer to learn to dance but not have to participate in festivals. Dancers will still have the opportunity to perform at the recital. **Ages 5 and up.**

Dancers may still participate in single discipline classes recreationally. However, parents should be aware that recreational dancers participating in competitive classes may be asked to sit out for portions of class time during the competitive season to allow the competitive group to practice choreography.

ADULT

We have various adult classes available that range from competitive tap to recreational combo. The Adult classes have the option of participating at festivals and recitals, or not participating in any public performances.

****Scroll to the next page to view the IMPORTANT DATES section.****

IMPORTANT DATES

May 5 – Last Day of Classes

May 6 – Recital Dress Rehearsal (5-9 pm)

May 9, 10, & 11 – Spring Recital

May 20 – Summer Classes Commence

May 27 – Spring Registration Meeting for 2014-2015 Dance Year (7 pm)

June 3 – Monthly WDA Board Meeting

August – Summer Camp (TBA)

September 4 – Fall Registration 2014-2015 & AGM (7 pm)

September 14 – Fall Classes Commence

October 31 – Last Day to register for Competitive Classes (Recreational Registrations are accepted all year.)

December 14 & 15 – “The Nutcracker” 5th Annual Performances

