

Wainwright Dance Academy

October Newsletter 2015

WDA BOARD MEMBERS 2015-2016

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 volunteer 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 Thursday, October 22 at 7:00 pm in the basement of the Front Studio.

President – Kari Walsh
Vice-President – Erica Verkoyen
Secretary – Lori Myggland
Treasurer – Heather Tesselaar
Communications Director – Lori Steele
Festival/Recital Director – Cathy Stang
Fundraising Director – Dawn Smyl
Facility Director – Sara Mascarin
Costume Director – Brandi Hedin

Special Events MaL – Deb Anderson
Performance MaL – Connie Harris
Communication MaL – Heather Rentz
Administrative MaL – Brieanne Doyle

*MaL – Member at Large

REGISTRAR INFO - WITHDRAWAL FROM CLASSES

We have the first month behind us and classes are in full swing. We want to remind everyone that if you are withdrawing your child from a class that October 31, 2015 is the last day in order to be reimbursed. *You will be charged a prorated fee per class already attended.* Email your withdrawal request to treasurer@wainwrightdanceacademy.com.

COSTUME INFO

Costume Sizing Sheets have been emailed to all dance families. Once filled out, the forms may be returned to the grey drop box (above the shoe shelves) in the front studio or given directly to Brandi Hedin by October 23.

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When measuring your child, it is very important that you:

- measure your child carefully using a proper clothing measuring tape
- fill out **all** of the required measurements on the form
- return the completed form to Brandi Hedin (Costume Director) or put in the grey drop box
- **Due By: Friday, October 23**

*Brandi will be in the **back studio** waiting room on **Wednesday, October 21 from 5:30 – 7:30 pm** to help anyone needing assistance with measuring his or her child.

**It is very important that we all have our completed costume measurement sheets handed back in to Brandi by the due date as requested because of the immense time it takes to organize, order, and then receive the costumes from the companies.

***NOTE – Stay tuned for more information regarding this year's ordering of WDA coats and tank tops in a future email.

FUNDRAISING INFO – PURDY'S

Our first fundraiser of the year will be the popular Purdy's Christmas Chocolates. Order forms and catalogues are available for pick up in the WDA Front Studio waiting area (counter by the sink). All orders are due back by November 10, 2015. You can place your sealed envelopes with orders and payments in the grey fundraising box (found above the shoe rack in the front studio). Please ensure your dancer's name is on every order form so it is easier for us to sort. Cheques can be made payable to WDA and there are no shipping costs on any orders. Thank you in advance for your support and cooperation.

Families are required to participate in a minimum of two fundraising activities. Selling Purdy's chocolates will fulfill one of your fundraising obligations for the 2015-2016 dance year. **We ask that all families sell a minimum of \$150 in Purdy's chocolates.**

NOTE: The expected date of delivery will be during the week of November 30 – December 4. If there are any questions, please contact Dawn Smyl at (780) 806-1971.

TREASURER INFO - INVOICES & RECEIPTS

Invoices have already been emailed to everyone. If your family did not receive an invoice by October 18, 2015 please contact the treasurer at treasurer@wainwrightdanceacademy.com. If the amount owing is less than \$50, this may be paid later when remaining costume and festival fees are due (February 2016). *If you owe more the \$50, please contact the treasurer to make arrangements for payment.* If you have a credit, it will remain on your account to cover any additional costume/fundraising costs unless you request to the treasurer to have it refunded.

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FACILITY INFO - USE & CARE

CLEANING THE STUDIOS – WDA has hired a cleaning lady to clean our studios and bathrooms on a regular basis. However, we have found already this year that the waiting areas have been left in disarray from dancers snacking between classes. We all need to do our part by checking the waiting areas and reminding our children to clean up after themselves. This is a space that is used by all of our children and thus, it is the responsibility of us all to help maintain the cleanliness of the environment they frequent. Thanks in advance for helping remind our dancers to take pride in our facility.

LOST & FOUND – Please remember to check the Lost & Found frequently throughout the year. Feel welcome to come in and check through the numerous garments, selection of water bottles, etc. that have already accumulated in the change rooms in both of the front and back studios.

CHANGEROOMS - Please have your dancer arrive at the studio already dressed in the appropriate dance attire or make sure she/he uses the dressing rooms to change clothes. Those students who are dancing in back-to-back classes may remain in their first discipline's attire to avoid lost class time and congested change rooms.

PICK UP / DROP OFF – Please be aware of and take the time to discuss the following safety concerns with your children:

- The WDA Board strongly recommends that parents walk their children into and out of the dance studios. This way the instructors can feel confident that dancers were actually picked up by a “safe, known” adult.
- **Dancers are asked to wait for their parents in the studio especially if their classes end after dark.**
- Although we have opened up the sightlines of the back studio entrance, vehicles passing through the alley still have difficulty clearly seeing the children coming down the back steps. Thus, we ask that children in particular look before proceeding down into the alleyway.

The Board feels it is in the best interest and safety of our dancers to comply with the above requests.

CLASS VIEWING

All parents are invited by our dance instructors to stay and watch the last 30 minutes of your child's class(es) during the class observation week. We will be holding these viewings two times during the year. Please see the scheduled times listed below:

- November 1 - 6
- March or April – TBA

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NUTCRACKER INFO

The annual "The Nutcracker" normally held in Wainwright has been cancelled this year. However, we are very excited to announce that the Wainwright Dance Academy and The Keeping Time School of Dance will be combining their studios for two performances of "The Nutcracker" again this Christmas season. There will be two performances at The Lakeland College Theatre in Vermilion on Saturday, December 12 at 3:00 pm and 7:00 pm. Tickets for The Nutcracker will be available for purchase from Miss Sandy at a future date (TBA) or bought at the door.

NOTE: Participation in The Nutcracker performances is voluntary. Students previously received a permission form from Miss Sandy that was taken home and had to be returned by September 30th so the instructors could begin planning the performances. If you have any questions regarding this special event please contact Miss Sandy.

FESTIVAL INFO

All competitive groups will be registered in three festivals/competitions with the exception of the younger classes (3 – 4 year olds), which will only attend one festival. Please be aware that festival/competition fees collected at the time of registration do not necessarily cover the whole cost of attending festivals. Remaining balances will be added to your February 2016 costume & festival invoice.

Competition and Festival locations and dates are still being discussed and determined. The Board will notify parents as soon as final decisions have been made.

VOLUNTEERS AT WDA

"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart." - Elizabeth Andrew

Volunteers are the glue that holds the Wainwright Dance Academy together. The Board is made up of volunteer parents who give countless hours to the daily operations required to run WDA as well as the major events that occur throughout the year. We would like to take this time to remind all of our parent members that we will require the assistance of everyone at different times throughout the year. We understand that people are not always able to assist for everything but please take the opportunity to help out when you are available. Thanks in advance for your support and cooperation! 😊

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IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

October 9 – Purdy Order Forms & Catalogues available at the Front Studio

October 9 to 13 – Closed for Thanksgiving Weekend

October 17 – Bottle Drive (1-4 pm)

October 21 – Measurement Night @ the Back Studio (5:30 – 6:30 pm)

October 23 – Costume Measurements Due

October 31 – Last date to add or withdraw from classes (in writing to the Board)

November 1 – Studios officially open for Private Bookings where available.

November 1 to 6 – Parent Watch Week

November 10 – Purdy's Orders Due

November 11 – Classes will commence at their normal start times in the afternoon.

November 28 – Moonlight & Mistletoe Fundraising Event

November 30 to December 4 – Expected Delivery Dates of Purdy Orders

December 12 – Nutcracker Rehearsal & Performances at 3:00 pm & 7:00 pm (Vermilion)

December 20 to January 2 - Closed for Christmas Holidays

January 3 – Classes Resume

February 12 to 15 – Closed for Family Day Weekend

March to May – Festivals/Competitions TBA

March 13 – Dance Photos

March 25 to April 2 - Closed for Easter

April 3 – Classes Resume

May – Last Day of Classes TBA

May 4 – Recital Rehearsal

May 6, 7, & 8 – Spring Recital