

Stairway to the Stars

October Newsletter



Have a safe and fun Halloween!

Treak-or-Treat in the City of Washington will be on Tuesday, October 31st, so, we will not have dance and tumbling lessons that day.

We will be having a Halloween t-shirt week during the week of October 24th.
Wear a fun Halloween shirt to class!

Please visit us at Hocus Pocus in the Park!
Saturday, October 7th 4:00-7:30PM Central Park
We will be in the park with some games and treats!

We have lots of students signed up for the Holiday Show which is so exciting! And there is still time to sign up! We have extended the deadline to Friday, October 6th. It is \$100 to participate in the show which includes costumes, rehearsal and 2 adult tickets to the show. I know that it is a busy weekend, but if you are available, please consider joining us for the show and the Lighted Holiday Parade. It was such a great time last year and we are excited to host the show again! Proceeds from the ticket sales are donated to our local HACAP to help families in need during the Holiday Season! Registration is in the Parent Portal, but feel free to just email me as well and I can add you in 😊



Costumes have been ordered and 20 boxes have already arrived! Prompt payment is appreciated as my MasterCard is begging for mercy – lol! 3 payments are available for those with costume balances over \$200. Balances below \$200 should be paid in October. Only Tuition Auto Pays were charged on October 2nd. Statements have now been sent so that you know what your costume balance is. Auto Pays for costumes will be charged on Wednesday, October 4th for those signed up for all charges on Auto Pay UNLESS you email us to let us know not to charge them. If you want to make payments on your costumes and you are signed up for all charges on Auto Pay, you will be changed over to Tuition Only on Auto Pay.

Costume pictures can be viewed on the Parent Portal under the Costumes tab. They can also be viewed in the 2024 Recital Costumes album on our Facebook page.

Recital tights will be ordered for everyone in December. If returning students have tights from last year that they have not been wearing to class, they may bring them to the office to have them approved for re-use. Tights must be approved by November 1st, otherwise you will receive new tights. If you need replacement tights at any time, they will be available in the office all year. Ballet classes and Creative Dance will be wearing pink and all other classes will be wearing tan (stirrup for tumbling). Tights are \$8 per pair (stirrup tights are \$12 per pair).

Our 30th Annual Recital is Saturday, May 4th at the Riverside Casino and Golf Resort. The shows will begin at 1:00PM and 6:00PM. All of our students perform in both shows of the recital. The doors will open 30 minutes prior to each performance.

We have a block of rooms for the Recital Weekend at the Riverside Casino. If you would like to book a room in our block, please call 319.648.1234 and tell them you are with Stairway to the Stars. Staying in the hotel is not required – it is just a fun option, if you are interested!

A few reminders for our little dancers:

- Wearing slip on boots or shoes is helpful as the temperatures cool down. It makes it easier for them to get them off and on themselves.
- Be sure that students have thin socks on or have a pair in their dance bag. Thin socks help the students to be able to change shoes quickly and also prevent shoes from rubbing on the backs of their heels.
- Little tap shoes are designed with elastic on the buckle so that they can be slipped on and off as opposed to buckling and unbuckling each time. Work with your little ones on slipping the shoes off and on and also knowing which shoe goes on which foot. We always say that "buckles don't touch" to help them remember which foot. I also saw a video of a dad drawing half of a heart in each shoe with a Sharpie. Then they could lay the shoes together to make a heart and know which foot each shoe went on. They are doing great but the more quickly we get the tap shoes on the more quickly we get to start tapping! 😊
- Be sure that little ones go potty before they come to the studio.

A few reminders for ALL of our dancers:

- Please be sure that your child comes to dance and tumbling class in the appropriate attire. They should not be wearing school clothes, jean shorts, large t-shirts etc. Leotards are a great idea for tumbling! If they do wear a shirt, it should be tight fitting so that it doesn't go up when they are upside down.
- Please be sure that their hair is up and out of their face.
- It is best to leave necklaces, watches, and bracelets at home.

Cell phones and iPads should NOT be brought to the studio. Older girls are asked to keep them in their bags. If they don't comply, we have a hanging organizer in the studio that they will be asked to put their phone in. We have some littles that are bringing phones and iPads to the studio, and it has become a problem keeping them focused on dance – please don't send these items with them.